

ODISHA DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



BOLANGIR

**GOPABANDHU ACADEMY OF ADMINISTRATION
[GAZETTEERS UNIT]
GENERAL ADMINISTRATION DEPARTMENT
GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA**

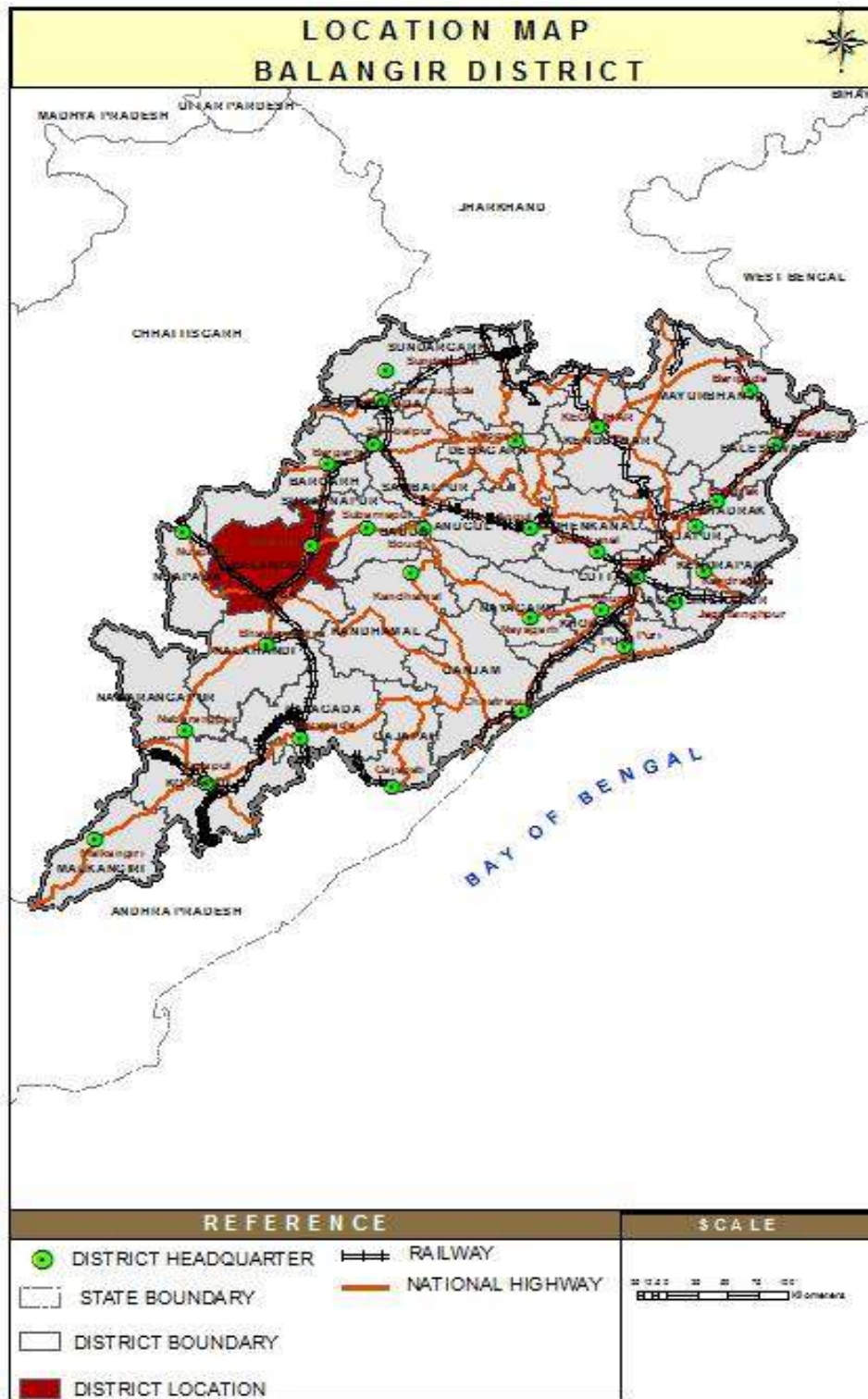
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PREFACE

The Gazetteer is an authoritative document that describes a District in all its hues—the economy, society, political and administrative setup, its history, geography, climate and natural phenomena, biodiversity and natural resource endowments. It highlights key developments over time in all such facets, whilst serving as a placeholder for the timelessness of its unique culture and ethos. It permits viewing a District beyond the prismatic image of a geographical or administrative unit, since the Gazetteer holistically captures its socio-cultural diversity, traditions, and practices, the creative contributions and industriousness of its people and luminaries, and builds on the economic, commercial and social interplay with the rest of the State and the country at large. The document which is a centrepiece of the District, is developed and brought out by the State administration with the cooperation and contributions of all concerned. Its purpose is to generate awareness, public consciousness, spirit of cooperation, pride in contribution to the development of a District, and to serve multifarious interests and address concerns of the people of a District and others in any way concerned.

Historically, the “Imperial Gazetteers” were prepared by Colonial administrators for the six Districts of the then Orissa, namely, Angul, Balasore, Cuttack, Koraput, Puri, and Sambalpur. After Independence, the Scheme for compilation of District Gazetteers devolved from the Central Sector to the State Sector in 1957. Within the State, the responsibility for developing the Gazetteers was transferred from the Revenue Department to the Gopabandhu Academy of Administration (GAA) in 1999. In this process, the “District Gazetteers” of all thirteen Districts were published as follows: Koraput/1966 (Supplement/1984), Mayurbhanj/1967, Bolangir/1968, Sambalpur/1971, Dhenkanal/1972, Sundargarh/1975, Puri/1977, Kalahandi/1980, Boudh-Khondmal/1983, Keonjhar/1986, Balasore/1994, Ganjam/1995 and Cuttack/1996. The Gazetteers of Balasore/1994, Ganjam/1995 and Cuttack/1996, however, could not capture the implications of the reorganisation of these Districts. Though 10 out of 13 Districts had been reorganised into 27 and the total number of Districts in the State had gone up to 30, the reality remained to be captured in the Districts’ Gazetteers.

Be it so, the time is now ripe to build on the rich cache of Gazetteers available across the Districts in Odisha, and to develop updated documents that capture the essence of each District as it exists today. The Districts have evolved over the last couple of decades as a result of various natural phenomena and unforeseen forces, besides a slew of economic and social sector reforms undertaken at the National, State and local levels. The resulting impacts have been more cataclysmic in some Districts than others, which are reflective of the complex dynamics at work which determine a

District's state of preparedness and receptivity to change or its absorptive capacity. This diversity in impacts across Districts is now captured both in measurable parameters and non-measurable underlying trends and perceptions in the updated District Gazetteers.

Besides catching up with the developments in each of the thirty Districts and the environs, it was felt opportune to capture the major shifts in areas and issues of priority and concern across the districts by suitably restructuring the document, to recount the post-Independence events in brief for their historic value and evolutionary impact on the District, and to bridge an important lacuna, viz. incorporating the role played by freedom fighters from each District in India's Independence, which was sparingly mentioned in the Gazetteers initially prepared by colonial administrators. Though the updated Gazetteers draw heavily on the past Gazetteers of thirteen undivided Districts, the documents were also restructured to provide for elimination, modification and insertion of some issues in discussion with the Consulting Editors and District Administration in order to present a comprehensive and contemporaneous picture of the Districts.

The task of developing and updating the Gazetteers for the present 30 Districts was initiated in the first week of May 2015. Procedurally, a series of time-bound initiatives taken since then were bed-rocked on the complete and continuous involvement of the District Collector and heads of concerned line departments at the district level in the coverage of issues and developments over time, coupled with specific participation of a number of scholars and experts, including some senior serving and retired civil servants. A standardised synopsis of the District Gazetteer was prepared by GAA to assist in the development of the initial drafts by each District Administration. For this exercise, a Committee was constituted by GAA under the District Collector to steer the development of the initial draft for the respective District. A number of Sub-Committees comprising officials and experts were also constituted, again at District level, for drafting specific and thematic chapters. The initial drafts prepared by the District Administration were received by GAA starting in August 2015. After in-house scrutiny of these drafts, detailed comments and suggestions for bridging information gaps were sent by GAA to enable suitable revisions by the District Administration. A process of continuous monitoring of the development of the next stage of drafts was followed, and the second drafts were received by GAA by the end of October 2015. This revised draft Gazetteer of each District was then placed for scrutiny at two levels– the first by the public at large by hosting the drafts at the website of GAA (gopabandhuacademy.gov.in), and the second by a set of 30 Experts, one for each District, designated as Consulting Editor.

Simultaneously, Government in General Administration Department (GAD) with the approval of Hon'ble Chief Minister reconstituted the State Advisory Committee (SAC) and State Working Committee (SWC) on Gazetteers vide Notification No. 23473 dated 26 September, 2015. The SAC continues to be headed by Chief Secretary, Government of Odisha. The SWC hereafter was to be chaired by the Director General, GAA, who had also been notified as the ex-officio Chief Editor of Gazetteers, besides being granted functional freedom to prepare and publish the Gazetteers. A series of meetings were held by DG, GAA with the Consulting Editors appointed for refinement of the drafts prepared at the District level to discuss and to ensure accuracy and coherence, quality and content. The Consulting Editors also visited the respective Districts regularly to interact with senior officials, governmental and non-governmental organisations and persons concerned with the preparation of the initial two drafts. The drafts reviewed by DG, GAA, with the Consulting Editors were forwarded to the District Collectors for authentication of content and further improvements in quality, wherever felt necessary.

The final round of discussions with the Consulting Editors was held in GAA in February through till April 2016, and the draft Gazetteers, finalised at this stage again in consultation with the District Collectors, were placed before the SWC. Drafts recommended by it were placed before the SAC for approval.

Formerly a part of Patna Estate, the district of Balangir was merged with Odisha on the 1st January 1948. The illustrious Rajendra Narayan Singh Deo, the last ruler of the Princely state of Patna, also became the Chief Minister of Odisha (1967-71). Balangir District Gazetteer was published last in 1968 and the necessity of publishing the district gazetteer afresh arose considering development that has taken place since then including its bifurcation.

The district administration headed by Dr. M. Muthukumar along with various officers of line department and local experts have made tremendous efforts to prepare the initial draft. I sincerely thank him and all those involved in the process of preparing the draft.

Prof. Gurudev Meher volunteered to accept the challenge of finetuning the draft within a period of four months. The district gazetteer would not have seen the dawn of the day without his commitment. I sincerely thank him.

I convey my sincere gratitude to the members of the State Working Committee and State Advisory Committee for their valuable inputs and advice. I will be failing in my duty if I do not acknowledge the contribution of my friends and colleagues in the State Administration and particularly those

at GAA, namely Sri Shashanka Sekhar Acharya, Joint Director (Accounts), Dr. Rabi Narayan Patra, Deputy Director (Studies), Sri Subrat Kuanr, Research Officer and Dr. Rabindra Kumar Swain, Compiler.

Finally, despite optimum efforts to plug the obvious limitations and lacunae in the Gazetteer, factual deficiencies, misspellings and grammatical errors might be found. The responsibility for all its shortcomings doubtless remains mine. With an eye to the future, I urge all readers, including thematic experts, young scholars, and luminaries, to offer their valuable suggestions for improving the quality and contents of the document for the next addition with the passage of time.

I would like to thank the people of the District of Balangir for their contributions over time to the making of the District as we now know it, and commend this document to them and to all other stakeholders within the State and beyond.

Dr. Taradatt, IAS
Chief Editor, Gazetteers &
Director General, GAA

NOTE FROM THE CONSULTING EDITOR

The district of Balangir formerly called Patna state is situated in the western region of Odisha. The glorious Gandhamardan hills forming the natural border on the northwest, the Tel meandering along the margin in the south-east, interspersed with forest covers thick with growth of bamboo, Sal, Sahaj, Piasal, Dhaura, and Ebony, and sinuous hills crisscrossing it, Balangir presents a panorama of natural beauty. The district is bounded by Subarnapur district in the East, Nuapada district in the west, Kalahandi district in the South and Bargarh district in the north. As the abode of Lord Hari and Shankar in Gandhamardan hills, Chausathi Yogini at Ranipur-Jharial and as the seat of the famous seven maidens who excelled in esoteric practices of Tantrayana, the district is a favourite destination of pilgrims and tourists.

The District Gazetteer is like an authentic chronicle of a district. The information contained in it is used as reference by scholars, researchers, policy planners, development administrators and the general public. The last edition of the District Gazetteer of Balangir was published in 1968. It has been felt a necessity to update the gazetteer with regard to the geo-physical changes, socio-cultural design, socio-political and economic environment of the district focusing on the distinctive and typical features of the district keeping such dynamism in sight.

The preparation as well as the final editing of the present edition of the Gazetteer has been possible today due to the initiative, motivational inspiration and wholehearted support of the authorities at the Gopabandhu Academy of Administration, Bhubaneswar led by its Director General, Dr. Taradatt. While editing the present Gazetteer an earnest attempt has been made to update it with all the vital information on the district, based on all records available with the Government of Odisha and Govt. of India. Adequate attention has been given to the geography, history, demographic trends, agriculture and irrigation, industries, banking, trade and commerce, transport and communication, economic trends, general and revenue administration, law and order and justice, local self-government, education and culture, medical, public health and family welfare, public life and voluntary organization, places of interest and tourism of the district.

At different stages of its revision and re-editing, vital information were solicited from different departments of Government of Odisha for their incorporation in the gazetteer and irrelevancies and redundancy have been ironed out to make it comprehensive yet compact in its presentation. The gazetteer being a compendium of the land and the people, special interest has been invested to bring out the most unique and defining features of the district in various spheres of life: living and non-living. To increase readability and sustain easy comprehension, jargon and cliché are avoided as far as practicable and the language is deftly lowered to life. A basic uniformity in structure, style and tenor is endeavoured in all chapters to carry the tremendous flow of information into a limiting frame which makes them look a cohesive unit. Few tables, charts and photographs are included in the running text to complement understanding which obviate further navigation and save time.

As a son of the soil I have innate affinity for the district and I have my fond memories to cherish as well. I have the honour and privilege to associate myself with the current edition of the district gazetteer as the Consulting Editor. I am grateful to Dr. Taradatt, IAS, The Director General, Gopabandhu Academy of Administration who has assigned this task to me. I owe a lot to him for his indefatigable zeal in conceptualising, preparing and finalising the gazetteer augmenting the work with his valuable ideas and suggestions and extending unstinted support to us. I express my sincere thanks to Dr. Rabinarayan Patra, Deputy Director (Studies) and all other members and associates in Gopabandhu Academy who coordinated the effort at different stages of the programme. The interest and enthusiasm exhibited by Dr. M. Muthukumar, IAS, Collector, Balangir and Sri Ashok Kumar Naik, Additional District Magistrate, Balangir whose sincere support and collaboration add to the ease of the process and other officials and experts in the preparation and updation of the gazetteer of Balangir, is remarkable in this regard.

I express my sincere gratitude to Dr. Shiba Prasad Nanda, Retd. Principal and noted historian of Balangir district, for his invaluable support and help; not only in the history portion but also on many other entangled entities found in the first draft. I am thankful to Sri Babu Maharana, (OWS) District Welfare Officer, Balangir, Sri Manoranjan Mallik, Deputy Director of Agriculture, Balangir, Sri Rashmi Ranjan Nayak, OFS(S), Divisional Forest Officer, Balangir, Dr. Rabi Narayan Tripathy, Chief District Medical Officer, Balangir, Sri Prasanta Kumar Joshi, Block Education Officer, Balangir, Sri Saroj Kumar Nanda, Dealing Assisatnt (Revenue) Collectorate, Balangir, Sri Birabara Kumbhar, Dealing Assistant (Development), Collectorate, Balangir and all other associates of Balangir Collectorate who are related with the preparation of the gazetteer. Last but not the least, is my friend and colleague Sri Bhagabat Nath, Retd. Reader in English, to whom I am especially thankful, for his priceless suggestion on the style and structure of the draft, at a crucial moment of its compilation.

Finally, I must express my deep gratitude to Goddess Pataneswari, the prime motivator and arbitrator who infused the spirit in me to accomplish this massive task assigned to me within the stipulated time.

Gurudev Meher
Consulting Editor

Balangir District Gazetteer

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ABBREVIATIONAL TERMS

ANM	: Auxiliary Nurse Midwives
APY	: Atal Pension Yojana
ASCAD	: Assistance to State for Control of Animal Diseases
ASHA	: Accredated Social Health Activist
ASI	: Archaeological Survey of India
ASR	: Archaeological Survey Report
ATM	: Automated Teller Machine
BAGB	: Balangir Anchalik Gramya Bank
BC	: Business Correspondent
BDCC	: Balangir District Central Co-operative Bank
BF	: Business Facilitators
BKKY	: Biju Krushak Kalyan Yojana
BMW	: Bio-Medical Waste Management
BRC	: Block Resource Centre
CBR	: Crude Birth Rate
CBS	: Core Banking System
CCIS	: Comprehensive Crop Insurance Scheme
CCTNS	: Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems
CDR	: Crude Death Rate
CHC	: Community Health Centre
CHCO	: Comprehensive History and Culture of Orissa
CII	: Corpus Inscription Indicarum
CIPA	: Common Integrated Police Application
CPR	: Couple Protection Rate

CPSK	: Cultural Profile of South Kosala
CRC	: Cluster Resource Centre
CSO	: Civil Society Organisation
CSP	: Customer Service Point
CSSM	: Child Survival and Safe Motherhood
CVD	: Cardio Vascular Disease
DBCS	: District Blindness Control Programme
DBT	: Direct Benefit Transfer
DCDRF	: District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum
DDUGKY	: Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kaushalya Yojna
DEDS	: Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme
DFID	: Department of Finance for International Development
DFSL	: Directorate of Forensic Science Laboratory
DHH	: District Headquarter Hospital
DIC	: District Industries Center
DLO	: District Leprosy Officer
DMHP	: District Mental Health Programme
DMO	: District Malaria Officer
DPAP	: Drought Prone Area Programme
DPHCO	: District Public Health Communication Officer
DSMO	: District Store Medical Officer
DTO	: District T.B. Officer
DWSM	: District Water Sanitation Mission
E.I.	: Epigraphia Indica
EAS	: Employment Assurance Scheme

ECP	: Emergency Contraceptive Pill
ERRP	: Economic Rehabilitation of Rural Poor
FFDA	: Fish Farmers Development Agency
FRU	: First Referral Unit
FSSA	: Food Safety & Standard Act
FW & Immn.	: Family Welfare & Immunisation
GAAP	: Generally Accepted Accounting Principle
HCIP	: History and Culture of the Indian People
HGO	: Historical Geography of Orissa
HSS	: Higher Secondary School
IA	: Indian Antiquary
ICDP	: Intensive Cotton Development Programme
IDSP	: Intregated Disease Surveillance Programme
IEC	: Information Education & Communication
IHHL	: Individual House Hold Latrine
IMR	: Infant Mortality Rate
IRDP	: Integrated Rural Development Programme
ITK	: Indigenous Technical Knowledge
IUD	: Intra Uterine Devices
IWDP	: Integrated Watershed Development Programme
IWMP	: Integrated Watershed Management Programme
JASB	: Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal
JBORS	: Journal of Bihar Orissa Research Society
JKHRS	: Journal of the Kalinga Historical Research Society
JLG	: Joint Liability Group

JNSI	: Journal of the Numismatic Society of India
JOH	: Journal of Orissan History
JRY	: Jawahar Rozgar Yojana
JSSK	: Janani Sishu Surkshya Karyakram
JSY	: Janani Surakshya Yojana
KGBV	: Kasturaba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya
KIOSKS in	: A Turkish word generally means a small facilitating center different sectors
KVIB	: Khadi & Village Industries Board
KVIC	: Khadi & Village Industries Comission
LEU	: Leprosy Eradication Unit
LWE	: Left Wing Extremism
MAS	: Mahila Arogya Samiti
MCH	: Maternal & Child Health
MDT	: Multi Drug Therapy
MFI	: Micro Finance Institutes
MGNREGS Scheme	: Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme
MHT	: Mobile Health Team
MHU	: Mobile Health Unit
MIDH (NHM)	: Mission for Integrated Development in Horticulture
MMR	: Maternal Mortality Rate
MPHS	: Multi Purpose Health Supervisor
MPHW	: Multi Purpose Health Worker
MSME	: Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
MSS	: Mahila Swasthya Sangh

MSS	: Manuscript
MUDRA	: Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency Ltd.
MUY	: Matshyajibi Unnayan Yojana
MVU	: Mobile Veterinary Unit
NACP	: National AIDS Control Programme
NADRS	: National Animal Disease Reporting System
NAHO	: New Aspects on the History of Orissa
NAIS	: National Agriculture Insurance Scheme
NBA	: Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan
NCD	: Non-Communicable Diseases
NFDB	: National Fisheries Development Board
NFSM	: National food security mission
NGP	: Nirmal Gram Puraskar
NHM	: National Health Mission
NIDDCP	: National Iodine Deficiency Disorder Control Programme
NLEP	: National Leprosy Eradication Programme
NMHP	: National Mental Health Programme
NMMP	: National Mission on Medicinal Plants
NMPS	: National Mission for Protein Supplements
NMSA	: National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture
NPCDCS	: National Programme for prevention and Control of Cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke
NREP	: National Rural Employment Programme
NRHM	: National Rural Health Mission
NRLM	: National Rural Livelihood Mission
NTCP	: National Tobacco Control Programme

NTFP	: Non-Timber Forest Products
NUHM	: National Urban Health Mission
NVBDCP	: National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme
NWDPPRA Area	: National Watershed Development Programme in Rural Area
ODF	: Open Defecation Free
ODRAF	: Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force
OHC	: Orissa History Congress
OHRJ	: Orissa Historical Research Journal
OHSDP	: Odisha Health System Development Project
OMDSS	: Odisha Multi Diseases Surveillance System
OSA	: Orissa State Archives
PDE	: Promotion of Dairy Entrepreneurship
PHC	: Primary Health Centre
PHEO	: Public Health Education Officer
PMJDY	: Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana
PMJJBY	: Pradhan Mantri Jiban Jyoti Bima Yojana
PMMY	: Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana
PMS	: Post Matric Scholarship
PMSBY	: Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana
POS	: Point of Sale
PWS	: Pipe Water Supply
RBSK	: Rastriya Bal Swasthya Karyakrama
RCFCEA Act	: Right of the Children to Free and Compulsory Education Act
RKS	: Rogi Kalyan Samiti

RKVY	: Rastriya Krishi Vikash Yojana
RLEGP	: Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme
RLTAP	: Revise Long Term Action Plan
RLTAP(ACA)	: Revised Long Term Action Plan (Additional Central Assistance)
RML	: Residential Mortgage of loan
RNTCP	: Revised National Tuberculosis Programme
RRT	: Rapid Response Team
RSBY	: Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana
RVP	: River Valley Project
RWSS	: Rural Water & Sanitation Programme
SBIRSETI Institute	: The State Bank of India Rural Self Employment Training
SBM	: Swachha Bharat Mission
SBM(G)	: Swachha Bharat Mission Gramin
SCCWO	: State Committee for Compilation of Who's Who of Orissa
SCH	: Sector Health Centre
SDH	: Sub-Divisional Hospital
SDT	: Self Defence Training
SLWM	: Solid Liquid Waste Management
SMC	: School Management Committee
SME	: School & Mass Education
SNCU	: Sick Neonatal Care Unit
SSA	: Sub-Service Area
SSA	: Sampoorna Sakshyarata Abhiyan
SSA-RTE	: Sampoorna Sakshyarata Abhiyan- Right to Education

SSD	: ST / SC Department
SU	: Sambalpur University
T.B.	: Tuberculosis
TFR	: Total Fertility Rate
TSC	: Total Sanitation Campaign
UGB	: Utkal Grameen Bank
UHND	: Urban Health & Nutrition Programme
UIP	: Universal Immunisation Programme
UUHO	: Utkal University History of Orissa
VS	: Vital Statistic
WESCO	: Western Electricity Supply Company of Odisha Limited
WMT	: Watershed Management Team
WORLP	: Western Odisha Livelihood Project

CHAPTER I

GENERAL

Brief Historical, Political, Social, Cultural and Geo-physical Introduction of the District:

The territory comprising the district of Balangir was part of the erstwhile Patna State. The Patna State was an important State in western Odisha under the Chauhans since 14th century AD. The Chauhans were one of the most powerful rulers who ruled as many as eighteen Garhs in Western Odisha under them. Ramai Deo founded the kingdom of Patna in 14th century, and within a short span became the head of a cluster of eighteen Garhs. The twelfth king Narasimha Deo handed over to his brother Balaram Deo the territory lying north of the river Ang. The latter founded the State of Sambalpur which became the most powerful of the Garhjat clusters and subsequently the importance of Patna declined. The capital of the Patna State was Patnagarh. During the middle of 16th century Balaram Deo shifted the capital to 40 km south of Patnagarh, a centrally located place called Balaramgarh, later began to be known as Balangir.

The State of Patna was under the possession of the Marathas of Nagpur since 1755 and was later occupied by the East India Company in 1804 in course of the Second Maratha war but again returned to the Raja of Nagpur in 1806. In 1818 after the Third Maratha war the Patna State was again handed back to the Company. Under the British governance, Patna State was first included in the 'South Bihar and Chotanagpur Mahals', an administrative division created in 1819 and then in the South-West Frontier Agency which was organised under Regulation III of 1833. When the Agency was abolished in 1854, the Patna State came under the jurisdiction of the Commissioner of Chotanagpur. After the creation of Central Provinces in 1861, the Patna State along with the States of Bamara, Rairakhol and Kalahandi and the district of Sambalpur were included in the new province. All the above States were declared as Feudatory States in 1863 and in 1905 were transferred to Bengal along with the district of Sambalpur to form a part of the erstwhile Orissa Division.

In 1905, the post of Political Agent was created for the Orissa States under the Commissioner of Orissa. The Bihar and Orissa Province were constituted in 1912, and the Orissa States continued to be under the supervision of the Commissioner of Orissa Division till 1922, when the Political Agent with his headquarters at Sambalpur was placed directly under the control of the Governor of Bihar and Orissa. As per Provincial

Autonomy under the Government of India Act, 1935, the Patna Feudatory State was brought under the direct control of the Governor General exercising his jurisdiction as Crown Representative through the Political Agent at Sambalpur.

The Chauhan rule ended with the merger of the State of Patna with Orissa on the 1st January, 1948. Sri Rajendra Narayan Singh Deo was the last ruler of the princely State of Patna. The ex-States of Kalahandi, Patna and Sonepur were combined together to form a new district called Balangir-Patana district on 1st January 1948. Subsequently, on 1st November 1949 the ex-States of Patna and Sonepur were separated and they together formed a new district called Balangir district with 4 subdivisions, namely Balangir, Patnagarh, Titilagarh and Sonepur. Later, Sonepur Subdivision was divided and Birmaharajpur Subdivision was formed. Sonepur and Birmaharajpur sub-divisions were separated from Balangir district to form a new district called Subarnapur with effect from 1st April 1993. The present territory of Balangir district thus has only three subdivisions of Balangir, Titilagarh and Patnagarh.

The district of Balangir is flanked in the north-west by the Gandhamardan hills, a name of Ramayan fame, and in the south-east by river Tel. It is traversed by many hill streams and is interspersed with forest covers, earlier abode of many wild animals like tigers, bison, sambar, deer and others. The land was believed to be influenced by Tantric culture being the seat of the famous seven maidens, who excelled in esoteric practices of Tantrayana. In Ranipur-Jharia, the temple of Chausathi Yogini is situated and is considered as one of the four such temples in India. Ranipur-Jharia is also known as 'Soma tirtha' in scriptures. It comprises a section of religious faith which combines Saivism, Buddhism, Vaisnavism and Tantrism. It is also notable for having experimented in the past a republican form of Government that was later overthrown by Ramai Deo, a Chauhan youth, whose mother hailed from Mainpuri in north India. The ruins of forts not only in the urban areas like Patnagarh and Titilagarh but also in the remote localities like Tusra and Jharia reveal the past glory and magnificence of the kingdom.

Origin and Evolution of the Name of the District

The district of Balangir was named after the headquarter town of Balangir. On the 1st day of April 1993, Sonepur and Birmaharajpur subdivisions were separated from Balangir district and a new district named Subarnapur was formed after reorganization. According to tradition, Balangir town was established by Balaram Deo, the brother of Narasimha Deo. The town being founded by Balaram Deo was earlier known as Balaramgarh from which the name Balangir has been derived.

Location, General Boundaries, Area and Population

Balangir district is situated in the western side of the State of Odisha, extending from 82°41' to 83°42' East longitude and 20°9' to 21°05' North. The district is bounded by Subarnapur district in the East, Nuapada district in the west, Kalahandi district in the South and in the north lies Bargarh district. The district is flanked in the north-west by Gandhamardan Hills and in the south-east by river Tel.

According to 2011 census, the population of the district is 16,48,997 out of which male population is 8,30,097 and female population 8,18,990. The scheduled castes population is 2,94,777 (1,48,356 males and 1,46,421 females) which is 17.9 % of the total population. The Tribal population of the district is 3,47,164 (1,72,489 males and 1,74,675 females) which is 21.1% of the total population of the district. Density of population per sq km is 251 in the district.

Subdivisions, Tehasils and Thanas

The district covers an area of 6575 sq km. and is divided into three subdivisions, 14 tehasils and 15 police stations. The following Table shows the extent and population of each subdivision and tehasil of the district.

Subdivision	Tehasil & its Headquarters	Population 2011 Census			
		Area in sq km	Persons	Male	Female
1	2	3	4	5	6
Balangir	Balangir	398.98	1,02,952	52,076	50,876
	Puintala	340.78	1,11,635	56,076	54,882
	Loisingha	317.60	95,933	48,208	47,740
	Agalpur	296.12	96,342	48,208	47,740
	Deogaon	432.01	97,645	49,005	48,640
	Tusura	205.50	62,229	31,369	30,860
Titlagarh	Titlagarh	351.09	1,21,751	60,950	60,801
	Saintala	454.43	1,20,206	60,728	59,478
	Muribahal	402.73	1,14,839	57,365	57,474
	Bangomunda	316.90	1,17,089	59,098	57,991
Patnagarh	Kantabanji	337.05	82,781	40,098	41,793
	Patnagarh	591.45	1,30,783	65,760	65,023
	Khaprakhol	448.39	93,557	46,234	47,323
	Belpada	499.17	1,28,916	64,439	64,477
TOTAL		5395.2	676,670	739,619	735,104

Natural Divisions and Land Formation

The western part of the district is an undulating plain, rugged and isolated, with hill ranges running in various directions. A lofty irregular range called the Gandhamardan forms the natural boundary to the north-west. The soil in this area, for the most part, is light and sandy. The main forest area stretches along the western boundary bordering the Nuapada district, and

then turns to the east running parallel to the Gandhamardan range. This forest tract is broken by occasional clearings and small settlements, but it mostly consists of thick vegetation in which bamboo of excellent quality grows and *Sal*, *Sahaj*, *Piasal*, *Dhaura*, and *Ebony* form the principal timber. The crest of the range of Gandhamardan hills is a fine plateau, about 16 km long, with an average height of 3,000 feet. For the most part, the district lies on the north-west bank of the Tel, which forms the boundary with the districts of Kalahandi and Baudh.

Hill System

The Gandhamardan forms a natural boundary to the northwestern side of the district. This range consists of several hills, the highest among them being Gandhamardan of 3,296 feet. The smaller hills deserving mention are Butel (2,670'), Chandli (2,630'), Thuta (2,056'), Bender (1,920'), Patpani and Chhatardandi. The hill is topped by a cap of high level laterite. Rain water soaking through the laterite collects under it and then oozes out in springs on two sides. From the northern crest of this range springs a famous stream which descends to the foot of the hill in fine water-falls and finally issues forth to the plains of Nrusinghanath, a famous place of pilgrimage in Bargarh district. On the southern slope, a similar stream issues from the crest of the range and is known as Harisankar, a famous tourist spot in Western Odisha. At the foot of the hill at Nandupala where the stream reaches the plains is a temple named Harishankar. The crest of this range of hills is the 16 km long Gandhamardan plateau standing at an average elevation of 3,000 feet.

The Gandhamardan hill was known in early times as Gandhagiri or Parimalagiri and it may be identified with the "Po lo mo lo ki li" mentioned by the Chinese pilgrim Yuan Chwang. The Gandhamardan of the Ramayan is believed to be identified with this range of hills. The next important hilly belt can be seen quite close to Balangir town and extends on the north-west to Mahadasani at Borasambar in Bargarh.

River System: Main Rivers and Tributaries

Tel

This river starts from the north-west of the district of Nabarangpur and flowing through the district of Kalahandi touches the border of district about 6 km to the west of Kesinga railway station. It crosses the boundary between the districts of Kalahandi and Balangir for a considerable distance after which it enters into Balangir district about 3km south of Tusra and flows only about 8 km within the district. It then forms the boundary between this district and the district of Baudh till it meets the river Mahanadi at Sonapur. In fact excepting a course of about 8 km, the river forms the eastern boundary of this district. It had earlier no perennial source of water-supply, however, maintains a flow of water throughout the year due to release of water from Indravati Reservoir in Kalahandi district, sufficient to raise paddy and other crops during rabi season through lift irrigation points in Gudvella Block area. But during monsoon, the river Tel is the principal source of flood in Mahanadi. It receives surplus release of water from main reservoir of Indravati Dam project. The Tel finds mention in the Buddhist Jataka stories. In the Sera Vanijja Jataka it is called Telavaha.

Tributaries of the Tel

The Tel is fed by a number of tributaries of which those flowing inside the district of Balangir are the Undar, the Lanth, the Sungad and the Suktel. The Undar starts from Nuapada district and drains into the southern part of the Titilagarh subdivision. The Lanth (also called Barabhai Lanth) and the Sungad are local streams and take their rise from the north-western belt of the hills of the district. At the confluence of Sungad and Tel are found ruins of a medieval fort known as Kharligarh.

The Suktel takes its origin from the slopes of the Gandhamardan range and flows through the subdivisions of Patnagarh and Balangir. It meets the Tel a few miles south of its confluence with the Mahanadi in Subarnapur District.

Ang

This river originates from the hills of Borasamber in the district of Bargarh and is fed by the streams flowing down the northern slope of the Gandhamardhan range. In Bargarh district, it first flows in northerly direction for a short distance and then swerves to the east in wide semi-circular shape and enters the district of Balangir near Agalpur. It joins the Mahanadi a few miles up Sonapur town in Subarnapur district. A portion of its course forms the boundary between Sonapur and Balangir district. This river carries considerable volume of water during the rains, but it soon dries up in cold season.

Tanks

Balangir boasts of a large number of tanks, which were got excavated by ex-rulers of the state. These tanks meant either for irrigation or for drinking water purpose. Many tanks are found in Balangir town- the biggest of which is called Karanga Kata, earlier utilized by Municipality for supply of drinking water in the town. Other important tanks in the town are Maharanisagar associated with some Rani of Chauhan Raj Family, the Gait Sarovar excavated by Maharaja Pruthiviraj Deo in commemoration of the visit of Sir Edward Gait, the then Governor of Bihar and Odisha and the Ghee Kundi, another important tank is located to the south of the town.

In the town of Titilagarh there is a big tank at the foot of the Kumuda hill which is locally called Deobandh. The town of Patnagarh, being the old capital of the Chauhan Rajas of Patna, contains a large number of tanks excavated by different rulers of the State. They are Ramsagar, Bhojsagar, Hirasagar, Sanisagar, Darpanasagar and Bhanusagar. At Loisinga, there are 15 big tanks including Chakradhar Sagar, named after the local Zamindar, Chakradhar Singh Ray in early 20th century.

Geological Formation, Mines, Minerals and Rocks

The district occupies the Eastern Ghat Super Group of rocks consisting of Khondalites, Charnockites and Gneissic rocks/Migmatites as one of the oldest rock groups exposed in the area. Small enclaves of Bengal Group represented by one exposure each of quartz mica schist and hornblende schist occur within gneissic rock in north-eastern corner of the district.

Gneissic rock group represented by porphyroblastic granite gneiss and augen gneiss forms the country rock while Khondalite Group represented by quartz-garnet-sillimanite gneiss, quartzite, calc-silicate rocks and leptynite occurs as patches of various dimensions scattered throughout the district. Larger patches of quartz-sillimanite-garnet gneiss occur in central part of the district disposed in N-S direction while calc-silicate rocks and leptynites, exposed in the western part of the district, occur as patches and lenticular bodies of various dimensions. Quartzites also occur as small lenticular patches. Charnockite Group represented by hypersthene granulite (acid) and pyroxene granulite (basic) occurs as small patches within gneissic rock in association with Khondalite group of rocks. The youngest geological formations of the area are laterite and alluvium, the former occurring extensively as surface capping on the plains as well as on the 3,000 feet high Gandhamardan plateau.

The Eastern Ghat Super Group have been intruded by metabasics and amphibolites which occur as small patches and lenses in NW part of the district and by other sites covering a large area in NE part (east and north of Balangir area). Quartz / Pegmatite veins also intrude the country rock. The Gondwana sediments represented by predominant sandstone intercalated with shale occur in northern part of the district as also in SE part. The geological succession in the district is as follows:

Stratigraphy

Age	Supergroup	Group	Litho unit
Cenozoic (Undifferentiated)		Quaternary	Laterite and Bauxite
Carboniferous to Permian		Gondwana Supergroup	Sandstone intercalated with shale
Proterozoic (Undifferentiated)		Intrusive	Quartz vein / pegmatite Anorthosite Metabasic rocks & amphibolite
Archaean	Eastern Ghat Super Group	Gneissic Group	Granite gneiss (porphyroblastic at places), migmatite, garnetiferous granite gneiss, augen gneiss
		Charnockite Group	Acid Charnockite Basic Charnockite Pyroxene granulite
		Khondalite Group	Leptynite Quartzite Calc - silicate rock Quartz - garnet - sillimanite gneiss
		Bengpal Group	Quartz mica schist Hornblende schist

Mineral Resources

The district is endowed with various metallic and non-metallic deposits of which Gandhamardan bauxite deposit and Sargipalli Titlagarh graphite deposits are worth mentioning. Besides these, manganese, base metals limestone, gemstones and dimension stone are reported from the district both as economically viable deposits and mineral occurrences.

Graphite

Graphites occur as disseminated, banded and lensoid, veins and stringers and pocket type. The grade of the graphite varies from deposit to deposit and also within the same deposit. Some of the places of occurrence are listed below:—

Balangir Subdivision

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 1. Barghati | 2. Uchhabpali |
| 3. Bankiamunda | 4. Harbhanga |
| 5. Gambharimal | 6. Dameipali |
| 7. Jamuitari | 8. Phatamunda |
| 9. Lakhanpur | 10. Sikachhida |
| 11. Dudukamal | |

Patnagarh Subdivision

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Dhaurakhaman | 2. Bender Reserve Forest |
| 3. Beheramunda | 4. Landapathar Bahabal |
| 5. Telenpali | 6. Bakbahal |
| 7. Chormunda | 8. Raju Reserve Forest |
| 9. Pandesara | 10. Malikmunda |
| 11. Bhaludunguri | 12. Tengrapathar |
| 13. Brahrnani | 14. Oriyapali |

Titilagarh Subdivision

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Dharpagad | 2. Tikri Reserve Forest |
| 3. Phapsi | 4. Barnei Reserve Forest |
| 5. Malisira | 6. Ghusuramunda |
| 7. Tentulikhunti | 8. Kiribanji Reserve Forest |
| 9. Chandutara | |

Lead Ore (Galena)

Lead (galena) occurs in a set of quartz veins and in breccia reefs near Dugripali, Badipara, etc. and in the eastern parts of Saintala and near

Limpara. The galena (lead sulphide) is of pure crystalline variety and contains traces of silver and zinc.

Manganese Ore

The Manganese deposits of this district occur in the highly wear tiered rocks of the 'Khondalite' series. Manganese ore also occurs in association with laterites, in several places. Some of the important occurrences are at (i) Gadshankar, (ii) Champasar, (iii) Bharatbahal, (iv) Babja, (v) Bhaludungri (vi) Badipali, (vii) Barjhula, (viii) Saleipali-Jhum kimal Reserve Forest, (ix) Gerdi, (x) Kumia pali (xi) Tikrapara, Charmunda (xii) Lohadungri, (xiv) Dugripali in Balangir subdivision, (xv) Kapilbahal, (xvi) Tamian, (xvii) Dandhpani, (xviii) Dumeri jharan (xix) Thelkochapar. Manganese content in the ore is usually low, being around 30-35 percent. Besides, the ores are high in iron and phosphorous content. The phosphorous in the ores in most of the deposits is higher than the limits prescribed for use in iron and steel making. These manganese ores can be utilized only by blending. The ore minerals found in this region are mostly psilomelane. The resource of manganese ore in the district is expected to be 1.782 million tonne.

Bauxite

A contiguous and homogenous blanket of bauxite occurs on Gandhamardan plateau on the border of Balangir and Bargarh districts covering an area of 7.5 sq km. The bauxite capping is confined within altitudes 900m and 1000m above Mean Sea Level (MSL) The thickness varies from 4.3m to 35m with average thickness 16.55m. Total resource of bauxite estimated in the Gandhamardan plateau is of the order of 207 million tonnes. The average chemical composition of this metallurgical grade bauxite is Al_2O_3 (45.75%), SiO_2 (2.23%), Fe_2O_3 (23.23%), TiO_2 (2.58%), LOI (23%) and mineralogically it is gibbsitic bauxite.

Mica

It is found to have occurred in the pegmatite veins intruding garnetiferous gneiss and quartz-schists, near Salebhata, Kulasingha, Ambabhali, Rabanguda, Kuabanus and Siletpara.

Limestone

Crystalline limestone deposits occur in the area around Kantabanjhi of Titlagarh sub-division of this district. These limestone deposits occur as small isolated patches and bands composed mainly of well-developed calcite crystals, phlogopite and diopside. Important crystalline limestone occurrences are Dhamandanga, Kuliadara, Karlabahali and Hial etc. Although these crystalline limestone are of cement grade, their isolated small, patchy occurrences do not make them suitable for commercial exploitation.

Gemstone

Seven numbers of gembelts are identified in this district. They are Guchhepara-Antarla, Ghunsar-Dehli, Muribahal-Tentulikhunti, Saraibahal-Sukulimuri. The varieties of gemstones of precious and semi-precious nature whose occurrences have been recorded in the district include beryl (emerald, aquamarine, heliodor, goshenite), topaz, quartz (amethyst), zircon, chrysoberyl, cat's eye, garnet, etc.

The gemstones of the district are localized either within zoned and unzoned pegmatites intruding into Khondalite suite of rocks, calc-silicate granulites, varieties of gneisses, meta-ultramafites, etc. belonging to Eastern Ghat Super Group or at their contacts with the country rocks.

Gemstones occur as disseminations, pockets, patches and narrow linear veins in the host rocks. They are often reworked from their host rocks and get deposited in colluvial zones.

Basemetal

Basemetal (galena with stains of copper minerals) occurrences are confined to the Saintala area of the district. Basemetal mineralisation is localized solely within quartz veins intruding into rocks of Eastern Ghat Super Group. The contact of these galena bearing quartz veins with the country rock is sharp. Galena mineralisation is not seen in the country rocks. Galena in the quartz veins are seen in the form of disseminations, specks, discontinuous stringers, irregular patches and nodules. The galena mineralization in the quartz veins appears to be produced by hydrothermal cavity filling. These basemetal occurrences are by and large uneconomic in grade and dimension. The galena bearing quartz vein occurrences of the district are Bhikabahali, Bhuskimal, Ampali, Badipada, San Dugripali, Brahmani and Kunhari.

Chinaclay

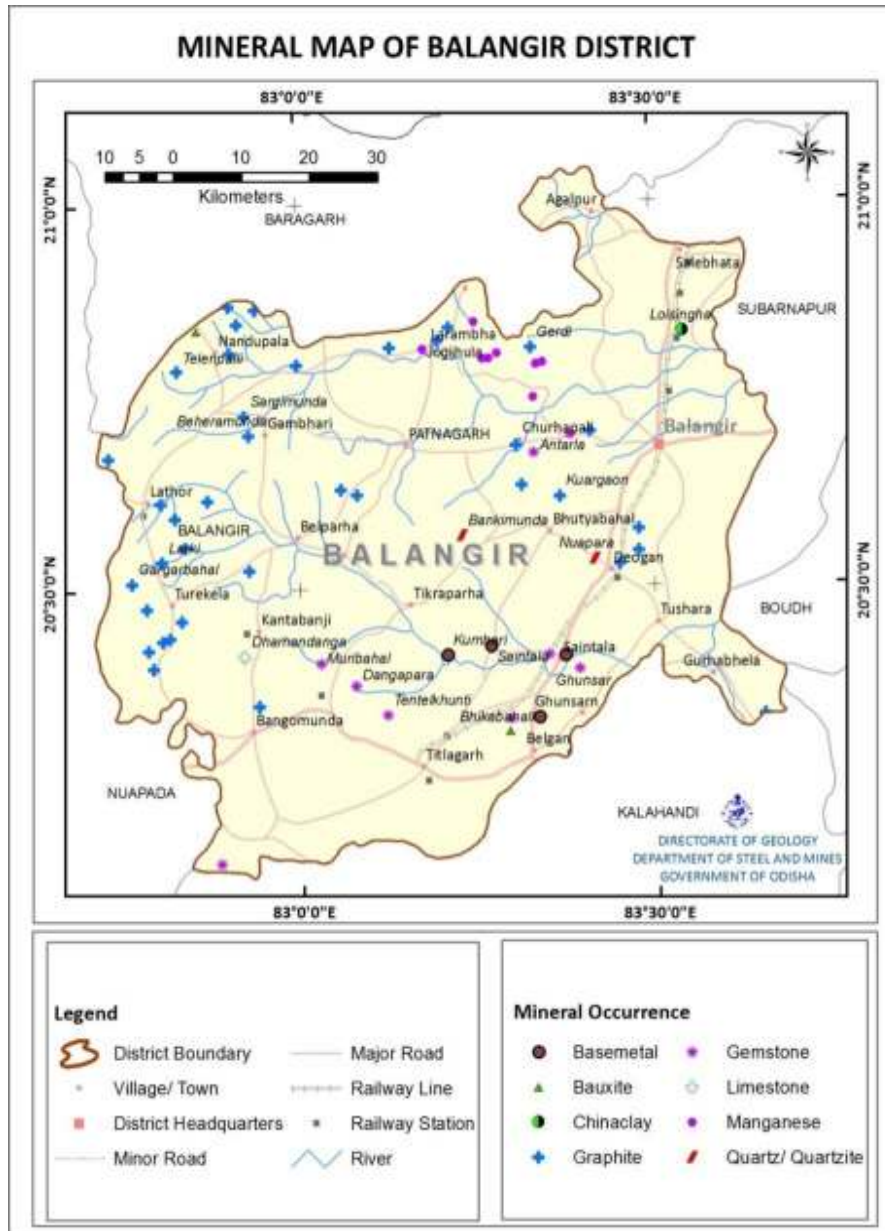
A few reported very low grade china clay occurrences of the district are located North of Dumerpadar and NE of Chitkamal. The $\text{Al}_2\text{O}_3\%$ varies from 23.36% to 27.86% with SiO_2 varying from 54.92% to 62.96%. Some pockets of china clay also occur between Loisingha and Bairasar areas.

Quartz

Quartz veins of economic importance have not been reported from any place of the district. However, good quality quartz in the district are available from the cores of some zoned pegmatites. The important occurrences are Kerbera (98.06% SiO_2 and 1.15% Al_2O_3), Luharpalli, Bankimunda, Kadlimunda, Buromal and Jaliabahal.

Dimension stone

The anorthosites, varieties of gneisses, calc-silicate granulites and unweathered Khondalites occurring in the district may be utilized as dimension stones.



Status of Mining Leases in Balangir District

The status of mining leases of different minerals in Balangir District and their level of production are as follows:

<u>Mineral</u> (Tonnes)	<u>Number of Mines</u>		<u>Level of production</u>	
	<u>Working</u>	<u>Non-working</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Graphite	2	57	59	37
Quartz	1	5	6	
Galena	0	1	1	--
Semi-Precious stone	0	1	1	--
Limestone	0	1	1	--
Manganese Ore	0	1	1	--

The mineral sector provides considerable scope for generation of employment in the District. At present about 20 workers are directly employed in three working mines. The mines are non-operational due to want of various statutory clearances required for running the mines. The mining sector has a potential to generate employment for about 1500 workers when all mines will come to operational stage and an equal number of workers are likely to be engaged in the activities allied to the mining in and around the mining areas. There are 17 decorative stone mines in the District out of which one mine is working at present.

Apart from the above major mineral resources, the District is also rich in minor mineral resources such as river sand, road metals, morrum, laterite etc. These sources are being developed by the Revenue and Disaster Management Department of the State with an objective of meeting the demands from the construction sector and other allied necessity of the State. The minor mineral sector is also contributing to a large extent in employment generation in the rural areas of the District and the State as a whole.

Forest

The forests of the district are of xerophilous nature due to several factors, chief amongst which are a poorly distributed rainfall, geological formation which is very resistant to weathering of the soil being shallow, sandy and dry and owing to intensive shifting cultivation in the past and recurring forest fires.

As on 01.01.2015 the total Reserve Forest Area is 1,105.6761 sq km. Proposed Reserve forest is 3.6321 sq km and Unclassed Forest is estimated 0.14 sq km. Protected Forest comprises 16.1480 sq km totalling 1182.7792 sq. km. The total forest area during 1981 was 17.99 % of the total geographical area of Balangir district and the same has moved down to 14.69 % as per the report of the Forest Survey of India, 2013. Under forest diversion about 4472.05 ha of Forest land have been diverted for non-forestry activities.

The forests can be classified under five heads according to vegetation: Sal Forests, Low Mixed Forest , Alluvial Mixed Forest, Teak Forest and Bamboo.

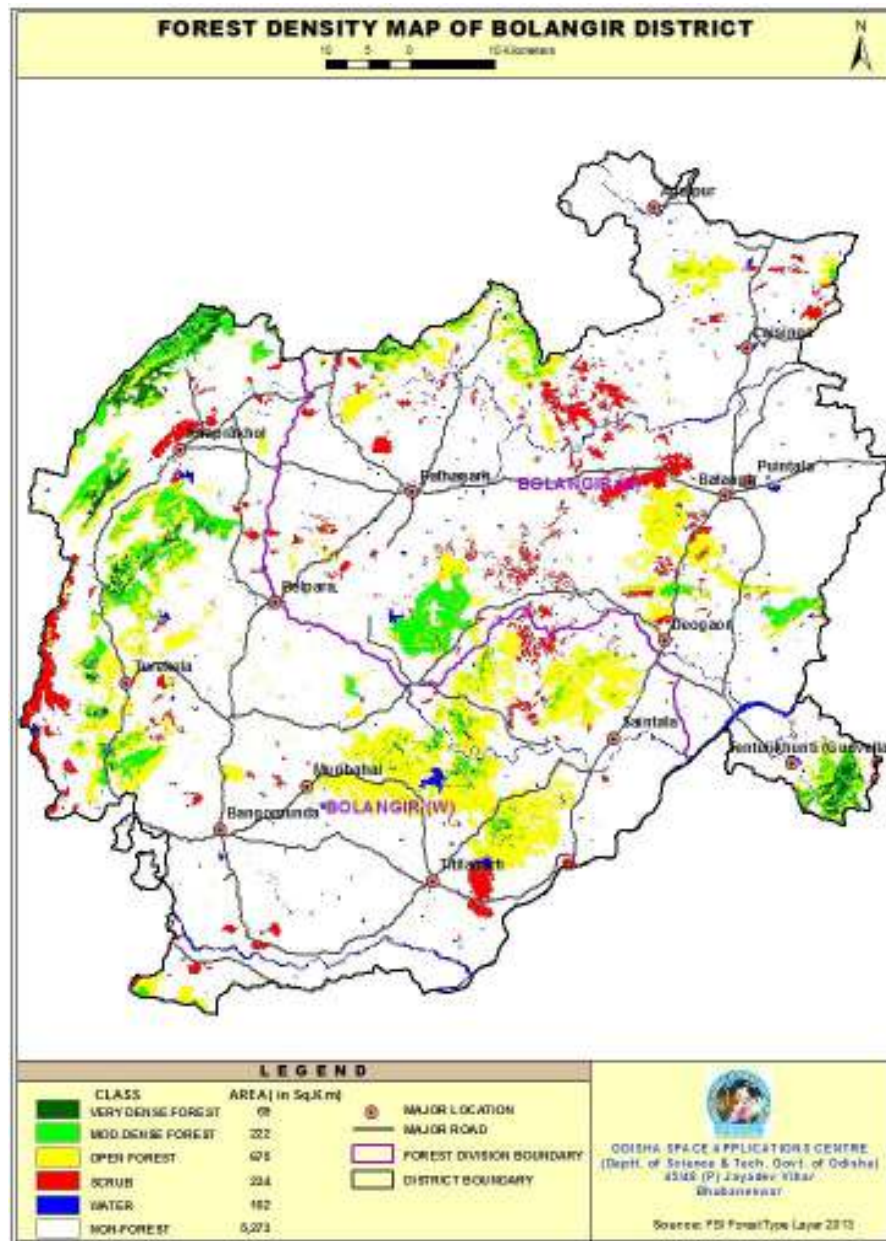
Sal Forests

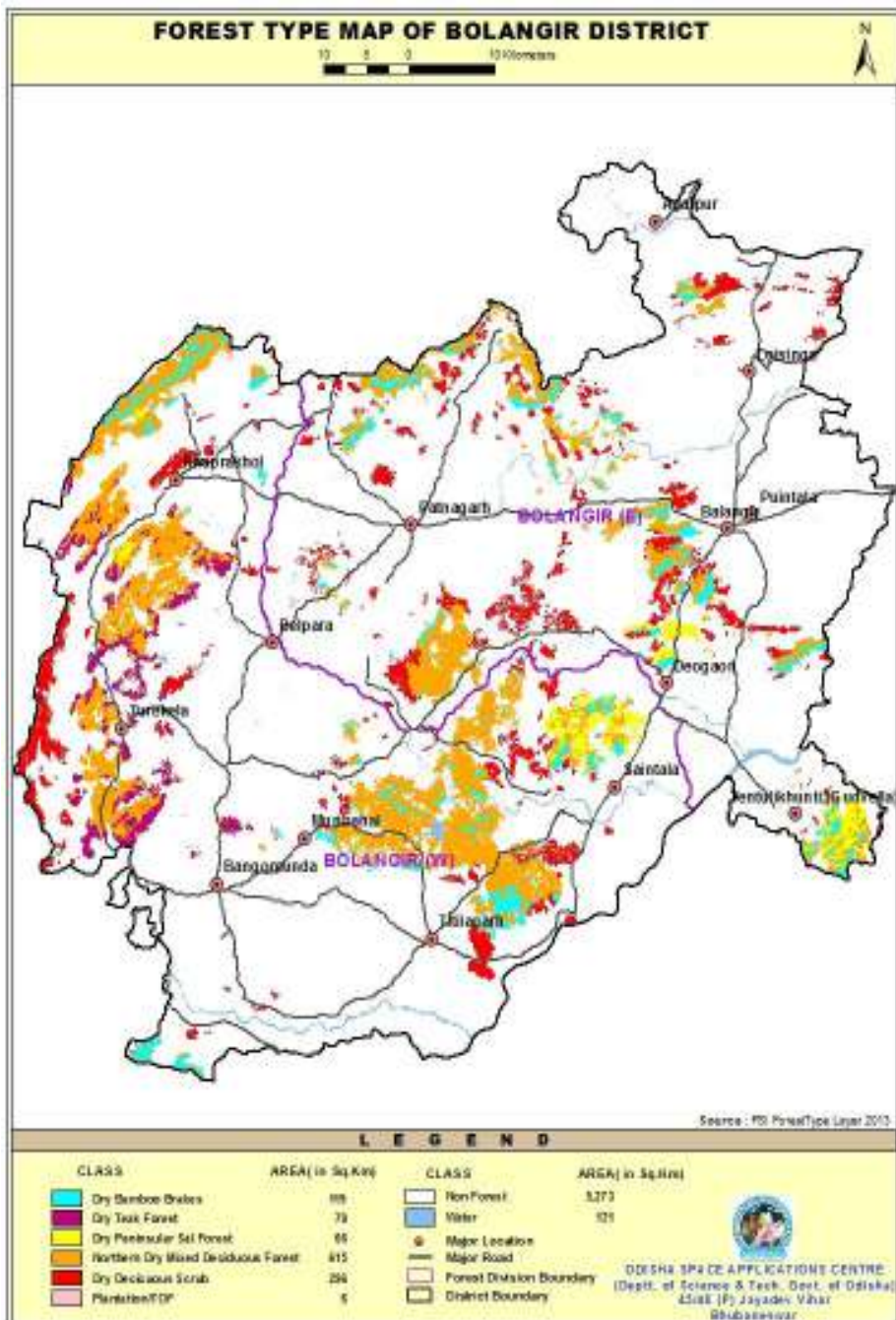
Sal grows well in all localities of the district, except swampy, dry, and rocky areas. The best sal forests occur on flat regular plains, where the soil is deep loamy sand or sandy loam or where the ground is little broken up by nallas/streams. Sal grows in patches, due to its gregarious tendency with the following associates which are common in this area.

In the overwood: Bija (*Pterocarpus marsupium*), Sahaj (*Terminalia termontosa*), Mahua (*Bassia latifolia*), Dhaura (*Anogeissus latifolia*), Sal (*Shorea robusta*)

In the middle storey: Char (*Buchania latifolia*), Kendu (*Diospyros melanxaylon*), Harida (*Terminalia chebula*), Anla (*phyllanthus emblica*), Dhaman (*Grewia latifolia*), Senha (*Lagerstroemia parviflora*), Khair (*Accacia catechu*), Sunari (*Cassia fistula*), Bamboo (*Bambusa arundi nacea*), Dhasuli (*Woodfordia floribunda*), Nil (*Indigofera tinotoria*), Harstngghar (*Nyctanthes arboratristis*), *Phoenix acaulis* and *Grewia* species.

The fully grown Sal trees attain a height of 70' to 80' and a girth of 6' to 7'.





Low Mixed Forests

It occurs in mixed patches with Sal forests, generally occupying the poor forms of soils in this region. The common species are Sahaj, Dhaura, Kendu, Hiland, Sisoo, Harida, Mahua (Mohul), Char, Rohan, Sal, Khair and Chantoo.

Although the growth in height and girth in these patches is usually poor, some other species such as Bija, Sahaj, Halland and Dhaura, grow up to a height of 60' and a girth of 6' on average.

Alluvial Mixed Forests

This type of forest is confined only to the edges of nullahs and flat ground. The commonest species are Sahaj, Karla (*Gleistanthus coolimus*), Behera Mundi (*Mitragyna parvifolia*), Halland, Padhel (*Pterospemum suaveolens*), Simul (*Bombax malabaricum*), Maida (*Launaa grandis*), Dhaura (*Grewia tillaefolia*), Dhoben (*Dalbergia paniculata*), Keketa (*Garungapinnata*) Sisoo, and Khair. This type of forest is densely stocked with a complete canopy. Sal is found occasionally amidst the patches in great size.

The following creepers are common in all the above types of forest, the common species being Siali (*Bauhinia vahlii*), Mal palas (*Butea uperba*) and Gaj (*Millettia auriculate*).

Teak Forests

Though Teak occurs in almost pure form in Hilipi, Munda, Budharaja, Karanjkhoh, and Chakagujia forest blocks which are well within its natural zone, the regeneration is poor and deficient. In Chhatardandi forest block, it is regenerating fairly well but is confined mostly to the compartments where Teak is found either in pure patches or in mixture.

Besides the natural forest, species introduced by artificial regeneration in different forest blocks of this District in past years also form a sizable part of the existing crop. Among all introduced species, Teak has been raised successfully in most of the blocks either in compact patches or in small scattered patches alternating with mixed forests.

Though plantation of teak carried out in small scale during the pre-merger period, and some of the plantations still exist in Bakbahal forest block, the major programme of Teak Plantation was started from 1956-57 with the constitution of the Teak Plantation Working Circle and provision for sowing and planting under Coppice Working Circle.

Excellent plantations of Teak exist in compact patches in Bakbahal and Rajoo Forest Blocks, while those exist in Bender-I, Bornei and Tikhari Forest blocks are smaller in size and are found in irregular scattered patches. In

other forest blocks, Teak Plantations also exist in scattered patches but the growth is not uniformly good due to wrong selection of the sites or lack of timely tending operations.

In Balangir area which borders the Khariar and Charbhata blocks in Sonapur district the most important tree in this sub-type is teak with all sorts of miscellaneous species of which the most conspicuous are *Anogeissus latifolia* and *Terminalia temontosa*.

Bamboo Forests

It occurs quite extensively on hill slopes. They are commonly found with a thin overwood, and in scattered patches of variable extent in plains and valleys as an understorey in all forest types located within the district.

In Gandhamardan, Chandli, Sikerpat, Rajoo, Bakbahal and Lami forest blocks it occurs over extensively in large areas, often pure in large patches while in tikhari, Kiribanji, Bender-I, Bender-II, Barnei, Chhatradandi, Budharaja (Patnagarh Range), Dandel and Patpani blocks, it occurs in scattered patches with varying density.

In other blocks, however, the bamboo clumps are very scattered. There is wide variation in quality and growth which varies with the topography, altitude, drainage, geological formation and biotic interferences. Large clumps of better quality of bamboo are seen in well-drained hill slopes of Gandhamardan, Chandli, Sikerpat, Dandel and Patpani blocks, particularly those which are free from biotic interference whereas the other blocks located close to populated tracts, are subject to serious deterioration in the stocking and quality of bamboo due to fire, grazing and illicit felling.

Some common associates are Gadkhair (*Acacia dynaldii*), Gambhari (*Gmelina arborea*), Khair (*Acacia catechu*), Sisoo (*Dalbergia latifolia*), Kanta Palsa (*Chochlpermum grosypium*), Gundurli (*Sterculia urens*), Salai (*Boswellia sewata*) and Maida (*Launaea grandis*).

Gandhamardan Hill, Pride of Balangir District

Gandhamardan Hills or *Gandhamardan parbat* is situated on the western side of the state expanding to Balangir and Bargarh district of Odisha as depicted in 'Ramayan' when at the war site the Raj Vaidya required a particular medicinal plant species to revive critically injured Laxmana, Hanuman not able to identify the plant had lifted the entire hills on his shoulders to the war site. Historically it was a seat of Budhist culture and ruins, in abundant evidence, of that era are still found in the plateau atop the hills. The champion Chinese traveler Hsuen Tsang was attracted by the scenic splendor of Gandhamardan during his tour to Dakhin Kosal. He has spoken of the flowering Buddhist University of PARIMALGIRI (po-lo-mo-lo-ki-li), which had its campus on the picturesque Gandhamardan hills.

Culturally the hill is abode of two famous temples; 'Nrusinghanath' on northern slopes and 'Harisankar' on southern slopes. Thousands of pilgrims visit the hill.

The Gandhamardan mountain ranges are a rich source of diversity for medicinal plants. The Botanical Survey of India has reported the existence of 220 plant species of medicinal value. Local people, however, claim that there are more than 500 species of medicinal plants in this area. The flora of the buffer zone is most vulnerable. Many medicinal plant species such as *Clerodendronindicum*, *Rauvolfia serpentina* and *Plumbago zeylanica*, which were once available in plenty, have become scarce. A study recorded 2,700 angiosperms and 125 species of important medicinal plants, out of a total of 220 species of medicinal and quasi-medicinal and economically vital plants.



Such is its richness in medicinal plants that more than 100 traditional healthcare practitioners live in and around the Gandhamardan hills. These practitioners provide medical facilities to about 50,000 tribal people. There are two Ayurvedic colleges and hospitals on both side of Gandhamardan – one in Bargarh district and the other in Balangir.

Local people have great faith in ayurvedic practitioners and in many villages, their main occupation is to collect herbs and supply them to companies such as Dabur and Zandu. Some of these villages include Khandijharan, Manbhang, Magurmam and Cherengajhanj. A study conducted

by M Brahma and H O Saxena of the Regional Research Laboratory (Now Institute of Materials & Minerals Technology), Bhubaneswar recorded the medicinal uses of nearly 200 species, out of which they found the uses of 77 to be new or interesting.

Forest Policy and Management

Since 1928, the forests of ex-Patna State were being managed under a sanctioned Working Plan. It was drawn up by late Meher Chand Gupta, the State Forest Officer, for a period from 1928 to 1948 but it was revised in 1938 much before the due date for revision, as the construction of the Raipur-Vizayanagaram railway line passing through the division opened new avenues for export of forest produce from this division to wider markets. The revised plan was prepared by the same officer for the period from 1928 to 1953 and was sanctioned by the Durbar. In the 1928 Plan, constitution of four working circle was proposed viz. High Forest Working Circle, Coppice Working Circle, Miscellaneous Working Circle and Teak Working Circle.

The working plan was further revised from 1938 to 1953 for the Patna Ex-State Forests in Meher Chand Gupta's plan of 1938-53 and Four Working Circles were constituted namely, selection working Circle, Coppice Working Circle, Miscellaneous Working Circle and Bamboo Working Circle.

Those areas which are barely exploitable and the portion of certain blocks where good Sal and Miscellaneous Forest existed were included under the Selection Working Circle with a view to exploit larger marketable trees before they deteriorate and where better crop existed. The total area of this Working Circle was 62,105 acres. These forests were hardly workable till the merger in 1948, partly due to old departmental system of working with which the staff could not cope up and partly due to lack of demand.

In Coppice Working Circle emphasis was given to more accessible forests with a view to cater to the requirement of the people and to export miscellaneous poles and fuel wood most in demand in Raipur and Vizianagaram areas respectively. The total area of this Working Circle was 73,808 ha. Repeated coppicing of these forests combined with annual fire and heavy grazing resulted in speedy retrogression and eventual degradation of crop. The steep hill slopes in these areas were unfavourable to this working circle where various factors accelerated the process of erosion.

In the Miscellaneous Working Circle 9832 ha of forest land was included and no work was prescribed as the crop comprised miscellaneous scrub jungle and was unfit for working. In the Bamboo Working Circle total 28,153 ha was included where the blocks contained bamboo in exploitable quantities within 25.6 kilometres of Harishankar Road railway station. The heavy backing and maltreatment in the past continued to have their adverse effects on bamboo forests and the practice of allowing villagers to cut

bamboos wherever they liked further accelerated the process of deterioration of bamboo clumps.

The revised working plan prepared by Sri Meher Chand Gupta from 1938 to 1953 could not be enforced till 1948 because of the outbreak of the World War II which threw the prescriptions out of gear. The Plan of Sri Meher Chand Gupta was revised by Sri G.K. Das, Deputy Conservator of Forests who prepared the plan for a period of 20 year i.e. 1956-57 to 1975-76. In this revised working plan, eight Working Circles were constituted. Those Working Circles were (1) Improvement Working Circle, (2) Coppice Working Circle, (3) Teak Plantation Working Circle, (4) Coppice cum Afforestation Working Circle, (5) Protection Working Circle, (6) Overlapping Bamboo Working Circle, (7) Overlapping Khair Working Circle and (8) Overlapping Sunaribark Working Circle. The past years have witnessed a great deal of devastation of the forests of Balangir district. Starting with a heavily depleted and irregular growing stock, scientific management was introduced in these forest circles in 1928 but the local demand for forest produce remarkably increased with growing population and the working plan of Sri G.K. Das, IFS was again revised by Sri Birupakhya Mishra, IFS from 1980-81 to 1999-2000.

The first full-fledged working plan was prepared for the Reserve Forests of Balangir Division in 1978. In May 1978 it was decided by the Chief Conservator of Forests, Odisha that the Reserve Forests of ex-Sonepur State lying within the jurisdiction of Balangir division would be included in the plan of Balangir division. Accordingly, all Reserve forests of the Patna ex-State and Sonepur ex-State together with those freshly constituted under section 21 of the Orissa Forest Act, 1972 had been included in this plan. The following working circles were constituted in the working plan of 1980-81 to 1999-2000. Those are (1) Selection Working Circle, (2) Coppice Working Circle, (3) Teak Plantation Working Circle, (4) Rehabilitation Working Circle, (5) Protection Working Circle, (6) Salai Overlapping Working Circle, (7) Bamboo Overlapping Circle, and (8) Sunaribark Overlapping Working Circle. In this plan fourteen forest blocks have been declared as Reserved Forest under Section 21 of the Orissa Forest Act 1972 between 1975-76 to 1979-80.

In the year 2003, Balangir Forest Division was divided into two divisions and named as Balangir West Division and Balangir East Division. After the bifurcation of Balangir Division, the Working Plan was revised and new Working Plan was drafted by Sri K.C. Dalai, OFS (I), Working Plans Officer, Bhawanipatna Division. The revised Working Plan was prepared for the period from 2007-2008 to 2016-2017 and in this working plan eight Working Circles were constituted. Those working Circle are as follows Selection Working Circle, Rehabilitation Working Circle, Plantation Working

Circle, Protection Overlapping Working Circle, Bamboo Overlapping Working Circle, J.F.M. Overlapping Working Circle, NTFP Overlapping Working Circle and Wildlife Overlapping Working Circle

Flora and Fauna

Forests of Balangir district are situated within the dry deciduous zone. Sal woods are found almost in pure crop in a few blocks and in the compact area of the western part of Balangir district. Along the Khariar border natural teak is found in pure form or as mixture- the crop being generally of a mixed variety with preponderance of miscellaneous species. Bija, the other economically important species, is seen scattered throughout forests and constitutes a low proportion of the crop. Other principal species in the crop have rare occurrence. Sal also occurs in parts of mixed forests but forms a small percentage of the stand. The miscellaneous species constitute the bulk of the crop. The prominent features of forests of this district are the openness of the crop, high proportion of unsound stems, poor growth of trees and less economically important species.

The flora of Balangir district consists of many families, which are common in tropical climate. There is good vegetative growth throughout wherever conditions are favourable.

On the open country mango groves are found in large numbers. Tal (*Barassus fiabellifer*) and Khajuri (*Phoenix sylvestris*) are seen topping the canopy. On the fields Mahua (*Bassia Latifolia*), Babul (*Acacia Arabica*) and other miscellaneous species such as Harida (*T. Chebula*), and Bahara (*T. belerica*) are generally found. Besides, at the outskirts of villages, following species are commonly found Tamarind (*Tamarindus indica*), Jamun (*Eugenia Jambolana*), Bel (*Aegle marmelos*), Barokoli (*Zizyphus jujube*), Maya (*Psidium guava*), Badhal (*Anona squamosa*), Bara (*F. bengalensis*), Aswatha (*F. religiosa*),

Amongst the flowering species the following are commonly noticed:

Sunari (*Cassia fistula*): The Indian Laburnum tree with long pendular racemes of yellow flowers.

Chakunda (*Cassi siamea*): With panicles of yellow raceme.

Palasa (*Butea frondosa*): Remarkable for its brilliant scarlet or orange flowers in summer on the leafless tree. It is also called 'The Flame of the Forest'.

Siris (*Albizia lebbek*): Notable for its green canopy on the top of which are greenish yellow flowers, conspicuous and aesthetically satisfying.

Kanchan (*Bauhinia variegata*): It has large blossoms of four white or pink petals and one petal pink or variegated.

Kantapalasa (*Cochlospermum gossypium*): Conspicuous for its large yellow flowers growing on dry hill slopes. Its gum is used for food. It is called the torch tree which is believed to have been carried by postmen, runners and others during their night marches through the forest.

Krushna Chuda (*Poinciana regia*): A lovely avenue tree with its brilliantly red petals in summer.

Amongst flowering shrubs Dhatuli (*Woodfordia floribunda*), Sefahli or Harasingar (*Nyctanthes arbortristis*), Kurai (*Holarrhena antidysentrica*), Madhabilata (*Hiptagemadablata*) and others are notable in this district.

The following are the flora of economic importance.

Vernacular Name	Botanical Name
Sal	<i>Shorea robusta</i>
Teak	<i>Teatona grandis</i>
Gambhari	<i>Bmelina arborea</i>
Sisoo	<i>Dalbergia latifolia</i>
Bahara	<i>Terminalia belerica</i>
Sahaj	<i>Terminalia tomentosa</i>
Rohan	<i>Soymida febrifuga</i>
Harida	<i>Terminalia chebula</i>
Anla	<i>Phyllanthus embilica officinalis</i>
Bhorum	<i>Chlorxlon swietenia</i>
Kusum	<i>Schleisoera trijuga</i>
Simul	<i>Bombax malabaricum</i>
Girungila	<i>Sterculia urens</i>
Ritha	<i>Randia Sp.</i>
Khair	<i>Acacia catechu</i>
Murmuria	<i>Helicteris isora</i>
Siali	<i>Bauhinia vahlii</i>
Sunari	<i>Cassia fistula</i>
Kendu	<i>Diospyros melanoxylon</i>

The district has a good source of fodder grasses which would make good hay. The following are some of the important grasses that are commonly found Dub grass (*Cynodon dactylon*), Musial (*Iseilema weightii*), Sukla (*Pollinia argentea*), Kaila (*Andropogon annualatus*), Kasa (*Sachharum spontaneum*), Khas (*Andropogon squarrosus*), Tikhari (*Andropogon variety*)

Wildlife in Balangir district were found in abundance about a century ago when the forest cover was profuse and the human population was inversely proportionate to it. With the escalation of demographic pressure, the demand for agricultural land and their products increased considerably

and resulted in the reduction of the extent and quality of forest land. Thus, the extent of abode of the wild life also reduced accordingly.

The National Forest Policy, 1988 emphasized the need to conserve wildlife and their habitat. Not much emphasis had been given in the past years for conservation of wildlife and their habitat in Balangir district. However, at present, adequate importance is being given to protect wildlife through different activities and programme with forest fringe villagers.

Wild life has been considerably depleted over time in this division. No systematic census of all types of wildlife had been conducted in the past. The census of wild animal taken up in 2004 is given below.

Census of Wild Animals in 2004

Sl. No.	Name of Species Enumerated	Total
1	Elephant	40
2	Tiger	03
3	Leopard	17
4	Wild dog	25
5	Sambar	30
6	Spotted deer	300
7	Barking deer	458
8	Mouse deer	10
9	Chousinga	3
10	Wild Buffalo	7
11	Nilagai	5
12	Bison	5
13	Wild Bore	200
14	Bear	104
15	Mongoose	353
16	Monkey	702
17	Peacock	226
18	Great Indian Horn bill	5

In the meantime, the population of wild fauna has increased but the assessment of which is yet to be taken. Recently, however, the Census of Elephant and Tiger and Co-predator were taken up and the report was submitted to the higher authority which is yet to be finalized.

Richness and Distribution

The distribution of fauna is recorded the most in the northwestern part of Boalngir District particularly in Gandhamardan and Chandili Forest blocks. Wild animals commonly seen in the division area are *Hyaena hyaena*

(Gadhia), *Malureses ursinus* (Bhalu), *Muntiacus muntjak* (Kutra), *Herpestes edwardsii* (Mongoose), *Hystrix indica* (Jhinka), *Canis aureus* (Bilua), *Presbytis entellus* (Hanuman), *Sus cristatus* (Barha) and others.

The wild life which are seen in some forests but not common are *Viverricula indica* (Salia patani), *Axis axis* (Cheetal / Hareen), *Taaputius memina* (Kuranta), *Cannon alpinus* (Balua kukur), *Cervus unicornis* (Sambhar) are seen confined to Gandhamardan block only.

Man-Animal Conflict

Conflicts and controversies involving interactions between human beings, their communities, and the environment have become defining issues in the present era. There is a growing awareness of both the physical effects of people on the environment and the ways in which beliefs, cultural norms, and economic conditions shape the human response to these issues.

Population is increasing worldwide. Continued growth in population and the resulting sprawl of people into previously unsettled land force individuals, governments, and society as a whole to examine current and future priorities in regard to lifestyle and the natural world. One of the serious environmental problems facing humankind today is the loss of biological diversity. Biodiversity is lost when farmers clear land to increase crop yield, when loggers clear forests to provide lumber for houses and furniture, and when city dwellers need more land for homes, schools, and industry. Cutting old growth forests has encouraged erosion on slopes and mountains. Wetlands have been drained and rivers dammed and diverted to provide water for irrigation and drinking water. Overgrazing of grasslands and the use of fertilizers and pesticides have polluted lakes, rivers, and streams, creating fragmented habitats where native species have difficulty surviving.

Demographic shifts and population growth have encouraged people to live in areas once populated by wild animals. These habitats are increasingly affected by human imposed changes including roads, new uses for private and public lands, and the environmental demands associated with agricultural and urban life. While Government officials, environmentalists, developers, and industry representatives fashion regulations designed to protect, preserve, and safeguard both ecosystems and human beings, wild animals and people continue to come into conflict with one another. How these issues are resolved will depend on the ways in which conflicting priorities and questions are addressed.

Payment of compassionate amount

The procedure of payment of compassionate amount for human kill and injuries (permanent/ temporary in nature) by tigers, panthers, and elephant etc. were laid down by the Government vide notification No. 17636 –8F, 12/83 FFAH dt.20-8-83.

Tables below show the cases of Human kill / injuries and compassionate amount granted in Balangir division.

Year	No. of Wild Animals Killed						Total
	Elephant	Leopard	Wild bear	Wild Boar	Sambar	Barley Dear		Others
2007-08							
2008-09							
2009-10							
2010-11							
2011-12							
2012-13							
2013-14	3	1					
2014-15							

Wild Animals Rescued:

Year	Sl.No	Name of the Wild Animals Rescued	Remarks
2007-08		-	-
2008-09		-	-
2009-10		-	-
2010-11		-	-
2011-12		-	-
2012-13		-	-
2013-14		-	-
2014-15	1	Leopard	Sent to Nandankanan

Human Injury and Death by Wild Animals

Year	Human Killed		Human Injuries	
	No. of Cases	Compassionate Amount Paid	No. of Cases	Compassionate Amount Paid
2007-08	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
2008-09	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
2009-10	02	200000.00	02	4000.00
2010-11	01	100000.00	Nil	Nil
2011-12	03	600000.00	01	5000.00
2012-13	01	200000.00	12	1,30,000.00
2013-14	01	200000.00	01	75,000.00
2014-15	Nil	Nil	10	1,20,000.00

In order to check the rate of decline of the elephant population and to reduce the degree of man-animal conflict, the Government of India and Government of Odisha have jointly launched 'Project Elephant' from 1999 onwards. Table below shows the details of compensation paid to local people for crop damage caused by Elephant in Balangir division.

Elephant Depredation

Year	No.of Cases	Crop Damaged in (Acres)	Compassionate Payment Paid(Rs.)
2007-08	Nil	Nil	Nil
2008-09	Nil	Nil	Nil
2009-10	Nil	Nil	Nil
2010-11	1020	789.98	7,89,980.00
2011-12	887	374.128	18,70,640.00
2012-13	1135	779.95	54,59,500.00
2013-14	801	43.33	43,33,500.00
2014-15	1880	176.73	17,67,300.00

Injuries to which Fauna is liable

(i) Many forest blocks of this division, where the population of wild animals were thinned or depleted, become an easy prey to human beings. Reduction of forest habitats finally leads to the scarcity of food, cover and shelter for these wild animals.

(ii) Forest fire is another reason for magnitudinal loss of wild animals abode.

(iii) Increased incidences of cattle grazing have drastically reduced the availability of grazing and browsing resources for many wild animals.

(iv) Poaching of wild animals continues in this division, for a variety of reasons including skins, meat, trophies, bones and other animal products. The detection of cases relating to wild life offences is poor and many go unreported. Table below reports the number of wildlife offences cases detected in different years.

No. of Wildlife Cases Detected Year-wise	
Year	No of Cases Detected
2000-01	4
2001-02	2
2002-03	2
2003-04	-
2004-05	-
2005-06	1
2006-07	-
2007-08	2
2008-09	-
2009-10	-
2010-11	-
2011-12	-
2012-13	1
2013-14	1
2014-15	-
2015-16	2

Elephant Depredation in Balangir District under Balangir Forest Division

Elephant depredation in Loisingha Range area of Balangir Forest Division is noticed since 2002-03. The villagers in the proximity of Chhelia and Ghati RF of Loisingha Range often suffer crop damage and at times human kill by elephants. The wild elephants migrate from the forests of Sonapur/Boudh and Bargarh Forest Divisions. During the month of December / January crossing the river Ang, they enter into Chhelia and Ghati RFs of Loisingha Range. During their stay in Chhelia and Ghati RF, they often visit adjacent crop fields and cause heavy damage to crops. When harvesting is over, elephants generally return to their original habitat by the end of summer following the same course through which they have come. Equally, the crop condition and terrain over about half of the area is fully congenial for their stay, but the carrying capacity is insufficient to provide adequate food to them forcing them to the surrounding villages to savour cane and paddy crop.

Action Taken to Minimize Elephant Depredation:

The affected villages have been constantly kept in observation by forest officials and the behavior of elephants and the migrating paths were regularly studied. The specific path of movement and time the elephants go out of forests for food and water was understood and villagers were advised not to move around after the evening and before the sun-rise.

Committees were formed for educating villagers to adopt different precautionary measures in the villages such as Negipali, Bakti, Keseipali, Bendra, Nuniapali, Salebhata, Dudka, Badtika, Sankhua, Gaikhai and others.

Crackers were distributed in the villages for use in the night to disperse elephants while approaching the villages.

Solar fencing over 7.5 km in Chhelia RF near Gaikhai Reservoir has been erected to restrict the entry of wild animal in crop fields of the local people.

Elephant Squads consisting of 10 local youth with a vehicle have been permanently stationed in Gaikhai village of Loisingha Range. In addition, 4 trackers have been engaged to watch the daily movement of elephants in the locality so as to avoid man animal conflict. The Squad has been provided all sorts of equipments like torch lights, Ghanta, fire crackers and high frequency siren for anti-depredation activities.

Solar street lights and search lights have been provided to villages to monitor the movement and the driving out of the elephants from their paddy fields.

Much of the wild fauna is fast vanishing because of hunting by the 'Shikaries' and destruction of forests by human beings. The wild mammals include the following types:

Wild Mammals

(1) *Panthera tigris* (Tiger/Bagha): These animals are found everywhere in the forests of the district. Majority of them are game killers while occasionally one becomes a man-eater.

(2) *Panthera pardus* (Leopard/Kalara Patria): They are plentiful in every part of the forest and are usually seen near small hills adjoining cultivated lands where they prey upon goats and sheep. Not many years ago, a notable guest of the Maharaja shot a number of leopards in one night by tying baits on machans on road-side and motoring along at night shooting leopards on the baits.

(3) *Felis chaus* (Bana Biradi)

(4) *Melursus ursinus* (Bear/Bhalu): This is the common Indian Sloth Bear. Their favourite food is 'Mahua' flowers but they are very destructive to sugarcane too.

(5) *Herpestes edwardsii* (Mongoose/Hatia Neula)

(6) *Cyon alpinus* (Balua Kukura): They are numerous and are extremely harmful to the game. They are intelligent hunters. They hunt in packs.

(7) *Canis aureus* (Jackal/Bilua)

(8) *Hyaena hyaena* (Hyena/Gadhia)

(9) *Viverricula indica* (Salia patani)

(10) *Paradoxurus hermaphrodites* (Katasha)

(11) *Hystrix indica* Porcupine (Jhinka)

(12) *Axix axix* (Spotted deer/Chittal): These animals are very common and are found moving in small herds, in low lands near water sources.

(13) *Tragutus meminna* (Indian mouse-deer/Khuranta)

(14) *Muntiacus muntjak* (Barking deer/Kutura)

(15) *Antelope cervicapra* (Black-buck/Antelope/Krushna Sara): These animals are found in jungles bordering the district of Kalahandi.

(16) *Cervus unicolor* (Sambar): It is a forest-loving animal generally seen on high hills. It is the largest of all the Indian deer.

(17) *Bos gaurus* (Bison/Gayala): These animals were at one time numerous but their number is getting reduced. They are often found moving in herds.

(18) *Macca mulatta* (Bandar/Pati)

(19) *Presbytis entellus* (Langur/Hanuman): These two are the most common primates found in forests.

Birds

Most of the birds found in other parts of Odisha are also found in this district. They are listed below:

- (1) *Corvus splendens* (Domestic Crow/Pati Kau)
- (2) *Corvus macrorhynchos* (Damara Kua)
- (3) *Gallus gallus* (Jungle fowl/Bana Kukuda)
- (4) *Gallus domesticus* (Domestic fowl)
- (5) *Pavo cristatus* (Peacock/Mayura)
- (6) *Coracias benghalensis* (Blue Jay/Bhadabhadalia)
- (7) *Gracula religiosa* (Hill mynah/Sari)
- (8) *Passer domesticus* (House sparrow/Chatia)
- (9) *Milvus migrans* (Chila)
- (10) *Haliastur Indus* (Sankha Chila)
- (11) *Torgus calvus* (Vultures /Saguna)
- (12) *Eudynamys scolopacea* (Koyal/Koili)
- (13) *Acridotheres tristis* (Common mynah)
- (14) *Halcyon smyrnensis and Alcedo atthis* (Kingfisher)
- (15) *Dicrurus adsimilis* (Drongo)
- (16) *Pycnonotus cafer* (Red ventral bulbul)
- (17) *Streptopelia chinensis* (Spotted dove)

Among the birds some of the species like *Corvus macrorhynchos* (Damara Kua), *Passer domesticus* (House Sparrow/Chatia) and *Torgus Calvus* (Vultures /Saguna) have become almost extinct.

Reptiles and Amphibians

This district has its own share of reptiles including a variety of snakes which are responsible for deaths of a number of human beings every year. The following is a list of the more common reptiles and amphibians:

Toads

Duttaphrynus melanostictus : (Indian Common Toad verni name – Sinduria Benga)

Duttaphrynus stomaticus : (Marbelled Toad, Katha Benga)

Duttaphrynus scaber : (Ferguson Toad, Luni Benga)

Frogs

Euphlyctis eyanophlyctis : (Indian skipper frog, Pani Benga)

Fejervarya linnocharis : (Paddy field frog, Kheta Benga)

Holobatrachus tigerinus : (Indian Bull frog, Brahmani Benga)

Hoplobatrachus crassus : (Jerdon's Bull frog, Cheli Benga)

Sperotheca rolandae : (Indian Burroming frog, Chhota Matipata Benga)

Microhyla ornata : (Ornate narrow mouthed frog, Chuin Benga)

Kalucola toprobanica : (Painted ballon frog, Lal Fuka Benga)

Uperodan globulusus : (Kolthia Benga, Chitra Benga)

Polypedatis maculates : (Common India tree frog, Dian Benga)

Gecko

Hemidactylus flaviviridis : (Indian Haira Gecko, Jhitipiti)

Hemidactylus brokii : (Spotted Indian Haira Gecko, Jhitipiti)

Cnemaspis sp. : (Dwarf Gecko)

Cosymbotul platyrus : (FILLED Haira Gecko)

Sublepharil hardmickii : (Fattailed & leopard Gecko)

Lizards

Calotes versicolor : (Common garden lizard)

Calotes rouxii : (Forest Colates)

Sitana ponticeriana : (Fan- throated lizard)

Mabuya macularia : (Little Schink)

Snakes

(Non-Poisonous)

Eryx johnii : (John's earth Boa)

Oligodon arnensis : (Common Kukri snake)

Xenochrophis piscutor : (Checkered Kulback)

Ramphotyphlops brhmnes : (Common norm & Blind snake)

Grypolleyplops acutus : (Beaked worm snake, Telisapa)

Python molurus :(Ajagara)

Natrix stolata :(Bamhuni Sapa)

Ptyas mucosus :(Dhamana)

Eryx conicus :(Domundia)

(Poisonous)

Naja naja : (Cobra /Tampa and Gokhara)

Echis carinatus : (Saw scaled viper/Chiti)

Bungarus fasciatus : (Banded krait /Rana)

Other Amphibians and Reptiles-

Gavialis gangeticus (Ghadial/Crocodile): It is commonly found in the Mahanadi and its tributaries.

Kachuga tectum (Common aquatic tortoise/Kachhapa)

Trionyx gangeticus (Alligator): found in the Mahanadi and its tributaries.

Varanusp Monitor (Lizard/Godhi)

Fish

There are large variety of fish found in rivers and ponds of the district. The Fishery Department is culturing and cultivating three major Indian carps and one minor carp.

The following are the most common fish found in the district.

- (1) *Labeo rohita* (Rohi)
- (2) *Catla catla* (Catla /Bhakur)
- (3) *Cyprinus carpeo* (common carp)
- (4) *Cirrhina mrigala* (Mrigal/Mirikali)

- (5) *Amphipnous cuchia* (Kuchia)
- (6) *Notopterus notopterus* (*Pholi*)
- (7) *Amblypharyngdon mola* (Mohurali)
- (8) *Wallago attu* (The Freshwater shark /Balia)
- (9) *Barbus stigma* (Kerandi)
- (10) *Glossogobius giuris* (Baligarada)
- (11) *Clarius batrachus* (Magur)
- (12) *Heteropneustes fossilis* (Singhi)
- (13) *Ophicephalus marulius* (Salo)
- (14) *Ophicephalus gachua* (Chenga)
- (15) *Mastacembelus armatus* (Todi)

Insects

The district abounds in various common insects characteristic to the peninsular India of which a few can be mentioned:

- (1) *Mantis religiosa* (The Praying mantis)
- (2) *Neepa* sp. (The water scorpion)
- (3) *Rentra* sp. (The water insect)
- (4) Beetles, The Tiger beetle, Ground beetle, etc.
- (5) A number of colourful butterflies.

Other Invertebrates

- (1) *Pila* sp. (Snail)
- (2) *Peretima* sp. (Earthworm)

Census

The census programme for wild animals like Tiger, Leopard and Elephant was started by the Forest Department. The objective of this census is to ascertain the rise or fall in animal population. The Tiger census was started during the year 1973 and the Elephant Census in the year 1979. As per 2015 census report, 28 elephants were found in Balangir district and 2 Tiger and 11 Leopards were enumerated during 2014 Census.

Forest Protection

The National Forest Policy, 1988 envisaged co-operation of the people in conservation and development of forests. In keeping with this policy,

Government of Odisha adopted Joint Forest Management approach and sought community participation for protection and regeneration of forest. About 524 Vana Surakshya Samities have been formed over an assigned land of 52,592.5 ha in Balangir district for management of forest wealth in J.F.M Mode.

Zoological Park at Harishankar

Harishankar which is located at the foothill of Gandhmardan is a place of pilgrimage and draws a large number of visitors. With the view to provide a sense of appreciation and love for wild life a Deer Park was established during 1971 in a small enclosure by the side of the Forest Rest House at Harishankar and this is an added attraction to visitors. Late N.R. Bohidar, I.F.S the then DFO, Balangir Forest Division took keen interest for the establishment and development of this Park. Originally Deer were kept in this park but subsequently other animals were added to it to make the park more attractive. With the addition of more animals another site covering an area of about 25 acre was chosen at the foot of Gandhmardan Hills and another park was developed in 1972 to provide adequate space for animals. The second park was under the control of the Range Officer, Khaprakhol and subsequently one Deer Park was managed by Forest Department at Harishankar. After reorganisation of Forest Department during 2003, the Deer park was brought under the control of Range Officer, Harishankar Range.



Deer Park at Harishankar

Climate

The climate of this district which is in the north-eastern corner of the Deccan plateau is similar to that of the adjoining districts, the heat in summer, however, being less severe. The year may be divided into four seasons. The hot season from March to May is followed by the south-west monsoon season lasting up to about the end of September. October and November constitute the post-monsoon season. The cold season continues from December to February.

Rainfall

The average annual rainfall in the district is 1289 mm. The variation in the annual rainfall from year to year is not large. Rain fall is recorded at 12 stations located in Panchayat Samiti offices in the district except in Titilagarh and Balangir. In Titilagarh and Balangir, rainfall is recorded in Sub-Collector office and Office of the Deputy Director, Agriculture respectively. The heaviest rainfall recorded in 24 hours at any station in the district is 405 mm in Bangomunda.

Over the years, indiscriminate tree felling and local climate change have caused serious adverse impact on normal rainfall in the district. The distribution of rainfall has become erratic and amount of rainfall is continuously declining in last thirty to forty years. The erratic behaviour of monsoon both in terms of time and space causes a drought like situation in the district.

A list of the rainfall recorded since last 15 years is given in Annexure I at the end of this chapter.

Temperature

There are two meteorological observatories, one at Titilagarh and the other at Balangir. The hot season commences at the beginning of March when the mean daily maximum temperature is about 41.4°C (106.5°F) and the mean daily minimum temperature 27.8°C (82.0° F). During May and early part of June on individual days the maximum temperature may sometimes rise to about 47° C (116.6° F). With the onset of the south-west monsoon by about the second week of June temperatures drop appreciable. After the south-west monsoon withdraws by about the first week of October, the day temperatures are nearly the same as in the previous month but the nights become cooler. From November temperatures decrease progressively, the drop in night temperatures being more rapid. December is usually the coldest month with the mean daily maximum temperatures at 28.1 °C (55.8 °F). In the cold season short spells of cold weather occur in the wake of western disturbances passing across north India and the minimum temperature sometimes goes down to about 6° or 7 °C (42.8° F).

Effects of heat wave and high temperature have been felt in the district due to shrinkage in green cover over the years and climate change. Titilagarh and its adjoining areaa experience high temperature of more than 45°C. As per availability of records, the maximum highest temperature of 48.2°C was recorded on 27th May 1998 and the lowest minimum was 3.2°C in 1994 on January 28.

Humidity

The relative humidities are high in the south-west monsoon and post-monsoon months. The air becomes gradually drier thereafter. Summer is the driest part of the year with the relative humidity particularly in the afternoons often going down below 30 percent.

A list of normal of temperature and relative humidity of Balangir and Titilagarh is appended as Annexure II at the end of this chapter.

Cloudiness

During the south-west monsoon season, skies are generally heavily overcast. In the summer and post-monsoon months there is moderate cloudiness, the afternoons being cloudier than the mornings. In other months the sky is mostly clear or lightly clouded.

Winds

Winds are generally light to moderate. During the south-west monsoon season the winds are mostly front the south-west or west. In the post-monsoon and cold seasons winds generally blow from the directions between the north and north-east. In the summer months, the winds are variable in direction.

Special Weather Phenomena

Storms and depressions in the Bay of Bengal, during the monsoon season and in October pass through the district or its neighbourhood and cause widespread heavy rain and strong winds. Thunderstorms mostly in the afternoons occur in the summer season and in October. Rain during the south-west monsoon season is also very often associated with thunder. Even though there has not been large variation from the normal rainfall, almost every year there is scarcity in some area or other on account of irregular distribution of rainfall. Recently this district has experienced cyclonic effect of Phailine and Hudhud in the month of October of the year 2013 and 2014 respectively. Unseasonal rainfall also damaged crops in the month of December 2010.

Annexure I

Rainfall Recorded since 1998 to 2006

Month	1998	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006
Jan	6.40	0.00	0.50	0.00	10.00	0.00	8.30	57.80	0.00
Feb	24.00	0.00	21.40	0.00	0.00	13.60	3.00	9.50	0.00
Mar	43.20	1.50	0.00	4.20	3.30	1.60	5.10	3.50	34.19
Apr	15.00	0.00	3.30	6.20	6.50	10.30	31.70	0.00	9.60
May	24.90	72.80	25.00	33.40	35.90	5.40	11.10	4.50	78.59
Jun	124.90	175.90	184.50	438.80	150.50	85.50	309.70	115.40	142.10
Jul	271.40	214.20	254.00	707.40	116.40	400.70	332.10	415.00	577.30
Aug	156.20	285.20	173.30	293.30	337.10	604.00	244.60	174.00	720.22
Sep	149.00	146.70	114.90	54.50	150.70	369.00	95.70	249.90	109.50
Oct	79.20	32.20	3.90	33.40	14.40	109.30	88.80	107.00	12.50
Nov	23.50	0.60	0.00	0.00	0.00	1.10	0.00	0.00	11.07
Dec	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	31.70	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	917.70	929.10	780.80	1571.20	824.80	1632.20	1130.10	1136.60	1695.07

Rainfall Recorded since 2007 to 2014

Month	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Jan	0.00	8.83	0.00	9.1	1.14	22.24	1.50	3.14
Feb	18.10	11.89	0.00	0	8.44	2.14	4.49	15.00
Mar	1.40	8.57	2.60	0.5	3.90	1.00	1.21	8.84
Apr	6.93	22.36	0.00	1.4	38.52	10.29	43.78	10.29
May	11.20	1.86	13.40	44.7	19.14	5.26	29.19	157.01
Jun	323.70	267.68	83.80	69.3	105.50	247.93	218.32	70.48
Jul	278.10	335.37	840.00	370.7	198.86	274.09	490.19	573.78
Aug	380.70	505.11	326.20	252.7	347.54	379.54	258.29	339.31
Sep	338.80	472.46	133.40	269.1	415.91	258.14	171.60	204.57
Oct	30.80	6.68	51.70	252.3	5.86	58.75	204.26	29.19
Nov	0.00	0.00	30.6	17.8	0.00	8.51	0.00	0.00
Dec	0.00	0.00	0.00	26.9	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total	1389.73	1640.81	1481.7	1114.5	1144.81	1267.89	1422.83	1411.61

Annexure II

MONTH	Mean	Mean	Highest		Lowest		Relative Humidity (%)	
	Daily	Daily	Maximum	Minimum	Maximum	Minimum		
	Temperature	Temperature	ever recorded	ever recorded	ever recorded	ever recorded		
January	27.6	15.7	39.7	1973 Jan 09	6.3	1992 Jan 14	68	48
February	31.0	18.5	38.8	1963 Feb 21	8.3	1992 Feb 12	62	41
March	35.4	22.5	42.3	1972 Mar 30, 1990 Mar 23	10.2	1983 Mar 24	55	37
April	39.3	26.4	49.0	1973 Apr 22	15.5	1992 Apr 01	50	32
May	40.8	27.9	48.3	1973 May 10	16.2	1990 May 01	52	33
June	36.1	26.4	46.0	1967 Jun 03	11.0	1978 Jun 15	69	57
July	30.7	24.5	40.7	1964 Jul 25	11.8	1978 Jul 19	84	79
August	30.2	24.7	39.0	1980 Aug 15	15.4	1978 Aug 28	84	80
September	30.8	24.8	38.4	1960 Sep 11	16.4	1990 Sep 06	82	77
October	30.8	23.1	37.8	1965 Oct 29	11.6	1992 Oct 30	76	67
November	28.6	19.1	36.6	1960 Nov 07	9.1	1992 Nov 30	70	59
December	26.4	15.3	32.6	1967 Dec 01	4.7	1992 Dec 24	69	52
Annual	32.3	22.4					68	55

Extremes of temperature updated upto 1992

**Normas of Temperature and Relative Humidity
(T TLGARH)**

MONTH	Mean Daily	Mean Daily	Highest		Lowest		Relative Humidity (%)	
	Maximum Temperature	Minimum Temperature	Maximum ever recorded	Date	Minimum ever recorded	Date	0830	1730
January	30.0	13.8	34.7	1980 Jan 31	5.6	1950 Jan 12	60	50
February	33.4	16.8	39.5	1980 Feb 29	8.3	1950 Feb 13	58	45
March	37.8	20.8	46.0	1980 Mar 17	12.1	1984 Mar 05	54	42
April	41.3	23.8	49.6	1976 Apr 26	15.3	1972 Apr 12	53	36
May	43.2	26.3	48.6	1973 May 10, 1984 May 26	18.8	1981 May 09	51	38
June	39.1	25.0	48.5	1985 Jun 07	18.3	1974 Jun 18	68	58
July	33.5	24.1	42.6	1978 Jul 01	17.7	1974 Jul 12	82	77
August	32.7	23.9	39.6	1984 Aug 14	19.3	1974 Aug 02	83	79
September	32.9	23.9	39.6	1984 Sep 30	20.3	1971 Sep 09	80	76
October	33.5	22.3	39.6	1984 Oct 08	14.6	1963 Oct 02	77	69
November	31.6	17.4	38.1	1976 Nov 09, 1984 Nov 01	9.3	1970 Nov 30	69	60
December	29.7	13.3	37.6	1984 Dec 08	7.2	1955 Dec 28	64	52
Annual	34.9	20.9					67	57

Extremes of temperature updated upto 1992

(Data available for the 76 years only)

CHAPTER II

History

The district of Balangir is geographically located between 20^o 9' and 20^o 11' north latitudes and 82^o 41' and 84^o 16' east longitudes. The ex-Patna State comprised the eastern part of south Kosala kingdom in ancient and medieval times.¹

The circumstance or the time when the word Balangir came into vogue is not exactly known. For the first time, the name came to prominence in 1871-72 AD when the capital of the Patna State was transferred from Patnagarh to Balangir.

The district of Balangir like many other districts of Odisha is named after the headquarters town of Balangir. The town was also the headquarters of the feudatory State of Patna since the eighties of the 19th century. According to tradition, Balangir was established by Balaram Deo, the brother of Narasingha Deo, the 12th Raja of the Patna State. It is said that the town being founded by Balaram Deo was named after him as Balaramgarh from which the present name Balangir has been derived. There is, however, no recorded evidence to support this theory.

In the opinion of scholars, the name of Balangir is a combination of two words, Balam (Bamboo) and Gill (Wooden Ravine) which reads as Balangil and later on began to be known as Balangir.

Pre-History, Proto-History and Early Historical Perspective of the District

Traces of pre-historic culture have been discovered in different parts of Balangir district. Its plains, high mountains, rivers, rain fall, flood and thick forest present extreme conditions for sustenance in which the inhabitants of early times were living. The rivers such as Tel, Suktel, Ang, Sungad and Lanth have yielded evidences of different typologies of lithic cultural remains which indicate their antiquity of thousands of years. The typologies of different lithic industries were discovered in Tel river valley and its tributaries which establish their antiquities since pre-historic times. The lithic industry belonged to the lower, middle and upper Palaeolithic period. The sites are located on the bank of Tel, Suktel and their tributaries. The banks of the

¹ J.B.O.R.S –Yayati's Copper Plate Charter 3rd regnal year, Patna. Vol – II,1928 P. 106

J.K. Sahu – Historical Geography. N. K. Sahu – N.A.H.O– Vol. I, P – 32. A.S.R – XVII – PP – 68 – 69

I.A – LXIX – P – 162. J.K.H.R.S – Vol. II, Vidarbha and Mahakosala – P.2, R.C. Majumdar - Classical Age – P – 321, CII – Vol. III, P-13

rivers Suktel, Tel, Ang and Lanth yielded tools for flake blade industry. The flake blade industry of this region primarily comprises of modules, cores, scrapers points, flakes, miniature hand axe etc. Neolithic Celts are also reported from some of the sites. Ring stones are also found in different part of the district.

Kharligarh (20° 27' north and 83° 33' east) is situated at a distance of about 1.5 km east of the village Bhuanpara in Tusra Tehasil. The site is on the confluence of the river Tel and Rahul with its material culture ranging from 2nd century BCE to 4th century and CE provides evidence of a fortified metropolitan settlement. Exploration of the surrounding area revealed that the site was not an isolated area. A series of archaeological sites ranging from the prehistoric to the early historic period have been documented in the neighbourhood.² The excavation yielded potteries of plain red ware, red slipped ware, black ware, few pieces of tiles, iron objects, stone beads of a gate, carnelian, terracotta beads, stone beads, bead polisher, copper punch marked coin, terracotta wheels etc. Its close connection with other important archaeological sites like Asurgarh, Manamunda, Budhigarh renders materials for thought on various subjects like early state formation, urbanisation, trade mechanism, settlement pattern etc.

Archaeology

The art and architecture of the district of Balangir comprise fort, religious edifices, temple, vihara, a few secular structures etc. on the bank of the river Tel (Telavaha), Ang, Lanth, Suktel (Suktimati) and Sungad. There were several towns studded with monuments built under the patronage of the ruling dynasties. The location of the ex-State of Balangir serves as a bridge between the north and south Indian culture and tradition. It is natural that the art and architectural traditions of both parts of India have a free play in the area. The assimilation of both resulted in a new regional style (Kosali style) which spread far and wide throughout the local river valley and even to the coastal areas of Odisha with obvious regional variation.³ The temples of this region signify important landmarks in the study of central Indian and Odishian temple architecture.

Among the old monuments of the district, the most remarkable are the Chausathi Yogini temple, Someswara group of temples and the Vaishnavite

² S. Pradhan- Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences, Vol. II , 2003, PP – 51 – 54

R.N. Dash- “Microlith from Kharligarh.” Orissa Historical Research Journal. Vol.XXXIII, No.122, PP – 117-118

³ R.N. Mishra – Sculptures in Dahala and South Kosala and their Background – 1987, PP – 99-128

brick temple at Ranipur Jharia, the Sauntpur group of temples, Tentulikhunti, few Kosali temples at Kumuda, Sini, Ghodar, Udayapur, Bijepur, Sirkela, Surda, Durga temple of Kusang, Koseleswar Siva temple of Patnagarh, Chandi temple at Saintala and Harishankar.

The area between Kumuda and the confluence of Sundar (Under) and Tel river is replete with archaeological remains dating from Mauryan period till 13th century CE.⁴ J. D. Beglar who visited this area during 1874-75 stated that at "Kumra there are some ruins. One mound stands south-east of the village and yield bricks 15" long 9" wide and 3" thick judging from the rectilinear direction of the wall it is clearly the site of a temple". He again added "Half a mile the west of the perch on a flat rock is a temple of stone consisting of a single cell".⁵ At Kumuda, there is one *tri-ratha* stone temple which stands on a platform and is about 20' in height. The lateral niches of this temple are empty and no deity is found in the sanctum. The *pabhaga*, *bada*, *gandi* and *mastaka* of this temple are found. The temple at Sinni consists of a shrine and a *Mahamandapa* in the front. Both the structures are erected in square ground plan. The roof of the *mandapa* has been damaged and the front wall is packed with burnt bricks. The top of the temple represents *beki*, *amalaka* and the flat *khapuri*. B.K. Rath rightly points out that from architectural point of view the temple can be dated back to 8th century CE.⁶

In the north of Ghodar village is located a *Pancharatha* temple with single cell standing on a stone platform to the east of Ghodar. Two other sites of fallen temples are found with loose sculptures. One dilapidated stone temple is found in the village of Udayapur with the shape of *Pancharatha*. In the outskirts of Udayapur a huge stone slab was discovered having the carving of the Saptamatrika and is flanked by Virabhadra and Ganesh on both sides. The Saptamatrika panel on a huge stone slab is the only of its kind in the upper Mahanadi valley and can be ascribed to 8th century CE.⁷

One *Triratha* planned temple, built in stone is found at Dekhala in the Bijepur village. The door jamb and a part of the temple up to the *gandi* portion is found. One broken eight armed Mahisamardini image is worshiped as Chandi inside the broken sanctum. In the outskirts of the

⁴ J.P. Singh Deo- Some Tantric Esotericism of Orissa, 2003, P -107

⁵ Archaeological Survey of India- Vol. XIII, P- 137-140

⁶ B.K. Rath – Recent Archaeological Exploration in Orissa – O.H.C – XV annual session – 1989, P – 44

⁷ S. K. Panda- Political and Cultural History of Orissa

village Sirekela, there is a single cell type triratha temple where a Siva linga is enshrined. This temple can be dated back to 8th century CE.⁸

Kosheleswer Siva temple is located at Daspur Surda. The temple is situated on a monolithic rock. The rocky surface forms a natural elevation on the bank of the Rivulet, Lakshmi jore. The temple is of the single cell type and is built on the *triratha* plan. The temple elevation has three major parts, *Bada*, *Gandi* and *Mastaka*. The temple is devoid of any *Jagamohana*.⁹

The inner sanctum or the *garva griha* of the temple is square-shaped. On the outer wall of the temple a three lettered inscription is discovered which has been deciphered by Sri S.N. Rajaguru. From palaeographical point of view, these letters have been attributed to 9th century CE. In the sub-shrine, in front of the temple is found a structure which seems to be that of Varaha and the antiquity of this image can be assigned to 9th century CE.¹⁰ The Kosaleswara Siva temple of Surda can be taken as one of the earliest among the existing ancient temples of the upper Mahanadi valley and can be assigned to 9th century CE.¹¹

The temple of Kusang is *pancharatha* in plan, the *Gandi* of the temple is surrounded by a *pancharatha bisama* consisting of *beki*, a huge *amalaka*, a *khapuri* and one *kalasa*.¹² A panel that is fitted to the eastern outer wall of the *jagamohana* is the Navagraha and are found in the lintel portion of Boudh group of temples. In design, Kusangai temple is a prototype of the Nrusinghanath temple and shares many similar features with the Lingaraj temple of Bhubaneswar.¹³ This temple can be placed in the last part of the Somavamsi rule and is assigned to the early part of 11th century AD.

Remnants of temple pillars, one broken Navagraha panel, elephant motif, temple doorways with lotus scroll motif, base moulding of temple pillar as well as loose sculptures of Ardhanariswara, Nataraja, Bhairava, Ganesa, Trivikrama and Kshetrapala were found in the outskirts of the village Sauntpur. Traces of the cult of Shaktism, Shaivism and Vaishnavism were found in the locality. Shaktipithas and pedestals are lying all around the field. The base is square-shaped and has three moulding courses with a small *kirtimukha* head carved inside a *chaitya* window motif which is carved in the centre of these mouldings. An eight angled portion seems to have formed the shafts, above which the beams of the *jagamohana* might have been in

⁸ O.H.R.J (The Orissa Historical Research Journal) Vol. XXXX – Nos. 1-4, P – 77

⁹ Silpa Prakasa – I, 107-119, PP - 21 ff, 194-202, PP – 29 ff

¹⁰ S.S. Panda – Kosaleswara Siva Temple of Daspur Surda, Balangir Loka Utsava – 2001, PP – 124-127

¹¹ R.P. Mohapatra – “Tradition in Architecture” *Art Tradition of Orissa*, Orissa Sahitya Academy, BBSR, Dec.1983, PP 19-21

¹² S.S. Panda – *Namastasya (Odia)*, 2007, PP 53-57

¹³ S.S. Panda. *Sculpture Art of Upper Mahanadi Valley* PP 348-354

the original state.¹⁴ Here at Sauntpur, the doorway design depicts three round, eight petalled Lotus-Ro-setted motifs connected to one another other by linings such as the designed gates found in places like Sirpur, Rajim and Tala, Baidyanath in the upper Mahanadi valley. A comparison of the ruins of Sauntpur with the ruins of Devrani – Jethani temple of Tala (Chhatisgarh) gives the impression that both the temple were of similar type. The temple of Tala is dated to 6th century AD. Therefore ascribing a similar date to Sauntpur temple may not be unreasonable.¹⁵

At Tentelkhunti, ruins of a stone temple are lying scattered not very far from Tel valley. As it is evident from the ruins, the temple appears to have a low *shikhara* over the sanctum. The stone *amalakas* and other temple sculptures scattered all around.¹⁶ The size of the Shakti pitha and the volume of ruins give a fair idea of the shape of the temple.

Deogaon as well as its surrounding area is very rich from archaeological point of view. Many brick mounds and collapsed temple sites and fortified township locally known as Itagarh is found here. We found here a medieval temple called Jogeswara Siva temple. Antique pieces of pottery, semi-precious stone beads and other broken sculpture found in this area ascribable to 7th - 8th century CE have been found in its vicinity.¹⁷

A hoard of punch marked silver coins was found by one villager named Gouranga Badi of Ranisarda village, while cutting boulders in a paddy field. These are known as Punch marked coins which are unlettered and have different marks like the sun, the bull, the elephant etc. These punch marked coins might have been circulated between 5th century BCE and 4th century CE.

Another significant discovery was made on August, 1990 when a 11 year old shepherd boy named Tarun Rana found a hoard of 54 gold coins of king Mahendraditya who has been taken as a king of Amararya kula believed to rule in around 6th century CE. The coins were discovered inside a hollow brick of a brick mound situated in the outskirts of a village named Dangarmunda under Saintala police station area of Titilagarh Sub-division of Balangir District. Those coins are round in shape made from the thin sheets of base gold. The symbols as well as the legend of the king who issued them are embossed on the obverse side and there is a circle of dots. Below these symbols, the legend of the king Sri Mahendraditya is written.¹⁸ The discovery of the gold coins of Mahendraditya is very significant due to the fact that for the first time the gold coins of a king of Sarabhapuriya dynasty could be discovered in the Balangir district. On 6th October, 1990, the Sindhekela police of Balangir district seized two gold coins of Gangeya Deva, the Kalachuri king of Dahala Mandala. One gold coin of the Chalukya

¹⁴ S. Panda – “Some Archeological Remains of Balangir district.” OHRJ, Vol. XXXVI – No. 3 & 4, PP – 32-34

¹⁵ J.G. Williams – The Art of Gupta India: Empire and Province. PP – 127-128

¹⁶ C.B. Patel – Dynastic History of the Nalas Cal. 1990, PP – 237 – 238

¹⁷ C.B. Patel – Dynastic History of the Nalas

¹⁸ S.S Panda – Sculpture and Art of the Upper Mahanadi Valley P. 354

king of Vengi along with ornaments weighing one gram was recovered from 4 villagers of Samianpara village of the Titilagarh Sub-division of Balangir District. The weight of the gold coin of Gangeyadeva is 62 grams or one tola. On both sides there were circle of dots in the edge portion. In the obverse portion, a four handed Gajalakhmi figure is depicted and in the reverse side is the legend of Srimad Gangeya Deva written in the Devanagari scripts of the early medieval period. One similar gold coin of Gangeyadeva was found at Kirabahal village situated on the left bank of the river Suktel under the Loisingha Police Station of Balangir District.¹⁹

Inscriptions

A number of copper plate inscriptions have so far been discovered in the district. The copper plate charters are primarily donative and landative in character. The genealogist of the donors and the donee, the fiscal and other rights of the grantees and the designation of the officials incorporated in the charters are of invaluable aid for the reconstruction of the history of the State and ascertaining the economic conditions of the people. The benedictory verses go a long way in providing and gleaning knowledge regarding some of the features of the religious life of the people.

Mahabhavagupta of Maha Kosala issued a copper plate charter from Kisarkella, Mahavijaya Kataka in his 11th regal year. He was the grandfather of Mahabhavagupta; the doner has styled himself as Maharajadhiraja Paramesvara Paramabhataraka Somakulatilaka Kalingadhipati. These plates were attached to a circular ring, containing the royal seal with the emblem of a standing bull and crescent moon at the top. From the emblem depicted on the royal seal of Kisarkella grant as well as the language and palaeography of this charter, scholars have assumed Mahabhavagupta to have flourished before Janmejaya, as Janmejaya's seal has Gajalaksmi symbol on it.²⁰ The charter was issued from Kisarkella which is situated at a distance of approximately 10 kms east of Balangir town between the river Suktel and a rivulet Nivritti. It was believed that Mahabhavagupta captured this place along with the adjoining area while moving deep into the upper Mahanadi valley of Odisha.

A large number of inscriptions issued by Janmejaya are available to us and they throw a good deal of light on the historical geography of Balangir region and the gradual extension of the Somavamsi power in this territory.

From the copper plate charters of Janmejaya, who has been taken as the first strongest ruler of Somavamsi line in western Odisha, we came to know that he was the son of Mahabhavagupta Rajadeva. It seems probable that due to the menace of the Kalachuri of Tripuri, during the time of Mahabhavagupta, the later Somavamsis were forced to come over to the Balangir – Kalahandi – Sonepur region of the upper Mahanadi valley of west Odisha. Mahabhavagupta Janmejaya's change of capital from time to time

¹⁹ S.P. Das – Sambalpur Itihas (Odia)

²⁰ N.K. Sahu, J.K. Sahu, P.K. Mishra, History of Orissa – PP – 169, XXII, PP – 135-138

testifies to the fact that his entire career was engaged in warfare and expansion of the empire.

The Patna plate of Janmejaya was issued from the military camp Murasima identified with Mursund (20° 50' N, 83° 33' East) on the bank of the river Ang²¹. Hiralal who identified Murasima with Mursing observed that Janmejaya at that time was engaged in consolidating his position on the right bank of the river Ang so as to launch an invasion on the powerful Bhanja kingdom. The charter registers the donation of the village Vaka Vedda identified with Vakevira near Salebhata (Balangir) in angatata Visaya to the residential villages of three Brahmins (donee) given in the plates as Loisingha, Khandaksetra and Lipatunga; which are identified with Loisingha, Khandapali and Lipursingha respectively. They had migrated from Pampasarei, Odayasrnga and Konkaledda respectively. Pama Lake is in south India, Odayasrnga, is Odsing in Athamallik and Konkaledda and is identified with Kokmara near Narasimhanatha.²²

Kalibhana plates of Janmejaya were issued in the 6th reign year, Phayuna Sukla, the first tithi from the town Murasima pattana refers to Pota Visaya with Jamvugrama and Pasitalagrama respectively. Pota has been identified with the village Pua, Jamvugrama with Jamgaon and Pasitala with Sivtala. The donee was Bhatta Putra, Govinda, son of Bhattaputra Konda, who belonged to the Parasara Gotra.

In the 8th reign year of Janmajaya was issued another copper plate grant from the same Murasima and this grant is also called the 3rd Patna Museum (Balangir) copper plate inscription. It records the donation of the village Satallama in Kosalodavishaya in favour of Bhattaputra Samthakara. Satalama is the same as modern Satalma in Satalma in Bargarh district and Kosaloda has been identified with Kusarda – 16 km north-west of Satalama.

From a set of recently discovered copper plate grants of Janmejaya, it is found that one grant was issued by Janmejaya on the occasion of his coronation at Suvarnapura. As three sets of copper plate grants were discovered on the left bank of river Suktel by a farmer while doing reclamation work in his paddy field near a village Gopalpur (Balangir) under the Loisingha Police Station in 1985, these sets are named as Gopalpur copper plate grants, numbering one (1st reign year), two (10th reign year) and three (12th reign year). The Gopalpur number three copper plate grant was issued from Murasima.

Ranipur-Jharial copper plate charter was unearthed by two cultivators while ploughing their paddy field in village Ranipur Jharial. This charter consists of three plates of copper held together by a circular ring. Each plate measures 18.5 cm x 12.5 cm while the inner side of the first plate has been engraved, the remaining ones bear inscriptions on both sides. There are 55 lines of writing. The charter belongs to Somavamsi king Janmejaya Mahabhava Gupta.

²¹ B. Mishra – Dynastic History of Medieval Orissa 1933, PP – 66

²² J. K Sahu – Historical Geography of Orissa, New Delhi 1997, PP – 77-78

The charter begins with the auspicious symbol for Siddham and Om. The donees were Bhattaputra, Narasinga, Damodara, Avanibhatta, Purusa, Narayana and Airavata. The gift village is called Tunkela situated in the district of Ksitimandapadhara. The gift village may be identified with Tukla near Khariar situated at a distance of 10 miles from Ranipur-Jhariar.²³ The Visaya Ksitimandapadhara is found mentioned in the Nehena plates of Sarabhapuriya king Sudevaraja and 3rd Gopalpur charter of Janmejaya. S. Agrawal has located this visaya in Khariar.²⁴

The two Patna copper plate charters of Yayati, register the grants of the village Deladeli and Luttaruma in Telatata visaya to a Brahmana of the village Antaradi in Lavada visaya. The Telatala visaya may be traced on the bank of Tel River.

The 2nd charter of king Bhimaratha, known as Mahakosala historical society plates was issued from the victorious camp at Kisurkella on the king's 11th regnal year. It records the donation of the village Linjiragrama in Prthura Bhukti to a Bhatta Brahmana. The Mahasandhivigrahim Rudrapatta was the author of this document.²⁵

Fresh discoveries of copper plates in this region throw new light to the history of Somavamsi period and prove that the Somavamsis ruled with the help of feudatory chiefs. Recent discovery of an epigraphic record from village Terasingha on the river Tel of present Kalahandi district and now preserved in Manikyapuri museum of Bhawanipatna was issued from Udayapur (Udepur, the capital city of the Rastrakuta rulers and Dhakkarisaradeva or Bhanudeva near Titilagarh of Balangir District).²⁶ The record introduces a line of rulers belonging to the Rastrakuta lineage.²⁷ This charter belongs to Dhakkarisaradeva who is described as Paramamaheswara Rastrakuta Vansodbhava Kulatilaka. It records the donation of a village called Gosthapataka. JD Beglar who has visited Udayapura areas during 1874-75 has left an account of this region.²⁸ He describes the ruins in Sihini. The region between the hillocks of Kumda, described as the northern limit of this area there are four villages of archaeological importance namely Kumda, Sihini, Udayapur and Ghodar. All these places contain ruins and also temples. Further, the ruin of a fort is still to be seen at the Udayapura on the bank of a rivulet.²⁹ Ohakkarisuryadeva was a feudatory of the Somavansi king Yayati I. Later

²³ A. M. Sastri – Inscriptions of the Sarabhapuriyas, Panduvamsin and Somavamsins . Delhi – 1995 – Part – II, P -206

²⁴ S. N. Agrawal – “Studies on Odishian Epic”. PP – 170-173

²⁵ J.P. Singh Deo, C.P.S.K., PP 191-192

²⁶ S. N. Agrawal – The Rastrakutas of Western Odisha O.H.R.J – VOL LIV- Nos 1-2

²⁷ S. N. Agrawal – Two Copper Plate Grants from Western Orissa. Siddhartha Prakasani Menda, 2001, PP – 5-23

²⁸ Archaeological Survey of India, Report Vol. XIII, P – 183

²⁹ S.N. Agrawal – Op. Cit.

on they were driven out of Tel river valley and migrated to Bargarh region and ruled as Subordinate of the Somavamshis.

Stone Inscriptions

A number of stone inscriptions are also found in the present Balangir district. The Somesvara temple inscription at Ranipur Jharial was believed to be inscribed by Gagana Siva, a famous Acharya of Mattamayura School of Saivism, who has been ascribed to the middle of 9th century CE. The inscription reveals that the Somesvara temple was built by Gagana Siva. Another temple named Kenduvalli, close to the Somesvara at Ranipur Jharial contains an inscription stating that the temple was constructed by Sudhadevananda, the son of Jogeswara. The record belongs to 10th century CE. On the top of a rocky elevation called Rakshasa Parvata opposite to the Kenduvalli temple, there is a small inscription which reveals that the foot prints were established by the order of Siddhacharya.

At Patnagarh close to the temples of Somesvara and Patneswari, there is a raised platform with a flight of steps. The first step contains the fragment of an inscription which reveals that king Someswara donated a village called Ghasrani in Patna Dandapata for perpetual supply of flower garland for Somesvara Siva. King Somesvara was very likely the Telugu Choda Somesvara II who ruled towards the end of the 11th century CE.

Inside one of the temple at Harishankar, there is an inscribed image of Bhairava. The inscription is in proto-odia script. Further, there is a stone inscription found at Sauntpur near Balangir town but it is badly damaged and can't be read.

Ancient History

Present Balangir district comprised, in ancient and medieval times, the eastern part of South Kosala. South Kosala was a country of hoary antiquity. The nomenclature appears to suggest that it was the Ikshvaku princes (Ayodhya) of Northern India, who had colonised this region. Pargiter is of the opinion that Rama's long stay in Dandakaranya seems to be the cause of giving rise to the name of Kosala. Another tradition is based on the Ramayana which traces the foundation of Kosala to Kusa. Early Buddhist literature like Avadanasataka mentions North and South Kosala as two distinct territories existing at the time of Gautama Buddha. J.C. Narang is of the view that upper Mahanadi valley just below the Maikal range was called Dakshina Kosala. Varahamihira located Kosala in the Agneyakona along with the countries of Kalinga, Vidharva and Andhra. Cunningham presents the boundary of Kosala as comprising the whole of upper Mahanadi valley. The imperial Gazetteer of India puts South Kosala between 19° 50' and 23° 7' north and 80° 40' and 83° 38' East. But, nothing definite can be said about the origin of the territory of Dakshina Kosala.

During the time of Grammarian Panini (5th Century BCE) a territory named Taitala Janapada is found to have flourished on the west of Kalinga and that territory has been associated by some scholars with the modern town of Titilagarh of Balangir District. Taitala Janapada was famous for trade in some commodities described by Panini as Kadru, the meaning of

which may be either horse or cotton fabrics.³⁰ According to V.S. Agrawal, the word Kadru denotes some Tawny coloured materials, probably Rhinoceros hides.³¹ To the South east of Titilagarh is situated Kumuda hill. The area between Kumuda and the confluence of Sunder (Under) and Tel river is filled with archaeological remains dating from pre-historic period till 13th century CE. J.D. Beglar, P.C. Rath, B.C. Chabra, J.P. Singh Deo had reported some of the ruins at Udayapur, Sinni, Ghodar etc.

Scholars³² are of the view that ancient South Kosala not only included eastern MP, but also extended over to Odisha, a speculation yet to be substantiated by proper evidence. The Nanda rule in South Kosala was short lived. This country along with Kalinga became independent of Magadhan hegemony during the confusion that prevailed with the fall of the Nandas and the rise of the Mauryas. After this, Kosala seems to have joined with Kalinga and formed a confederacy against the aggression of the imperial Mauryas. This fact is also indicated in the account of Megasthenes and Lama Taranath. Megasthenes pointed out that there was no good relation between the people of Magadha and those of the country south of Vindhya. Taranath also laid emphasis on the wicked nature of the people living in the South of Vindhya.³³ The country South of Vindhya was supposed to be the territory of South Kosala. The empire of Ashoka had been extended to Andhra, Maharashtra and Gujrat and so it can be inferred that the territory of South Kosala in eastern MP was included in it. Ashokan edicts are silent about the territory of South Kosala. But, nothing definite can be said about the occupation of this region by the Maurya.

It is known from the Jaina Harivamsa that in ancient time one Chedi prince named Abhichandra founded a kingdom near the Vindya hill in the valley of the river Suktimati which has been identified with the Suktel river of Balangir District. That the Chedi kingdom was located close to Kalinga is known from the Vessantara Jataka, where it is said that the capital of the Chedi kingdom was only at a distance of only 10 yojanas from Dunnivitha, a Brahmin village of Kalinga. According to the Chetiya Jataka, the capital of the Chedi country was Sothiwatinagara which is the same as Suktimatipura of Harivamsa and Suktisahvaya³⁴ of the Mahabharata (Vana Parva). The epic (Adi Parva) also states that the capital of the Chedi was situated on the bank of river Suktimati.³⁵ Sircar identifies the river Suktimati with Suktel. The ancestors of Kharavela were thus ruling over the territory drained by the Suktel in Balangir district. On the bank of the river Suktimati, we found finished and half-finished semi-precious stone beads. Here, the potteries are black polished of medium fabric with circle. A series of Archaeological

³⁰ Ashtadyayi of Panini – VI – 2.42

³¹ V.S. Agrawal – India as Known to Panini P – 61

³² D.C.Sircar – Studies in the Geography of Ancient Medieval India, 1960, P – 270, N.K. Sahu – U.U.H.O – I – P. 130

³³ J.K. Sahu – Historical Geography of Orissa – P 60-61

³⁴ N.K. Sahu – N.A.H.O

³⁵ D.C. Sircar – Ancient Geography of India

sites on the bank of Suktimati ranging from pre-historic period to medieval time are yet to be documented.

In the Hathigumpha inscription, Kharavela refers to one Vasu as his ancestor, who is believed to be, the son of Abhichandra, the founder of the Chedi kingdom. This Vasu may be identified with Vasu of the Mahabharata (Adi Parva) where he is described as the king of the Chedis. Kharavela, the third in the line of Chedi rulers was ruling about the middle of the 1st century BCE and under him Kalinga became the strongest power in India. The territory comprising the present district of Balangir formed a part of his far-flung empire.³⁶ Balangir region continued to be under the rule of the Chedis during the 1st century AD. But, in the 2nd century CE, it came under the control of the Satavahana.

Gautami putra Satakarni, a mighty ruler of the Satavahana dynasty extended his sovereignty from the Western Ghats to the Eastern Ghats. He is said to have built a magnificent vihara for his philosopher friend Nagarjuna on the po-lo-mo-lo-ki-li. Kili or Parimalagiri or Gandhyagiri is identified with Gandhamardana hills on the border of Balangir and Bargarh district. Gandhamardana hills or Harisankar attained popularity as a centre of Buddhist learning due to the contribution of Nagarjuna and Arya Deva. Parimalagiri flourished as a Buddhist centre of international importance.³⁷ Avadana Sataka states that Buddha lived for 3 months at the then capital of Kosala.³⁸ The Chinese pilgrim during his visit to South Kosala observed that there was a mountain called Po-lo-mo-lo-ki-li situated 50 miles south-west of the Capital of Kosala and here king Yin-Oneng (sadvaha) of Satavahana dynasty has quarried for Nagarjuna a monastery in the mountain. The monastery was equipped with cloisters and lofty halls. The Halls were in 5 tiers with four courts with temple containing life size images of Buddha of perfect artistic beauty. By the side of the monastery, there was a stupa. It was found that the king of Kosala was Kshatriya by birth, a Buddhist in religion and a noted philanthropist.³⁹

Recently, Manoj Sabar has found few stone socket sets, phallus type stone, a stone ring, some iron implements etc. from the foot hill of Harisankar. Harisankar requires an extensive archaeological survey which is supposed to be the origin of an unknown civilization.

The history of South Kosala remains obscure till the middle of the 4th century CE, when Samudragupta is known to have made his Deccan campaign against that territory. The Puranas state that prior to the campaign of Samudragupta, the Meghas were ruling over Kosala and they were quite powerful in the region.⁴⁰ N.K. Sahu points out that Mahendra of Kosala which is mentioned in the Allahabad pillar inscription of Samudragupta

³⁶ N.K. Sahu U.U.H.O - PP 130-132

³⁷ S.P. Tiwari – Comprehensive History of Orissa. PP – 136 – 137

³⁸ R. Mitra – The Sanskrit Buddhist Literature of Nepal – 1971 – P-20

³⁹ Thomas Watters – *On Yuan Chwang's Travel in India*. Vol. II – P – 201

⁴⁰ Pargiter – The Purana Text of the Dynasties of the Kali age – Oxford 1913 – PP 53-34

belonged to the Megha dynasty. The Allahabad pillar inscription⁴¹ of Samudragupta reveals that the great conqueror in course of his historical southern campaign defeated Mahendra of Kosala who evidently belonged to the Megha dynasty mentioned in the puranas.⁴² This is the earliest known reference to South Kosala. N. K. Sahu is of the opinion that the Chedi or Mahameghavahana dynasty, to which Kharavela of Kalinga belonged to, shifted to their original homeland Kosala after the decline of its rule in Kalinga in 2nd century CE and they began to be known as Megha. The gold coins found at Patnagarh, with the portrait of a king riding on a horse on the obverse and a legend of Sri Risavadeva in the character of 3rd century CE is assigned to a king of Megha dynasty. The ruler of Kosala Mahendra whose name appears first in the list of the kings of Dakshinapatha in the Allahabad pillar inscription is said to have belonged to the Megha dynasty. Samudragupta did not annex any kingdom of the South to the Gupta Empire. Soon after his departure this region witnessed an epoch-making event namely, the rise of the Nalas.

The Nala was the first known ruling dynasty of this region. The rulers had Kantara (Bastar, Koraput, Nawarangpur and Kalahandi) and Kosala (Chhatisgarh and West Odisha) under their dominion.⁴³ They rose to prominence with their headquarters at Puskari (Podagarh) in the Umarmot Tehasil of Nawarangpur district of Odisha. Some scholars are of the opinion that the south and western part of present Balangir district constitute a part of Nala empire.⁴⁴

There was a prolonged struggle between the Nala and the Vakataka. Finally, the Vakatakas expelled the Nalas from Mahakantara- Kosala region.⁴⁵ Mahakantara appears to have lost its separate identity and a portion of the northern areas of Mahakantara (Koraput, Bastar, Kalahandi) became a part of South Kosala during the 6th century CE⁴⁶ when the Sarabhapuriyas were ruling over Kosala⁴⁷

This may be deduced from the description of the Chinese Traveller Yuan-Chwang.⁴⁸ On the basis of this description, Cunningham mentioned the geographical extent of south Kosala as comprising the whole of the

⁴¹ CII- Vol.III – P-8

⁴² Proceeding of the Indian History Congress, Bhubaneswar, Session 1977

⁴³ N.K. Sahu – U.U. Vol.I – PP 505-19, J.K. Sahu – Historical Geography of Odisha, 1997, New Delhi, P – 63, Hiralal Shukla – Prachin Bastar Arthath Dandkarney Ka Sanskritik Itihas (Hindi), Nagpur, 1978, PP – 56-58, S.C. Behera – Historical Geography of South Kosala – N.A.H.O – I, P – 24, C.B. Patel – Dynastic history of Nalas, 1990, PP – 19-21, D.C. Sircar – The Vakatakas, H.C.I.P – Vol. III – 1970, PP – 183-193

⁴⁴ H.L. Shukla – OP.Cit – P – 45, N.K. Sahu – Op. Cit – PP – 130, C.B. Patel – Op. Cit – P – 21

⁴⁵ EI. Vol. IX. “Balaghat Plate of Vakataka”. P 133

⁴⁶ U.C. Majhi – History and Culture of Ex-Patna State: A Study (Unpublished Ph. D thesis, S.U. – P – 32)

⁴⁷ S.P. Tiwari – Comprehensive History of Orissa, 1985, PP – 3-5

⁴⁸ Thomas Watter – *On Yuan Chwang's Travel in India* – Vol.II, P – 201

upper Mahanadi valley and its tributaries from the source of Narmada (Amarkantak) in the North to the Mahanadi in the south and from the valley of Wein Ganga on the west to the Hasdo and Jonk rivers in the east.⁴⁹ But, it needs further scrutiny to justify the rule of the Nala in the present Balangir district.

Parvatadvaraka

There are number of epigraphic sources which support the view that when the Nalas were ruling Bastar – Koraput – Kalahandi region, another dynasty with its capital at parvatadvaraka were ruling in Tel valley area, i.e., the southern part of Balangir and northern part of Kalahandi district.⁵⁰ So far only two sets of copper plates belonging to this dynasty are available to us. The first was the Pipal padar copper plates issued by king Nandaraja from the capital Parvatadvaraka.⁵¹ The second Terasinga copper plates which record two charters, one issued by king Sobhanadeva from Parvatadwaraka and the other by his son and successor Tustikara from the capital Tarabhramaraka.⁵² These kings were devout worshipper of Goddess Stambhesvari, a tribal deity which bespeaks their tribal origin. The Capital town of Parvatadvaraka has not yet been identified. There are numbers of ruined forts in Balangir region and on the bank of river Tel which if surveyed suitably would yield important historical results.

Sarabhapuriyas

It is probable that in course of the campaign of Harisena (A vakataka ruler of Basim branch), Sarabha, the founder of the Sarabhapuriya dynasty might have assisted the Vakatakas against the Nalas and gained favourable ground for his rise to political power at the decline of the Vakatakas and the Nalas. In fact, South Kosala was parcelled out into petty principalities in the 5th – 6th century CE. At this cataclysmic juncture, the Sarabhapuriyas emerged in the South East trans-Vindhyan and Vindhyan region in the struggle for imperial supremacy, and they were crowned with spectacular success. Possibly, this is the first time when the disjoined principalities of South Kosala came under one political banner (the Sarbhapuriyas). The rule of the Sarabhapuriyas ushered in a golden era of cultural efflorescence in the history of South Kosala.

Hoards of coins of Mahendraditya and Prasannamatra (Sarabhapuriya ruler) are found in Madanpur-Rampur (Kalahandi), Saintala, Khaprakhol, Lathor (Balangir District), Nehna, Maraguda (Nawapara district and copper plate charters at Amgura, Khariar, Nawapara district). During the reign of Sarabhapuriya dynasty the boundary of the empire extended upto Barapahar range (Bargarh district) as evidenced by the Pipardula copper

⁴⁹ Cunningham. The Ancient Geography of India. P – 735

⁵⁰ J.K. Sahu – Historical Geography of Orissa. P – 64, S.S. Panda – Sculptural Art of upper Mahanadi valley – P – 373

⁵¹ The Jhankara, Cuttack, May 1979, PP – 202-203

⁵² El. Vol. XXX. Terasing copper plate Tustikara-Parvatadvaraka dynasty PP.274-78, J.K.H.R.S – Vol. II, No.2, PP – 107-110

plates.⁵³ No archaeological work has so far been carried out regarding the Sarabhapuriya in the present Balangir district. However, it is presumed that there is no mention of any powerful dynasty ruling over the western part of Balangir which is adjacent to Khariar (Nawapara) region. In ancient times, there was no fixed territorial boundary of states as it is found today and was very much subject to change with the change of political situations. Circumstantial evidences suggest that western part of present Balangir was under the Sarabhapuriyas.

The earliest ruler of this royal family was Sarabha, who was a tribal chief (Sarabha refers to a mythical animal having 8 legs and stronger than a lion). It was under strong influence of Brahmanical culture (After the Deccan campaign of Samudragupta this region witnessed the spread of Aryan culture). At a later stage, there was fusion of tribal and Aryan concepts which led to the composition of royal panegyrist of the same family which helped to trace the origin of the dynasty of Amara – Arya – Kula under the influence of Brahminical school which they claimed to have belonged to Amararya kula. Sarabha was succeeded by his son Narendra. He asserted his sovereign status over Kosala by subjugating the existing local chiefs and conferring on himself the title of Maharaja. The empire was consolidated under the able chieftainship of Mahendraditya, Prasannamatra, Jayaraja and Sudevaraja as stated by scholars.

The Sarabhapuriyas had good relations with the Panduvamsis of Mekala. The Bahamani copper plate grant of Bharatavela reveals that this king had married a princess of Kosala named Lokaprakasa. Their son Surabala succeeded to the throne of Mekala. The relations between Kosala and Mekala became more intimate at the time of Sudevaraja II. It was believed that Indravala (son of Udayana –represented the younger branch of the Panduvamsi), being a maha samanta was a man of prowess who helped Sudevaraja to conquer Sripura. The history of Kosala after Sudevaraja II and of Mekala after Suravala is not known. On the other hand, a stone inscription⁵⁴ preserved at Nagpur museum describes Nannaraja (son of Indravala) as a great conqueror. It appears that Surabala died issueless and was succeeded by Nannaraja of the younger branch. The son and successor of Nannaraja was Tivaradeva. Tivaradeva was a great conqueror and it was because of him that Mekala and Kosala were amalgamated in to one empire. On gaining the sovereignty of Kosala he described himself as Kosaladhipati.⁵⁵ The present Balangir district was included in the dominion of the Panduvamsis during the rule of Tivara. From the Adhabar charter of his son Nannaraja, it is learnt that he proceeded on a victorious military campaign and conquered all the countries as far as Utkala to the east of his kingdom. But, his control over Utkala was short lived and the circumstances which forced him to withdraw from Utkala are not known. His Kongada

⁵³ I.H.Q – XIX Pipardula Charter of Narendra (Sarvapuriya) Cal- Govt. of India PP – 139-146

⁵⁴ J.R.A.S.C (1905) PP – 617

⁵⁵ CII – Vol. III, PP – 291-99, El. Vol. VII, Baloda Charter- Tivaradeva. Govt. of India- PP – 102-107

adventure also did not bring him any success. His attempt to bring Kongada under his control was spoiled as he was defeated by Dharmaraja.

From the time of Nannaraja (son of Tivara) to Balarjuna, Kosala faced a number of external invasions. Yasovarman of Kanauj, Harsadeva of Assam, Rashtrakuta king Dantidurga and Govinda III and the Panduvamsi rulers had to struggle hard for the security and integrity of Kosala.

The Somavamsis

Nothing definite is known about the history of Panduvamsis after Balarjuna. As the Panduvamsis were described as belonging to the Somakula, it is generally believed that the Panduvamsis rule continued after Balarjuna being popularly known as the Somavamsis.

The western tract of Odisha which had been a geographical expression rather than a political entity for a long time preceding to the time of Janmejaya I, emerged as a royal state called Kosala.⁵⁶ Many scholars are of opinion that there was a gap of at least two generation between the reign of Balarjuna and Janmejaya. The two Somavamsis king ruling this period are known to us by their sobriquets namely Mahabhavagupta and Mahasivagupta. The former is identified with Mahabhavagupta Rajadeva, the donor of the Mahakosala historical society plates and the latter is described as the father of Janmejaya I.⁵⁷ The Somavamsis after Balarjuna felt that the security of their former capital Sripura was threatened by the rise of the Kalachuris of Tripuri (modern Jabalpur) on the border of Kosala. They, therefore, shifted their base to Western Odisha and made vigorous effort to expand their territories towards the east at the cost of the Bhaumakaras of Tosali. In between Kosala and Tosali, there was a semi-independent principality named Khinjali – Mandala (Sonepur – Boudh region) and it was ruled by the Bhanjas under the suzerainty of the Bhaumakaras.

Mahabhavagupta Janmejaya - I is known to have ascended the throne of Kosala in the middle of the 9th century CE. Janmejaya pursued an imperialistic policy of aggrandisement from the beginning of his reign and became successful to a reasonable extent. His ultimate objective was to spread his domination as far as Utkala or Tosali of the Bhaumakaras. Even he made use of matrimonial alliance to fulfil his aim. He married his daughter Prithvimahadevi (Tribhuvana Mahadevi II) to the Bhaumakara king Subhakardeva IV. Although he could not succeed to take possession of the Bhaumakara kingdom, he conquered and annexed Khinjali mandala which was under the paramountcy of Bhauma Empire.

During the reign of Janmejaya there was long drawn war between Janmejaya and Ranabhanja (the ruler of Khinjal, mandala – Sonepur – Baud – Daspalla region) and subsequently the Somavamsis came out victorious. The victory led to the annexation of Khinjali into Kosala kingdom. It constituted a province with a new name Odra as revealed from Nagpur

⁵⁶ D.B. Mishra – History of West Odisha – 2010, P – 76

⁵⁷ EI- XI. Mahakosala Historical Society. Plate Mahabhavagupta P – 92

museum inscription of R.Y.8. Odra was recognised as a separate province and the eastern frontier of Soma dominion touched the western border of the Bhauma kingdom. Though he conquered Khinjali his war with the Kalachuris continued. In the copper plate charter of Yayati – I, Janmejaya is said to have expelled the Chedi (Kalachuri) king Laksmanaraja of Tripuri and this signify his military glory. He bore the appellation of Swabhavatunga and Dharma Kandarpa because of his generosity and love for justice.

Janmejaya Mahabhavagupta had probably no time to build a permanent capital and was found granting charters from his military camps. For some time, he fixed his headquarters at Murasima from where he issued grants. In his 11th R.Y. he issued a charter from Kiserkella. Again he transferred his capital to Arama kataka which may be identified with Rampur in Sonapur district.

Janmejaya was succeeded by his son Yayati – I Mahasivagupta. He had his capital at Vinitapura identified with modern Binka and later built a new capital at Yayatinagara identified with Jagati near Boudh. Like his father Yayati – I started a policy of imperialistic expansion. The charter of 8th reign year reveals that Yayati – I inherited a war with the Kalachuris from his father and probably this war was decided in favour of the Kalachuris. Being thus failed in the west, he turned towards the east to extend his territory at the cost of the Bhaumakaras of Tosali. When Yayati was ruling over Kosala, his sister Prithvimahadevi was the ruler of Bhaumakara dominion with her capital at Guhesvara Pataka identified with modern Jajpur. There was a close relation between Yayati and his sister and the nobles and chiefs of Tosali were naturally threatened of attack by the Somavamsis. Prithvi Mahadevi was replaced by Tribhuvana Mahadevi by a court rebellion in the capital of the Bhaumakaras and that probably foiled the ambitious designs of Yayati – I. According to some accounts Yayati-I built Lingaraj temple at Bhubaneswar.

Mahabhavagupta Bhimaratha succeeded to the throne of Kosala after his father Yayati - I. During his rule, the Kalachuri ruler Laksmana Raja – II⁵⁸ had defeated the lord of Kosala and it had no lasting result. He was succeeded by his son Mahasivagupta Dharmaratha. The Banapur plates⁵⁹ state that Dharmaratha conquered Kongado and Kalinga and appointed his half brother Indraratha as its Governor. Dharmaratha died issueless and his half brother Naghusa ascended the throne. His reign witnessed a civil war between Naghusa and Indraratha. Taking advantage of a civil war, the Kalachuris of Ratanpur under their king Kalingaraja attacked Kosala and conquered Raipur – Bilaspur region.⁶⁰ During his reign Kosala was invaded by Paramara king Bhoja⁶¹ and Rajendra chola⁶² and probably he was killed

⁵⁸ E.I – Vol. I. Bilhari Stone Inscription - Kalachuri Laksmanaraja. Govt. of India-P-251

⁵⁹ J.A.S.B – VIII. Banapur Plate of Dharmaratha. Cal-1898 PP – 271-276

⁶⁰ S.P. Nanda – Unpublished Ph.D thesis, S.U. – PP – 13-15

⁶¹ H.C.I.P -V, PP – 67-68

⁶² E.I. Vol. IX. Tirumalai Inscription of Rajendra Chola (Govt. of India) PP – 392-93

in the battle. Kosala passed through a chaotic condition following the Chola invasion and at this critical juncture Chandihara Yayati was chosen as the king of the Somavamsi Empire. He was known as Yayati – II. He issued the Jatesinga Dungri plates in the third reign year which records the grant of Brihat Bhusayi in Bhranda Visaya and Maran – Jamura grama in Santo vardi Khanda of Samvaravadi mandala/Brihat Bhusiya may be identified with Bharsuja, Bhranda with Bendra, Samvaravadi with Samra, Santovardi with Sauntpur and Maranjumura with Janmura, all located in between Balangir and Sonepur. It is also stated in the Jatesinga plates that Yayati – II was chosen for the throne unanimously by the constituent countries of the Odra Empire such as Kongoda, Kalinga, Utkala and Kosala. This shows that in the beginning of the reign of Yayati – II, the Somavamsi Empire extended over the whole of Odisha. But in the later part of his reign, the Ganga king Vajrahastadeva – V retrieved the fortune of his family and occupied Kongado and Kosala. However, Yayati – II succeeded in consolidating his position by defeating his enemies.

Yayati – II was succeeded by his son Udyotakesari. During his rule, the Somavamsi dominion faced the danger of invasion from the Kalachuris in the West and it was probably with the intention to check the Kalachuri invasion, Udyota Kesari divided his empire into Kosala and Utkala. Prince Abhimanyu ruled over Kosala and he was succeeded by Kumara Somesvara who assumed the title of the Lord of Paschima Lanka.⁶³ After Udyota Kesari, the Somavamsi rulers both in Kosala and Utkala declined in power. Udyokesari was succeeded by his son Janmejaya – II. Meanwhile, the Kalachuris had occupied the Western part of Kosala and Prithvideva – I, the Kalachuri ruler proclaimed himself as the Lord of Kosala⁶⁴. Janmejaya – II had to encounter the invasion of the Gangas of Kalinga.⁶⁵ It was a critical time for the Somavamsis with full of external danger from all direction that must have drained the declining resources of the Somavamsis. At such a juncture, Karnadeva, the last known Somavamsi king ascended the throne. At that time, the great conqueror of Ratanpur, Jajalladeva – I invaded south Kosala.⁶⁶ The last vestige of the Somavamsi rule was wiped out from Odisha by the Ganga chief Chodagangadeva.⁶⁷

The Teluguchodas

A teluguchoda chief named Yasoraja conquered the eastern part of Kosala for his overlord, the Chindika Naga king of Chakrakota mandala (modern Bastar in Chhatishgarh). Yasoraja seems to have accompanied later Chalukya king Somesvara who raided Kosala and conquered Chakrakota after defeating a king of the Naga dynasty. So far three copper plate charters of the Telugu chodas have been found in this region and they are Mahada plates, Kumarisimha plates and Patna museum plates. D.C. Sircar suggests that Yasoraja conquered Kosala as a lieutenant of Chhindika

⁶³ E.I. XXVIII. Sonepur Charter of Somesvaradeva, Telugu Choda. Lines 6-7

⁶⁴ E.I. Vol. XIX. Amoda Plate Prithvideva-I. P – 75 ff

⁶⁵ E.I. Vol. IV. Dirghasi Stone Inscription (Ganga) Govt. of India PP – 314-18

⁶⁶ J.N.S.I – XIII. Jajalladeva's Gold Coins Finding Place, Sonepur- PP – 191 ff

⁶⁷ E.I. XII. Karmi Plate- Chodagangadev. P – 240

Naga Somesvara and was rewarded with the Governorship of the region. Yasoraja – I was succeeded by his son Yasorajadeva – II and he was succeeded by his son somesvaradeva – II, the donor of Mahada plates. He owed his nominal allegiance to the family of his overlord Chhindika Naga of Chakra Kota Mandala. When Somesvara II died issueless the throne passed on to the younger branch and Yasoraja III succeeded him.⁶⁸ His successor was Somesvara – III who issued the Kumarasimha and Patna museum plates. During this time, present Balangir and Sonepur district was ruled by the Teluguchodas.⁶⁹ The Kosalesvara siva temple of Patnagarh was ascribed to the Teluguchoda ruler Someswara. By that time the Kalachuries had occupied the western part of Kosala. Therefore, the Teluguchoda and the Kalachuris faced each other and a struggle for supremacy became inevitable.⁷⁰ The Ratnapur inscription⁷¹ dated CE 1114 reveals that Jajalladeva – I vanquished Somesvaradeva, the lord of Kosala.⁷²

The Kalachuris

Almost synchronous with the foundation of the Teluguchoda rule in eastern part of Kosala, a branch of the Kalachuri of Dahala established their supremacy in Western Kosala with Tummana as the capital. The leader of this new Kalachuri branch Kalingaraja's great grandson Prithivideva claimed himself in the Amoda grant⁷³ as Sakala Kosaladhipati. The Ratanapur stone inscription⁷⁴ describes that Jajalla defeated the king of Daksina Kosala. The Kalachuris ruled over Western Odisha for about a century. Kalachuri coins have been found from various parts of this region. It seems that after the defeat of the Teluguchodas in the hands of the Kalachuris, the region now comprising present Balangir district as well as the adjacent Nuapada district went under the Kalachuris of Ratanapur.⁷⁵ When this region was under the control of the Kalachuris, the Ganga ruler Chodagangadeva occupied Utkala in about 1110 CE and extended his territory from the Gangas to the Godavari. He desired to conquer western Odisha from the hands of the Kalachuris. It is known from the Mallar inscription⁷⁶ that Ratnadeva – II, the son of Jajjala defeated the Ganga king Chodaganga in a fierce battle in the Talahari Mandala in around 1130 CE. Prithivideva – II is also said to have defeated

⁶⁸ P.K. Nayak – Comprehensive History and Culture of Orissa (ed) P.K. Mishra – Vol. I, PP – 240-41

⁶⁹ S.S. Panda – Op. Cit. P – 348

⁷⁰ J.K. Sahu – Op. Cit. P – 87

⁷¹ CII – Vol. IV, Pt. II, Ratanpur Charter Orithvideva(Kalachuri), VVMirashi ootcamund-1955. PP – 409-16

⁷² JoH Vol. I. Sambalpur University Plates issued by Devapya, Burla 1978 No.1, PP- 1ff

⁷³ CII – Vol.IV, PT – II, Raipur Grant of Prithivideva (Kalachuri), V.V. Mirashi, Ootcamund- 1955- No75, Line– 1-6

⁷⁴ CII – Inscription No.78,79,80, 81 -Ratanpur Stone Inscription of Jajalladev

⁷⁵ S.P. Nanda – Op. Cit.

⁷⁶ CII. Vol. IV, Raipur Plate of Prithivideva by VVMirashi. Ootcamund-1955 PP – 483-90 PP – 483-90

Jatesvara Kamarnava in around 1150 CE.⁷⁷ The lost glory of the Ganga could be recovered by Anangabhimadeva – III.⁷⁸ The great grandson of Chodagandadeva could capture the upper Mahanadi valley of Odisha due to the defeat of the Kalachuri king by Visnu, the general of the Ganga army on the banks of the Bhima at the outskirts of the Vindhya hills and on the shore of the sea.⁷⁹

The Gangas

It was the victory of General Visnu that enabled the Gangas to occupy the western part of Odisha during Anangabhimadeva III. Some scholars believe that for some time in the 13th century, this region was occupied by the Yadavas of Devagiri as twenty seven gold coins were found from Sonepur.⁸⁰ Krishna, one of the Yadava king defeated his contemporary Kosala King.⁸¹ The Yadava invasion might have weakened the power of the Gangas. Further, the Ganga power declined due to the menace they faced from all sides of their kingdom like that from Bengal, Vijayanagara Empire and the Bahamani kingdom.⁸² As learnt from the traditional records, the Patnagarh area was still under the Ganga Governor posted there. The last Ganga Governor died issueless and his queen Hemanta Kumari ruled the country with the help of eight Generals known as Asta – Malliks till the advent of the Chauhans around 14th century CE.

The Chauhans

The early history of Chauhan rulers of Patna is known from a Sanskrit work *Kosalananda* written by Pandit Gangadhar Mishra belonging to the first half of the 16th century AD, a Hindi work called *Yayachandrika* by Prahllad Dube written in 1282 A. D. and an Odia work named *Nrusingh Mahatmya* by Lakshmana Misra who was living in the later part of the 19th century. Major H. B. Impey, who was a Deputy Commissioner of Sambalpur, prepared on the 29th May 1863 a note on the Garhjat State of Patna which is of great help for study of the history of the Chauhan rulers of this ex-State. All these authorities have written about the origin of the Chauhan rulers in Patna on the basis of the long preserved tradition and although they differ on some minor details they agree on the salient point that one Ramai Deo, scion of the Chauhan ruling family of the Garh- sumbul usurped the throne of Patna and founded the rule of his dynasty in that territory. Major Impey writing in 1863 states “the Maharajas of Patna claim direct descent from a race of Rajpoot Rajahs of Gurh-sumbul near Mynpooree and count back the individuals of this race for 32 generations”⁸³.

⁷⁷ CII – Vol. IV, Part – II, Kharod Inscription of Ratnadeva II by V.V. Mirashi. Ootcamund-1955 P – 540

⁷⁸ Cir.1211 – 1238 CE

⁷⁹ J.A.S.B. old series – 1898 – Vol. LXVII, PP – 322-326 ff

⁸⁰ OHRJ – II.3, PP – 1-5 ff

⁸¹ EI – XXV. Jirjingi Charter, Indravarman-Ganga dynasty – P – 218 f

⁸² J.P. Singh Deo – Cultural Profile of South Kosala – PP – 260-263

⁸³ Note on the Gurjhat states of Patna by Major H.B. Impey is given in Appendix I

On the basis of the available evidence, it may be said that late Hamir Deo was killed about the middle of the 14th century AD by the Sultan of Delhi who was very probably Feroz Shah Toghlug after which his queens excepting one named Asavati alias Yayati performed the rite of Suttee. Asavati fled away to save her life and honour and ultimately got shelter at the residence of a Brahmin of Patna named Chakradhar Panigrahi. There she gave birth to a son who was named Ramai and the child became virtually the adopted son of Panigrahi.

It was the time when the territory of Patna was being administered by an oligarchy consisting of eight Chieftains (Astamallik). These Chieftains were the Lords of the eight forts (Garhs) which were — (1) Patna-garh, (2) Kagaon-garh, (3) Salebhata-garh, (4) Jarasingha-garh, (5) Sindhekela-garh, (6) Kholan-garh (7) Gora-garh, and (8) Komna-garh. These Chieftains used to rule as head of the territory for one day by turn. *Kosalananda*, the Sanskrit work while referring to these eight Chiefs (whom it calls eight Mantrins) ruling the country by turn like brothers, also reveals that the real sovereignty was vested in the people who were selecting and appointing these Mantrins. This work, further states that once a ferocious man-eater wrought great devastation and when all attempts to kill it became futile it was decided by the people that whosoever would kill the man-eater would be the king of Patna. The Mantrins also hailed the decision of the people. Subsequently, it was Ramai Deo, then a young man, who succeeded in killing the tiger; and the people, true to their promise, appointed him as king. *The Yayachandrika*, however, presents a different story. According to it, Chakradhar Panigrahi, who was virtually the adoptive father of Ramai was one of the eight Chieftains who were ruling over Patna by turn for a day. When once the turn of Panigrahi came, he deputed Ramai to run the administration that day. The young Ramai lavishly rewarded the army and the people and made them highly satisfied while at the same time he grossly misbehaved with the other Chieftains. Next time when once again Ramai was deputed to rule by Chakradhar Panigrahi, he managed to kill all the seven Malliks with the help of the army and usurped the throne of Patnagarh.

It is difficult to know about the correct evidence regarding the foundation of the Chauhan rule in Patna. This much, however, can be said that prior to the coming of the Chauhans, the territory of Patna was being ruled by a popular form of Government which was destroyed by Ramai Deo who started the monarchical system of Government. Sri L. P. Pandeya remarks, "A branch of Patna family of the Chauhan dynasty of Orissa, Indian system of popular Government soon rose to power and importance extending its sovereignty over 8 Chiefs or Lords of forts or Garhs as they are usually called".⁸⁴

As Ramai Deo was born about the middle of the 14th century AD, he usurped the Gadi (throne) of Patna sometime during the second half of that century. He has been represented as a very ambitious ruler and during his

⁸⁴ Indian Historical Quarterly Vol- VI P- 568 14. B of R - 8

rule he is said to have extended his territory as far as the border of Boudh in the east by occupying Suvarnapattana (modern Sonapur). He fortified the capital Patnagarh and constructed there the temples of Pataneswari and Jagannath. *The Kosalananda* states that the then Gajapati ruler of Orissa recognised the authority of Ramai Deo over Patna and gave the daughter of his brother in marriage to him. After Ramai Deo, his son Mahalinga Deo became the ruler of Patna. He ruled only for 6 years and was succeeded by his son Vachharaj Dev. This ruler is known to have fought with the Chief of Bastar. He reduced the fort of Dantewada, the capital of Bastar and forced the Chief to sue for peace. The daughter of the king of Bastar was given in marriage to the son of Vachharaj Dev, who brought the goddess Bastarani to Patna probably as a trophy of his victory. After Vachharaj Dev, his son Vaijal Dev-I became the ruler of Patna. *The Kosalananda* has, however, given a different account, according to which Vatsaraj Deva (Vachharaj Dev) was the son of Vaijal Deva and the grandson of Mahalinga Deo and this account has been accepted by Prahallad Dube, the author of *Jayachandrika* and many other scholars of the subsequent period. But the Nrusimhanath temple inscriptions of Vaijal Dev clearly reveal that Vaijal was the son of Vachharaj Dev, the ruler of Patna. This being a contemporary record should be authentic and the date of it as pointed out above falls on the 14th March, 1413. So Vaijal Dev flourished during the early part of the 15th century AD. Cobden Ramsay describes his activities on the basis of *Kosalananda* as follows:

It appears from *the Kosalananda*, a local work on the history of the Patna Raj family that Baijal Deva, the third Chief from Ramai Dev, was the most powerful Chief and extended his dominions far and wide. He fought with Ram Chandra and Mahaling, Gajapatis of Orissa for six years. Bamra was reduced to an annual tribute of 16 elephants. Gangpur, Bonai, and other neighbouring States submitted without a fight, and Baud and Sirguja also submitted. It is said that 72 Chiefs were made tributary to Patna by Baijal Deva-I. Dhenkanal was also subdued and the temple of the golden Mahadeo at Sonpur was built by him.

The temple of Nrusimhanath on the Gandhamardan hill was built by Vaijal Deva who granted the revenue of the village for the worship of the god and maintenance of the temple. His queen Durlava Devi caused to be built another temple on the other side of the same hill for the worship of Harihara. Probably from his time onwards, the peaks containing the temples of Nrusimha and Harihara were respectively known as Nrusimhanath and Harisankar.

Vaijal Dev was succeeded by Bhojaraj Deo, who is said to have built a fort on the Gandhamardan hills near Nrusimhanath. This fort is known after him as Bhojagarh and the ruins of it may be seen even at present. The next ruler, according to *Kosalananda*, was Biramalla Deva. But in the list of the kings of Patna furnished by Impey, the name of Prataparudra is found after Bhojaraj Deo. Biramalla appears to be an epithet rather than a proper name and so Prataparudra Deo who has been represented as Pratapamalla by *Kosalananda* may be said to be a successor of Bhojaraj

Deo. The rule of Prataparudra has been referred to by the poet Chaitanya Das in his *Nirgama Mahatmya* where he states that he was living in Khadial (Khariar) during the rule of Prataparudra. This indicates that Khariar was a part of Patna, during the rule of Prataparudra. The next ruler was Bhupal Deo, son of Prataparudra Deo. He is known to have improved the construction of Bhojagarh close to which he established a township and encouraged people to reside there by giving lands free of rent. Nothing more is, however, known about this ruler and after him Nagasingh Deo became the ruler of Patna who on his turn was succeeded by his son Bikramaditya Deo. In *Kosalananda* and *Jayachandrika*, Nagasingh Deo does not find any place. His name has been restored by Impey from some documents which we do not get at present. Shri Ram Chandra Mallik, the writer of *Kosala Itihas*, seems to have taken this ruler from the lists of Impey. About Bikramaditya Major Impey writes that the "Maharaja Bikramaditya Deo, the ninth Rajah of Patna erected a fort in Phooljhur at Seespalgarh, where its remains are said to be still traceable—a proof of the unflinching authority then exercised over the Gurjhat States". Bikramaditya was succeeded by his son Vaijal Dev II who is known to be the author of the famous lexicon *Prabodha Chandrika*. In this work he states that he was the son of Vikramarka or Bikramaditya, the consort of Chandrabati, and was the king of Chauhan family of Patna. He further states that he was the worshipper of Harihara and his Guru and that he was a powerful munificent and beautiful person, well-versed in Logic and Tantra.

Mahamahopadhyaya Hara Prasad Sastri wrongly observes the author of *Prabodha Chandrika*, the Chauhan ruler of Patna, as a Jagirdar in Bihar and writes about him as follows:

During the reigns of Jehangir and Shah Jahan, there was a Chauhan Raja at Patna, whose name was Vijjala or Vaijala, and he had four Praganas as his Jagir. Following the example of Vidyapati and of Vijjala's ancestor Vikramaditya, he got one of his Pandits, Jagamohan, to write a Sanskrit Gazetteer of Eastern India entitled *Desavalivivriti*. He had a son named Hiradhara. For the education of Hiradhara in Sanskrit, he wrote a short grammar entitled *Prabodha Chandrika* in anustup metre throughout. His objective was to preach the glory of Rama.

The opinion of Pandit Sastri is without doubt untenable as Vaijal Dev clearly states in the *Prabodha Chandrika* that his territory Patna was located to the west of Utkala and that he was a famous Chauhan ruler of that territory. In the genealogy of Vaijal Dev, Jagirdar of Patna, as furnished by Pandit Sastri, we find that Vaijal, the author of a Prakrit Vyakarana; was the grandson of Bikramaditya of Tirhut and the son of Vaijal was one Banahari. This genealogy is not corroborating the accounts of *Prabodha Chandrika*. Thus Vaijal Dev the author of *Prabodha Chandrika* is no other than the ruler of Patna in Odisha who flourished during the early part of the 16th Century AD.

Vaijal Dev was succeeded by his son Hiradhara Deo who has been represented as a powerful king both by the *Kosalananda* and *Jayachandrika*. Hiradhara encouraged education in his kingdom and

established many schools both for general and technical studies. Among the technical subjects taught in the schools, were Ayurveda, Agriculture and Industry. According to Sri Rama Chandra Mallik Hiradhara Deo was a feudatory of Gajapati king Prataparudra who, being defeated by Krishna Deva Rai of Vijayanagar ceded some territories including Patna to him. Sri Mallik thus concludes that Hiradhara was paying tribute to the ruler of Vijayanagar. This, however, seems to be doubtful as no records to substantiate this opinion have yet been available.

Hiradhara Deo was succeeded by his son Narasimha Deo during whose rule the kingdom of Patna was very powerful. Balaram Deo, the brother of Narasimha Deo, was an ambitious and war-like prince who defeated the Raja of Surguja and took possession of the territory of Sambalpur. It is said that in one rainy night when the Rani of Narasimha Deo was in labour, Balaram Deo swam across a hill-stream named Mayabati which was flowing in between the capital town of Patnagarh and the village Barapada, and brought the nurse from that village to attend the Rani. It was as a reward for this courageous and faithful service that Narasimha Deo gave the north-eastern part of his dominion to Balaram Deo. Later on, there was a quarrel between these two brothers regarding the extent of their respective territories. It was, however, amicably settled by the intervention of the queen mother. Tradition goes that the dowager queen took her sons to the bed of the river named Surangi and asked the elder and the younger to sit on her right and the left laps respectively. Then she told them that the river Surangi should be taken as her own limbs (Anga), the elder brother should possess the territory to the right of the river and the younger one to the left of it. The decision of the mother was accepted by both the brothers and from that time onwards the river was called Ang and was regarded as the boundary line between Patna and Sambalpur territories.

It appears that Narasimha Deo placed the Sambalpur region under the charge of his brother Balaram Deo to check the aggression of the Haihaya power of Ratanpur. The Haihaya rulers of Ratanpur were casting longing eyes on Sambalpur territory and particularly Kalyaa Sahai, who was contemporary of Balaram Deo, was counting 48 Garhs under him including Patna and Sambalpur. It was very probably to counteract the aggressive design of the Haihayas that Balaram Deo was given the Sambalpur tract where he later on assumed the power of a de facto ruler.

After the death of Narasimha Deo, the territory of Patna became weak and Sambalpur under Balaram Deo acquired great prominence. In fact, from that time onwards Patna lost her glory and was reduced to an appendage of Sambalpur.

Hamir Deo, the son and successor of Narasimha Deo, ruled only for four years and died leaving behind a son who was only 7 months old. His widow Rani came forward to rule the kingdom on behalf of her minor son, but she was misguided by the ministers and not being able to face the chaotic situation that resulted from the mal-administration of the officers, she left Patna and went to Nandapur where her father was the ruler. Patna thus plunged into anarchy and confusion. Balaram Deo, who was then the

powerful ruler of Sambalpur, sent his son Hrudayanarayan Deo to take up the charge of administration of Patna till the young prince Pratap Deo, the son of Hamir Deo, attained the age of majority. Hrudayanarayan Deo thus became the de facto ruler of Patna and ran the administration according to the advice of his father. Sometimes after that Balaram Deo died and was succeeded by Hrudayanarayan Deo to the Gadi of Sambalpur. The Gadi of Patna became vacant and Hrudayanarayan Deo accompanied by the Zamindars and Umras personally went to Nandapur and brought back Pratap Deo and his mother to Patnagarh where the coronation of Pratap Deo was celebrated with pomp. Pratap Deo had two sons named Bikramaditya and Gopal Roy. The younger son Gopal Roy was given the estate of Khariar, where a new branch of Chauhan family was thus established. Bikramaditya succeeded his father to the Gadi of Patna and ruled over the kingdom for about 30 years. He was a benevolent ruler and was loved by his people. After him, his son Mukunda Deo became the ruler of Patna. The next ruler was Balaram Deo who was succeeded by his son Hrudasha Deo. During the period of these rulers the royal family of Patna and that of Sambalpur were considered to be one and indivisible although the kingdom of Patna was regarded as subservient to Sambalpur. Hrudasha Deo, the 20th Raja of Patna, died leaving behind two young sons and the eldest son Raisingh Deo was brought up by his uncle Bachharaj Singh who had the ambition of usurping the Gadi. He, therefore, murdered the widow Rani and also made plans to kill the two princes. But these two boys were taken away by their maternal uncle to Phuljhar where they were brought up and given education. Raisingh Deo after being grown up sought the assistance of the Marathas of Nagpur and succeeded in taking possession of his State by killing his uncle. He had three wives, the first one being without issue, the second having two sons and the third only one son. Son of the third queen was the eldest, who was the favourite of the father. The second Rani, apprehending that the claim of her own sons would be set aside by the Raja, instigated the people to her cause and to rise in rebellion. Raisingh Deo, who was then about 80 years old; failed to control the situation and fled to Sonapur. Patna remained in anarchy for about three years and during that period the Ranis and their partisans quarrelled amongst themselves on the question of succession and property, and fled to Sonapur. The old Rajah, before his death appointed his grandson Raj Singh Deo, born of his eldest son as successor and put the royal pugree (turban) on his head who ascended the Gadi at a tender age. His father Chandra Sekhar Deo ruled the State apparently on behalf of the son for about five years but he could not stay in Patnas because of the general disturbance and retired on pilgrimage to Prayaga, where he died. Pruthviraj Singh could not rule for long and died in 1765 after the death of his father.

The next Raja was Ramachandra Deo II, the posthumous son of Pruthviraj Singh. He ascended the Gadi as a baby in 1765 and the widow-mother managed the administration with the help of the ministers. The kingdom of Patna suffered from mal-administration taking advantages of which Sitaram Raju of Vizianagaram extended his power over the territory

for some time. Subsequently, however, Patna was under the possession of the Marathas in 1775.

After attaining the age of majority, Ramachandra Deo ruled with a strong hand defying at times the authorities of the Marathas. He created the Zamindari tenures for Atgan and Loisinga and the Khorakposakdari tenure of Jarasingha.

Patna during the British Rule

During the rule of Ramachandra Deo, the Raja Raghuji Bhonsla of Nagpur was defeated by the British in 1803 in the Second Anglo-Maratha War. In course of the war Col. Broughten occupied the fort of Sambalpur on 31st December, 1803 and on 8th January, 1804, Lt. Fountain was despatched to disperse the Maratha troops who were carrying on depredation in Sonapur area. He succeeded in routing and dispersing the Marathas completely from Sonapur. Major Forbes had defeated the Marathas at the Barmul pass on the 2nd November, 1803. After all these victorious engagements of the Rajas of Sonapur, Patna and Boudh offered submission and Major Forbes referred these cases to Lt. Col. Harcourt who concluded treaties with them.

On 17th December, 1803, Raghuji Bhonsla ceded Odisha to the British Government in the treaty of Deogaon. The Sambalpur group of States including Patna and Sonapur were also ceded to the British Government.

Lord Wellesley, the then Governor-General, left India in July 1805 and Sir George Barlow, who succeeded him followed a feeble policy of 'Non intervention'. He laid down the principle that "Certain extent of dominion, local power and revenue, would be cheaply sacrificed for tranquility and security within a contracted circle and withdraw from every kind of relation with the Native States to which we were not specifically pledged by Treaty, and the minor principalities adjacent to or intermixed with the Maratha possessions were left to their fate".

In pursuance of, this policy the Sambalpur group of States including Patna and Sonapur were given back to the Raja of Nagpur in 1806 in spite of strong protest from the Rani of Sambalpur and Raja Ram Chandra Deo of Patna. In the meantime, Ramchandra Deo was taken captive by the Marathas and kept in the fort of Chanda along with other royal prisoners—Chandra Sekhar Bhanj, title Raja of Baudh, Prithvi Singh, the Raja of Sonapur, Jayanta Singh, the Raja of Sambalpur and his son Prince Maharaja Sai—who had been there since 1800. In the 3rd Anglo-Maratha War Appa Saheb Bhonsla, the Raja of Nagpur, was crushingly defeated on 27th November 1817 at Sitabaldi as a result of which he was deposed and the Sambalpur group of States reverted to British Government. Raja Ramachandra Deo was released from Chanda after long confinement of about fourteen years and was installed on the Gadi of Patna. He died in 1820 at Jarasingha where his second son Jugaraj Singh was the Kharposdar zamindar and was cremated on the bank of the Sonagarh river. His fourth Rani performed the rite of Suttee in the funeral pyre.

Ramachandra Deo II was succeeded by his eldest son Bhupal Deo who was a feeble ruler. During the rule of Ramachandra Deo, the kingdom of Patna had some territorial loss. The estates of Khariar and Borasambar seceded from Patna while the Raja of Sonapur took away 82 villages lying between the Ang and the Tel rivers.

Ramchandra Deo had appealed to the British Government sometime before his death against forcible possession of 82 villages⁸⁵ by the Raja of Sonapur.

Bhupal Deo presented another petition to George Swinton, Chief Secretary to Government, Fort William, against Prithvi Singh, the then Raja of Sonapur. The case was heard by Major Mackenzie in 1829 and as the Raja of Sonapur could not attend the case a decree was given in favour of the Raja of Patna. But later on, on the 9th May 1829 the Raja of Sonapur presented his appeal which was heard by Major Mackenzie during his second visit to Sambalpur. The decree was subsequently issued in favour of the Raja of Sonapur. During his rule, a Maratha Chief named Mathuajee entered the Patna kingdom with a large troop to loot and plunder the territory. Bhupal Deo fought against the Marathas but was defeated by them and took shelter in the fort of Bhojpur. The commander of the Bhojpur fort continued the war and Mathuajee was killed while attacking the Bhojpur fort. His two wives Andibai and Daryabai collected the retreating troops and invaded the fort of Bhojpur, but subsequently the Marathas were defeated and dispersed. Bhupal Deo had also to fight Ramjal Bariha, the zamindar of Borasambar. In the first battle that took place near the village Badibahal on the Ang river, the troops of Patna were defeated and the Dewan Balabhadra Sai was killed. Subsequently, however, Ramjal Bariha was defeated by Dharam Singh, the zamindar of Atgan. Bhupal Deo honoured Dharam Singh by conferring on him the title of Mandhata and allowed him to wear sacred thread. Dharam Singh also suppressed the plundering hordes who entered into Patna kingdom from Bastar and Bindra Nuagarh. Raja Bhupal Deo was a kind and generous ruler and he donated large number of villages to Brahmins and his relatives. He died in 1848 and was succeeded by his son Hiravajradhar Deo. During his rule Raghuji Bhonsla III, the Raja of Nagpur, died without any issue and his territory lapsed to the British Government in the year 1853. The Kingdoms of Patna and Sonapur thus came under direct administration of the British Government.

⁸⁵ 1. In Pargana Menda	22 villages
2. In Pargana Tarbha	24 villages
3. In Pargana Kudurku	12 villages
4. In Pargana Singari	16 villages
Other villages	8
Total	82 villages

During his time, the Kondhs of Ghumsur and Kondhamals rose against the British under the leadership of Chakra Bisoyee and the rebellion spread over to Kalahandi and Patna. The zamindar of Madanpur in Kalahandi and Dharamsingh Mandhata, the zamindar of Atgan in Patna rendered help to Chakra Bisoyee. In Kalahandi, the Kondhs attacked the camp of Lt. Macneill, the Agent in the Hill tracts of Odisha, at a jungle village called Orla-dhoni. The position of the Agent was extremely critical for some time. He was saved by Dinabandhu Patnaik, Tahsildar of Kondhmals, who came to his help with a party of Sebundis. Chakra Bisoyee came to Patna from Kalahandi where Dharamsingh Mandhata gave him shelter. In March 1856 Lt. Macdonald, Assistant to the Meriah Agent in the Odisha hill tracts, sent some troops along with the Sebundis under Dinabandhu Patnaik to apprehend him at Atgan. Chakra Bisoyee escaped into the jungle but his principal adherent Bhitari Sardar Bhoori was captured. Dharamsingh Mandhata went to the point of resisting the British troops by arms and so he was also taken captive. Chakra Bisoyee escaped to Paralakhemundi where he joined the rebellion of the Sabaras. Dharamsingh Mandhata, the patriot zamindar of Atgaon who was a pillar of strength to the Raja of Patna died in the prison.

Hiravajradhar Deo was ruling over Patna at the time of the Sepoy Mutiny. Surendra Sai, the hero of Sambalpur in his fight against the British, was getting help and support from the aboriginal people of Patna. One of his brothers named Ujjal Sai was organising the Kondhs of Patna, for which the British Government put pressure on the Raja to apprehend him and suppress the Kondhs. But Hiravajradhar connived at the escape of Ujjal Sai from his kingdom. This greatly enraged the British and the Raja was fined one thousand rupees for his negligence. Subsequently however, the Raja captured Ujjal Sai and made him over to Colonel Forster, who hanged him. The Government was highly pleased and the fine of one thousand rupees was forthwith remitted.

Surendra Sai was assisted by the Gond zamindars of Sambalpur, principal among whom were Kamal Singh and Kunjal Singh of Ghes. One of the lieutenants of Kamal Singh was Salik Ram Bariha who was a patriot from Patna. Even after surrender of Surendra Sai, Kamal Singh with the help of Salik Ram continued guerilla war against the British and his marauding bands committed atrocities in Bargarh subdivision.

Hiravajradhar Deo was warned by the British as he failed to capture Salik Ram Bariha in his kingdom. He was even threatened that his State was liable for confiscation under the express order of the Chief Commissioner. But Major Impey saved the situation by giving him one more chance to capture Salik Ram Bariha. When Kamal Singh and Salik Ram Bariha were hiding themselves in the Barapahar range in Bargarh subdivision, Major Impey personally went there accompanied by an escort of 60 infantry men, a dozen horsemen and a contingent supplied by the Raja of Khariar. But he could not capture Kamal Singh and Salik Ram. This operation ruined the health of Major Impey and he fell ill and died in December, 1863 at Sambalpur. Subsequently however, Kamal Singh, Kunjal Singh and Salik Ram Bariha were all arrested in 1866.

The States of Patna and Sonapur were placed under the Government of the Central Provinces in 1861. During the years 1863-66 when enquiries were made regarding the status of the feudatory Chiefs, Patna was recognised as a feudatory State. The same recognition was also extended to Sonapur in 1867.

Hiravajradhar Deo had three sons named Surpratap Deo, Biswanath Singh and Dalaganjan Singh. He died in 1866 and was succeeded by Surpratap Deo. During the rule of this king, the Khonds of Patna rebelled against the Durbar Government and refused to pay revenue and other taxes. Some Khonds represented their case before the Deputy Commissioner of Sambalpur and as the oppressive rule of the Raja was not appreciated by the Government, the State of Patna was placed under the rule of the Court of Wards. Surpratap Deo and his brother Biswanath Singh were taken away to Sambalpur and were kept in confinement there. In 1872, a son of Biswanath Singh was born at Sambalpur and as Surpratap Deo was issueless, he adopted the baby who was named as Ramchandra Deo. Surpratap Deo died in the State of Patna which was under the administration of the Court of Wards from 1871 to 1893. It was during this period that much improvement was done both in administration and land revenue system of the State. The Khonds were pacified and the people enjoyed security of life and property. A Pucca road from Salebhata to Belgan was constructed during this period and it extended from the north-eastern to south-eastern border of the State. The present town of Balangir was planned and constructed and was made the headquarters of the State. In 1893, Ramchandra Deo was made the ruler of Patna. The first English School in Balangir was established by him and the road from Balangir to Tarbha was also constructed during his rule. Ramchandra Deo shot his wife to death and committed suicide in 1895 and after him his uncle Dalaganjan Singh was declared the Raja of Patna. It was during his time that the States of Patna and Sonapur were transferred from the control of the Central Provinces and placed under the charge of the Commissioner of Orissa Division in October, 1905.

Dalaganjan Singh established the printing press in Balangir and built a road from Balangir to Khaprakhol. During the famine of 1900, various relief works were undertaken to save people from starvation. Dalaganjan Singh was an enlightened ruler and had good knowledge in Odia, Hindi, Bengali and Sanskrit. He died in 1910 and was succeeded by his eldest son Prithviraj Deo. This ruler improved both agriculture and education of the State. He used to organise agricultural exhibitions for encouragement of good cultivation and laid out an experimental garden at Balangir for imparting agricultural training. During his rule, the High English School was established in Balangir and was named after him. Pruthviraj Deo was also a famous builder. He built a temple of Samaleswari at Balangir and a palace at Sambalpur. Some of the bridges in Patna State were constructed during his rule, the notable one being the Sonegarh river bridge which was named 'Wheeler Bridge' to commemorate the visit of Sir Henry Wheeler, the Lt. Governor, to Balangir. It was also to commemorate the visit of Sir Edward Gait the Governor, that a large tank named 'Gait Sorobar' was excavated by him in Balangir. The new palace of Balangir was also

constructed by him and was originally named Badal Mahal. Pruthviraj Singh died in 1924 and was succeeded by his adopted son Rajendra Narayan Singh Deo. Rajendra Narayan belongs to the royal family of Saraikella and is connected with the Chauhan family of Patna through his mother, the Rani of Saraikella who was the daughter of Ramachandra Deo. As the new ruler was a minor, the administration of Patna came once again under the Court of Wards till February 1933 when his investiture ceremony was performed at Balangir. Under Maharaja Rajendra Narayan Singh Deo, Patna was considered to be one of the best administered States of Odisha. The capital town of Balangir was improved and beautified by good streets, parks and buildings, as well as by street lighting. The revenue administration was reorganised in the interest of the peasants and the system of forced labour was abolished, while all the roads were opened to bullock carts. A college was established in Balangir which was named as Rajendra College. The State of Patna merged with Odisha along with other States on 1st January, 1948.

Uprising and Freedom Movement in the District

After the birth of a separate Odisha province, the dormant State's Peoples' Conference became active. All India State's Peoples' Conference came into existence in 1927. The Congress also urged the princes to grant and help establish a responsible Government. Within a short period of time, it became a well knit organization. In Odisha also the State's People conference was organized in 1931⁸⁶. The leaders of the Prajamandals were arbitrarily arrested in many states. The organization was declared illegal. Public meetings were banned and civil liberties were curtailed. But, the leaders of the Garjat states endeavoured to strengthen their organization to carry on relentless struggle against the tyrannical rulers. The tide of Prajamandal in the neighbouring princely states during 1930's had a natural resonance in the state of Patna. Though Prajamandal was not formed in the state during the decade, yet political awakening had dawned. The emergence of an educated class in Balangir during 1930's was a significant development. The Prajamandal movement which was motivated to achieve social equality and freedom from bondage had deeply affected the intellectuals to a great extent. Prior to this in 1930 an anti-feudal movement was launched by Satyananda Mishra, Yogeswar Kumra, Dibakar Bohidar, Chintamani Mishra and others. In 1938 a large crowd under the leadership of Satyananda Mishra, Chintamani Mishra, Kapileswar Prasad Nanda, Dibakara Bohidar presented a charter of demands before the ruler. The charter of demands drafted by Yudhistir Mishra included issues like restriction on sale of agricultural products, absence of tenancy rights over landed property, the system of bethi and Rasad, custom duty on salt, kerosene, cloth, collection of grazing fees, denial of forest rights, absence of civil liberty, people's representation in the govt., opposition to enhancement of land revenue etc. There were no political activities in the state during Quit India Movement. But, some youth like Yudhistir Mishra, Chintamani Rath,

⁸⁶ S.N. Pattnaik. Odisha Swadhinata Angolana. Cuttack, P – 144, 1972

Sankarsana Panigrahi, Niranjan Purohit and many others visited various parts of the state and took up the task of awakening the common men against feudal rule, untouchability, liquor selling etc. Hand bills signed by Nabakrushna Choudhury, Sarangadhar Das, Malati Devi calling for Garjat day were distributed to mobilize public opinion. In Patna state Kissan agitation was a local manifestation of the Prajamandal movement which was spearheaded by Congress and leftist leaders.⁸⁷ Its rising popularity was a cause of deep annoyance to R.N. Singhdeo, the ruler of Patna State who was bent upon stemming the tide of political unrest.⁸⁸ The people of Patna State held him in high esteem for his enlightened governance and erudition.⁸⁹ The enquiry committee constituted by the State Peoples Conference with H.K. Mahatab as Chairman found that except in Patna and Mayurbhanj, administration in many states was primitive and oppressive.⁹⁰ R.N. Singh deo was an enlightened ruler as well as an able administrator and an astute politician. As stated by B.R. Patel, the Maharaja had a clean image and not known to be indulging in vices for which princes were unpopular. His administration was not generally oppressive and he did not take any measure ostensibly to thwart political opposition.⁹¹

It was on 9th September, 1945, that the people of Patna formed a political organization known as Patna Krusak Dal which was registered on 2nd January, 1946 under the provision of Patna State Registration of Societies Act and it was affiliated to the All India States Peoples Conference.⁹² It was a modified form of Prajamandal organization. Sri Kapileswar Prasad Nanda and Sri Yudhistir Mishra were the President and Vice-President of the Patna Krusak Dal respectively. Sri Chintamani Rath was the secretary of the Dal. The Dal started a no tax campaign under the leadership of Sri Nanda, Yudhistir Mishra, Chintamani Rath, Satyananda Mishra, Niranjan Purohit, Sankarsan Panigrahi, Dibakar Bohidar, Smt. Bargavi Guru and others. They presented an ultimatum to the Chief for redressal of their grievances. The king having realized the intense desire of the people to have a responsible government announced the establishment of a legislative assembly to appease the people. (The State Committee for compilation of Who's who of freedom workers of Orissa (SCCWO), Sambalpur, Sundergarh, Kalahandi, Balangir Patna district – P – 11). Direct action such as raiding the police station, hoisting congress flag, instigating people not to pay tax, etc. were taken recourse to (Memo No.CM/1, 317 from Deputy CM, Patna to Inspector General of Police, Eastern State, OSA). On 19th February, 1947 large number of people attacked the Agalpur Police Station. (Orissa records, Sambalpur papers, Acc. No.1180, Chief Minister of

⁸⁷ S. Pradhan – *People's Movement in Princely States* – in C.H.C.O (ed) P.K. Mishra, New Delhi, 1997, P – 374

⁸⁸ R.N. Mishra – *Regionalism and State politics in India 1979*, P – 48, 103

⁸⁹ P.K. Mishra – *Political identity* – P – 273, M.S. Pati (ed) West Orissa – A study in ethos

⁹⁰ H.M. Mahatab – *Merger of Princely States, explosion of the Myth in M.N. Das* (ed) side eights on the history and culture of Orissa 1977, P – 300

⁹¹ B.R. Patel – *My village, My people* P -3

⁹² S. Pradhan – *Op. Cit.* P – 376

Patna State to Political Agent, Chhatishgarh States, D.O. No.32/Confidential, 21st February, 1947 OSA). The Krusak Dal decided to start non-cooperation with the administration demanding civil rights and responsible government. The King sponsored a political organization under the name Prajamandal towards the beginning of 1947 (SCCWO – OP.cit. P.IV). It was in 1947, the King announced to set up a popular government by taking one minister each from the two political party, i.e., from Prajamandal and Krusak Dal and another two being nominated by the Raja. Kapileswar Prasad Nanda joined the ministry as the representative of Krusak Party, but, resigned on 18th June, 1947 finding the working of the ministry not up to the expectation as far as the people's interests were concerned. The Chief tactfully forestalled all the initiative of the people for reforms of the Political system by the timely announcement of changes in administration to appease the discontentment of the people.⁹³ The opposition was not so much to the monarch as to monarchy as a form of Government. When there was tussle between the Prajamanda and Krusak Dal, the leaders of the Dal organized a mass meeting at Karangakata Bandh Adi. A huge procession consisting of large number of prople paraded the main streets of Balangir demanding the end of feudal rule. This meeting was addressed by the Dal leaders and Sarangadhar Das and Malati Choudhury.⁹⁴

The Patna Students Congress, during this period was formed under the President-ship of Swapnanda Panigrahi and Balaram Khuas was elected as its Secretary. Other important student leaders were Bighnaraj Patel, Rajani Bhoi, Bimbadhar Mishra, Narasingha Prasad Nanda, Sudarsan Tripathy, Shyam Sundar Das, Loknath Tripathy and many others. Some students of P.R. High School were heavily fined by the Patna State Government for attending Krusak Dal meeting. In protest against this, a student strike was launched and supported by the workers of Krusak Dal of rural area on the advice of Yudhistir Mishra, Chintamani Rath, Narasing Nanda. The students continued their agitation and demanded an end of the feudal rule. On the invitation of Lala Raj Kanwar, the student delegates met him and fine was withdrawn and other cases against them, were dropped. Under the Presidentship of Panigrahi, a Student's Conference of Western Odisha was held and the meeting was addressed by Surendranath Dwivedi.⁹⁵ The formation of Garjat Chhatra Sammilani on 10th February, 1946 at Cuttack extended its moral support to the States movement (Who's who compilation Committee, Orissa Records – Acc. No.50, P – 68 (OSA). The Chhatra Sammilani spread the anti-feudal movement throughout the length and breadth of the State. Satyananda Panigrahi and Nityananda Padhi attended the Nayagarh Prajamandal Sammilani and along with Narsisng Nanda and Bighnaraj Patel proceeded to Kalahandi to spread the message of Gandhi like anti-prohibition, untouchability, right to freedom etc. They hoisted the

⁹³ H.K. Mahatab – The beginning of the end – P – 131

⁹⁴ Swapnananda Panigrahi – Patnare Swadinata Andolana (Odia) MSS, S.N. Pattnaik – Orisare Swadinata Andolan, 1972, P – 81, P.M. Pradhan – Muktipathe Sainika (Odia) Cuttack, 1978, P – 38

⁹⁵ S.N. Panigrahi – Patnare Swadinata Andolana (odia) MSS – PP 7 - 8

national flag and for which they were exiled from Kalahandi. The active members of the Patna Student Council were Swapnananda Panigrahi, Sudarsan Tripathy, Dayanidhi Hota (President, Rajendra College, Rajanikanta Bhoi, Bhaktabandhu Swain, Narsing Charan Das, Prafulla Kumar Bohidar, Siddheswar Sai, Shamsunder Das, Sasibhusan Gupta, Balaram Khuas, Yogiram Kheti, Bijaya Nandi, Nimai Charan Nayak, Chandramani Naik, Bipin Bihari Sharma, Ms. Bhanumati and others.

The second annual conference of Patna Krusak Dal was held at Gate Sarober field which was renamed as Gopabandhu Nagar. Large number of delegates from Garjat states were invited to attend the meeting and a huge procession was organized which raised the slogan such as “end of feudal rule, long live Gandhi etc.” The meeting was attended by leaders like Sarangadhar Das, S.N. Dwivedi, Nabakrushna Choudhury, Malati Choudhury and others. The volunteers’ corps included the name of Swapnanada Panigrahi, Narsing Nanda, Rajani Bhoi, Shyamasundar Das, Dasrath Sahu, Kapurchan Naik, Purusottam Nath, Rusi Gadtya, Kesab Bhoi, Narendra Parichha, Gopinath Joshi, Purna Patra, Jugal Nath, Kuber Padhan and many others.

After the 2nd World War, an agitation for the amalgamation of the ex-states was initiated by the provincial congress leaders and to counter this agitation, some rulers led by Patna Maharaj started a campaign for formation of a separate territory known as Maha Kosala.⁹⁶ This campaign was based on the theory that the states of Western Odisha together with the district of Sambalpur were once a part of Kosala territory. By this time, the survey of the Mahanadi valley Project was undertaken and people were under the apprehension that hundred of villages would be submerged by the construction of Hirakud Dam. The people of Sambalpur started an agitation against this and the opportunity was utilized by the supporter of Maha Kosala movement.⁹⁷

Kapileswar Prasad Nanda and Yudhistir Mishra were closely associated with the activities of the State’s Peoples’ Conference. In 1947, the delegates from fifty affiliated organization of the State’s Peoples’ Conference met at Cuttack. An Executive Committee was constituted with Sarangadhar Das as President and Kapileswar Prasad Nanda as Vice-President. Yudhistir Mishra and Dibakar Bohidar were member of the Committee of the district to launch the Prajamandal movement in Odisha. The resolution presented by Patna Krusak Dal regarding the declaration of a responsible government by the Durbar by 1st July, 1947 and organization of a popular government during the interim period (Resolution passed by the State Krusak Party, File No. C – 30.3.1947 (OSA), Who’s who freedom workers – Vol.III, P – 22), Sri Yudhistir Mishra raised this in the meeting of the council and argued that the fundamental rights conceded to the people by the chamber of princes had not been accepted by the Patna Durbar.⁹⁸

⁹⁶ R.N. Mishra – OP. Cit. PP 104-106

⁹⁷ Koshali, with Koshal, Cal. 1946 – PP – 3 - 4

⁹⁸ P.K. Mishra – The Political History of Orissa. Delhi, 1979, PP – 14-15), The Samaj – 24.03.1947

Yudhistir Mishra represented Patna Krusak Dal in the All India States' Peoples' Conference held at Gwalior and later on he became member of the constituent assembly.

Freedom Fighters of Balangir Patna

Late Kapurchan Nayak, Gopalpur, Loisingha, Surendra Thakur, Tusra Kunja Bihari Meher, Patnagarh, Kapileswar Prasad Nanda, Sakma, Satyananda Mishra, Chhatamakhana, Narsingh Prasad Nanda, Balangir, Swapananda Panigrahi, Balangir, Yudhistir Mishra, Balangir, Dibakara Bohidar, Saintala.

Yogeswar Kumra, Chudapali, Dhruva Nath and Purosottam Nath, Chantimunda, Chintamani Mishra, Khuntapali, Rishi Gadtya, Bhargavi Guru, Singhanimunda, Dasarath Sahu, Kudasinga, Jugal Kishore Nath, Nawapara, Dibakarr Bohidar, Saintala, Kapurchan Nayak and Surendra Thakur were arrested.

Branches of Kosal Dal were opened at Titilagarh, Saintala, Bangomunda, Tusura, Kantabanji, Patnagarh, Loisingha, Salebhata (Dainik Asha – 29.11.1946).

Merger of Patna State

Maharaja R.N. Singh Deo was a widely travelled man and was open to progressive ideas of reforms. He had introduced co-operative societies and banking system to provide credit to peasants on easy terms. He took steps to set up a High Court and a representative assembly with a council of ministers to govern the State.⁹⁹ But, soon after India achieved independence and British paramountcy ended, a section of Orissa rulers under the leadership of Singh Deo emulating the Nizam of Hyderabad tried to retain the Orissa States and Chhatishgarh States as a separate autonomous entity.¹⁰⁰ Accordingly, the Eastern States Union started functioning.¹⁰¹ But, the Union had its own weaknesses which had penned its own dissolution¹⁰² and the Government of India decided not to recognize the Eastern State Union.¹⁰³ H.K. Mahatab proposed for a common administration for both the states and the princess of Orissa.¹⁰⁴ Maharaja R.N. Sindh Deo opposed the plan of Mahatab.¹⁰⁵ At this juncture, Sardar Patel, the Home Minister of India urged the rulers of princely states to join hands with the Indian Government.¹⁰⁶ Sardar Patel took recourse to negotiation for getting the states merged into

⁹⁹ S. Nanda – Coalition Politics in Orissa, 1979, PP – 42-44

¹⁰⁰ P.K. Mishra – OP. Cit. P – 274

¹⁰¹ V.P. Menon – The Story of the Integration of the Indian States – P – 153

¹⁰² P.K. Jena – Orissa, a New Province, History of Government and Politics in Orissa from 1936-48, Cal 1988, P – 238

¹⁰³ V.P. Menon – OP. Cit. PP 156-157

¹⁰⁴ S. Pradhan – OP. Cit. P – 380

¹⁰⁵ H.K. Mahatab – Beginning of the end – P – 110

¹⁰⁶ V.P. Menon – op. Cit. PP – 99-100

the Indian Union.¹⁰⁷ The Nilagiri event forced the authorities to take immediate action to settle the affairs in the Orissa states.¹⁰⁸ On 1st December, 1947, the ruler of Patna met Sardar Patel in New Delhi. Finally, Patel arrived at Cuttack on 13th December, 1947 and took the momentous decision that all the three classes of states would be merged in the province.¹⁰⁹ A memorandum was prepared which proposed merger of states. Patel anticipated that some rulers might try to evade merger on the plea of having introduced responsible government and some might claim autonomous states. The Maharaja of Patna who acted Spokesman for “A” class state, pointed out that the draft merger agreement did not tally with the discussion he had with Sardar Patel. He demanded autonomous status for the states.¹¹⁰ There were differences in opinion between the princes of ‘A’ class states and Sardar Patel.

The states were classified as A, B and C on the basis of their revenue. There were 11 ‘A’ class states, 12 ‘B’ class and 3 ‘C’ class states.

The rulers expressed their unwillingness to sign the merger agreement when Patel warned them, “If you do not accept our proposal, I don’t take responsibility for the law and order in your state... you take care of yourself”.¹¹¹ The ruler knew pretty well that in the absence of the British support they had no body to bank upon. They were also afraid of the mass fury, which was about to sweep them from power and position.¹¹² They thought it proper to accept the proposal of Sardar Patel as a face saving. R.N. Singh Deo personally consulted Mahatma Gandhi for a wise solution to the problem and was the first Orissa feudatory chief to sign the merger agreement at Cuttack on 15th December, 1947.¹¹³ The Governments of India in perpetuity were delegated with the authority to administer the States. From 1st January, 1948, the feudatory states with the exception of Mayurbhanj became integral parts of Odisha.¹¹⁴

Initially Patna, Sonapur and Kalahandi states formed the district of Balangir Patna. Subsequently on the 1st November, 1949, the ex-state of Patna and Sonapur constituted a separate district named Balangir District after the name of the Headquarter, Balangir. In 1993 Sonapur Constituted a Separate district.

Post-Independence History of the District

The later half of the 20th century ushered in a new era in Balangir Patna. Generally speaking, people at large found it difficult to adjust themselves to the new world into which they were thrown after the merger of

¹⁰⁷ R.N. Kumar – Role of Sardar Patel in the Integration of India, Muzaffarpur, 1987, P – 76

¹⁰⁸ A.C. Pradhan – Integration of the Princely states of Orissa – P – 397

¹⁰⁹ V.P. Menon – OP. Cit. P – 163

¹¹⁰ A. C. Pradhan – OP. Cit – P – 400

¹¹¹ Durga Das – India from Nehru to Curzon and after London. 1969, P – 282

¹¹² D.P. Mishra – *People’s Revolt in Orissa*. Delhi, 1998 – P – 197

¹¹³ Sunil Ghose – Orissa in Turmoil. 1948, P – 63

¹¹⁴ K.M. Patra – Orissa Legislature and Freedom Struggle. 1979, PP – 284-286

the ex-State. In the post merger period a huge bureaucratic machinery was installed which could be moved to action through a cumbersome process and which lacked the promptness and agility of the previous administration. After the merger, the people experienced certain economic hardships like the unusual price rise of essential goods and commodities. The communication system was very poor. The people also resented the restriction imposed by the new administration on forest and forest produces like kenduleaf. It was still a more disheartening situation for the ex-rulers, Zamindars, Gountias and highly placed local ex-State employees. A sort of lull came to prevail in the ex-State. At this juncture Rajendra Narayan Singh Deo, the ex- ruler of Patna rose to the occasion. With his initiative, a new political party called Koshala Utkala Praja Parishad came into prominence. In 1950 the Koshala Utkala Praja Parishad was renamed as Ganatantra Parishad. During the next two decades one would witness the emergence of R.N. Singh Deo as a successful politician in Odisha centering round whom a powerful opposition party grew up to play a significant role in the subsequent democratic experimentation of the country.

During the First General election to the Assembly, Balangir (undivided) had nine constituencies and all the nine seats were won by the Ganatantra Parishad. R.N. Singh Deo himself was elected to the first Lok Sabha of Indian Parliament from the Balangir – Kalahandi Constituency. In the Second General election again the Ganatantra Parishad occupied all the nine Assembly seats and one Parliamentary seat of Balangir. R.N. Singh Deo became the Leader of the Opposition Party. However, in 1959 the Ganatantra Parishad changed its stance and became an associate of the Congress and a coalition Ministry was formed with R.N. Singh Deo as the Minister of Finance in the Cabinet. As per the Third General Election, the Congress Ministry was formed and R.N. Singh Deo became the Opposition Party Leader. After the fourth general election Swatantra Party (formerly Ganatantra Parishad) and Jana Congress Party formed a coalition Ministry with R.N. Singh Deo as the Chief Minister. In the Fifth and Sixth General Election to the Odisha Assembly, the popularity of the Swatantra Party declined to a large extent. R.N. Singh Deo died in 1975 which resulted in a growing political instability in Balangir. His sons stepped into politics and became MP, MLA and Minister. On the other hand, after 1975 the Congress, Janata Dal and Bharatiya Janata Party gradually made their entry into the politics of the ex-State. The committed Assembly seats of the Swatantra Party went for other party and MLA of Balangir District became Minister in both Congress and non-Congress Ministry. After the formation of Sonapur as a separate district the number of Assembly constituencies of Balangir reduced. After the death of Biju Pattanaik, his son Naveen Patnaik rose to prominence and Biju Janata Dal (BJD) was formed in the year 2000. BJD won majority of Assembly seats in Balangir district. Presently, Narasingh Mishra (Congress Party) represents the Balangir Sadar constituency and acts as Opposition Party Leader in the Odisha Assembly whereas Ananga Uday Singh Deo became a Rajya Sabha Member and his son Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo elected as MP to the Lok Sabha and both belonged to the BJD. The Patnagarh Assembly Constituency is represented by the BJP Leader Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo. Three other Constituencies of Balangir

district namely Loisingha, Titilagarh and Kantabanji are represented by the BJD. A significant territorial organisation of this district was enforced in 1992-93. Balangir district was divided into two districts. Balangir, Titilagarh and Patnagarh Sub-divisions formed Balangir district while Sonapur and Birmaharajpur Sub-divisions were combined to form Sonapur district.

Balangir is popularly known for its traditional values and rich cultural heritage that has percolated into the modern era. The artistic achievements of the people of this sacred land strike one as being indicative of a superb vibrant lifestyle in the background of an energized tranquil world of centuries dating back to historic time. Art, architecture, sculpture, music, painting, drama of this region is a unique witness to the glories of a robust culture that had learnt the art of harmonious living encompassing physical, psychological, aesthetic and spiritual urge within an indissoluble totality. Various religious beliefs and faiths harmoniously co-exist here. The religious communities are tolerant and there is hardly any sectarian feeling among the inhabitants.

In the district of Balangir the tribal populace comprises around 21% of its total population. Nearly 26 tribal groups have been identified in the district and few of them like the Gond, Kandh, Saora, Binjhal together form seventy percent of the tribal population of Balangir district. The co-existence of Brahminical and Tribal culture led to a creative interaction between the two which produces a specimen of religious syncretism and cultural interaction. With the passage of time the non-tribal came closer to the tribal areas and created myth and legend which created aspiration among the tribal to achieve Hindu Status. The spread of Brahminical ideology in tribal region facilitated the process of acculturation among the tribes. Though they absorb some of the features of the Aryan Society, yet they maintain their own individuality in respect of their social custom and tradition. However, various changes in the social set up failed to effect a total annihilation of the cultural identity of the tribes. The tribal, born and brought up in the lap of nature nourished a simple and sympathetic outlook unrestrained by the artificialities of modern life which is amply reflected in their fair and festivities and other religious and social practices. In the post independent era successive Governments have undertaken several measures for the upliftment of the tribal people.

Since independence Balangir witnessed the establishment of a number of educational institutions such as Schools, High Schools, Teachers Training School, Colleges, Law College, Ayurvedic College, Polytechnique Schools, Sushree Institute of Technology, Government ITI, Women's College etc. Rajendra College was set up in 1944 with the intention to spread higher education in the district. Recently a medical College is under construction at Balangir.

Forest plays an important part in the economy of the district. The Kenduleaf, Sal seeds, bamboo etc. are plentifully available in the district. Kendu leaf has received great impetus and these leaves are collected for export. Large numbers of people earn their livelihood by making bamboo baskets, mats, bidis etc.

The district is famous for hand woven textiles. Sambalpuri tie and dye (Bandha) has made rapid progress and it has earned encomium throughout the country as well as the globe. But gloomy is the picture of the traditional arts and craft like silver works, wooden and terracotta artefacts etc. which need Government patronage for its revival. The district is not endowed with rich minerals like iron and coal. In recent years Powmax plant, Ordnance Factory etc. have been set up and the proposed Sahara Power Project is going to be installed very soon. However, many agro-industries failed to survive in this area due to some unavoidable reason.

The economy of the district is predominantly dependent on agriculture. Nearly 80 % of the population derive their means of livelihood from agriculture. The district has no perennial irrigation system. However, a good numbers of minor irrigation projects have been completed. Lower Suktel Irrigation Project is one of the major projects in the state which will largely solve the irrigation problem of the district. The district is rarely affected by flood but very often drought poses a serious threat for the people due to uneven distribution of rainfall. Recently the district has experienced cyclonic effects of Phailin and Hoodhood. Due to unemployment, migration of labour from the district is a big challenge to the administration. The Government has initiated several schemes to provide earning to the labour class people. Many changes are readily noticeable in rural areas. The most important one is the rate of literacy which has increased significantly over the years and remote villages and panchayats have been provided with electricity. Road communication with transport facility has been improved significantly. Awareness is being developed through media and other agencies. The standard of living of the people of this district is improving due to the adoption of several substantial measures by the Government. In the drought prone area cotton is being cultivated by farmers with renewed interest which boosts the economy of the district. The empowerment of the weaker sections can provide stability to agricultural development and expansion in the other related aspects of agricultural development such as food security, expansion of horticulture and the like. Successive Governments have undertaken various works and projects for the conservation of natural resources and sustainable farming system, giving due emphasis on production enhancement activities for land owners and livelihood support for landless families. Democratic decentralization is maintained in decision making resulting in transparency in transaction of direct funding to community, empowerment of women etc. Further, Western Odisha livelihood projects funded by DFID, (UK) for watershed management and livelihood option for poor community was launched in the district in the last decade of 20th century. Such structures are serving the purpose of water conservation. The Government has initiated a policy to make agriculture a profitable business.

This district has good road networking system. Transport services have been facilitated to great extent. Roads to nearby districts have been renovated and new ones have been constructed to realize the full potential of tourism in the district and tourists now flock with ease in large numbers to tourist spots like Harishankar, Ranipur-Jharia etc. The district has rail network of nearly 200 kilometers; construction of railway line from Khurda to

Balangir is a major project, the work, however, is advancing at a snail's pace. This railway line on completion will connect Balangir with coastal Odisha.

The traditional art and architecture, the fabric painting, the bamboo craft, the wall painting on traditional lines, the folk songs, the traditional musical instruments, language and literature of the place bring out the most unique and defining features of the district. Dance and drama illustrates and illuminate the variety and diversity of the cultural grandeur of the district. Important fairs and festivals observed by the people include Nuakhai, Puspuni, Puojiuntia, Bhajjiuntia, Holi etc. The populace has a propensity for plain living and high thinking which is the hallmark of Indian culture; appears to have been the principal feature of the society of Balangir.

APPENDIX I

Notes on the Gurjhat State of Patna by Major H. E. Impey (1863)

The following sketch of the history of the Gurjhat States of Patna is founded upon the records, genealogical trees (Annexure I) and traditions maintained by successive Rajahs. Although there may be errors in the calculation of periods and mistakes in the incidence of events, yet considering how all Natives of pretension or position strive to keep up a remembrance of their ancestors through the services of Brahmins, and how strictly they themselves cherish the links of private history (as instance the custom of the Hindus to religiously pronounce the names of three preceding generations while engaged in their ablutions), it may be assumed that such records and links, when adjusted by other circumstantial data, as is in this case, will generally form a pretty correct chain of evidence in respect of main facts.

Origin of the Muharajahs

The Muharajahs of Patna claim direct descent from a race of Rajpoot¹¹⁵ Rajahs of Gurh Sumbul¹¹⁶ near Mynpooree¹¹⁷ and count back the individuals of this race for 32 generations.

Foundation of One State, Patna from a Cluster of 8¹¹⁸ Gurhs

It is narrated that these Rajahs used to be in constant attendance at the Court of Dilhee¹¹⁹ till the last named Hutumbur Sing, having intrigued and run off with one of the daughters, was pursued and killed and his family forced to flee. Amongst the wives of this Rajah was one who escaping arrived enceinte, in Patna, and found refuge with the chief of Kholgurh¹²⁰, being one of 8 gurhs, as marginally noted which at that time alone formed

¹¹⁵ Ratpur

¹¹⁶ Garh Sambar

¹¹⁷ Mainpuri

¹¹⁸ Patna, Salabhata, Kangaon, Jhorasinga, Sindeekela, Kholagurh, Goorhagurh,

Koomnagarh

¹¹⁹ Delhi

¹²⁰ Kolagarh

the territories of Patna, being comprised within the three rivers, Ung¹²¹, Mahanuddy¹²² and Tel and bounded on the west by Khurriars¹²³ (a possession then of Jeypoor) and Bindanawagurh¹²⁴; and the chiefs of which took it in turns, a day at a time to exercise full authority as Rajah over the whole. She was placed in charge of the said Chief's Brahmin at Ramoor¹²⁵, and there gave birth to a boy, named Ramaee¹²⁶ Deo. The Chief adopted the boy and subsequently on his coming of age, himself being sick and weary of rule, resigned his position to him. Ramaee Deo soon after this succeeded in murdering the other seven Chiefs, and usurping to himself the whole and permanent authority of Patna. Finally he married a daughter of the Ruler of Odisha through whose influence and power he was enabled to maintain his usurped position.

Extension of territory and dominion to the right of bank of the Mahanuddy

It would appear during the rule of Ramaee Deo and the two successors, out of 6 Maharajahs that the territories and dominion of Patna, became extended beyond the Lug river to the right bank of the Mahanuddy, embracing:

1st-Patna Proper, as now, but with the addition to the west of 3 gurhs, viz. Kholagurh, Goorhagurh¹²⁷, and Koomnagurh¹²⁸ at present included in the Gurjhat¹²⁹ State of Khurriar, and of 12 villages known then as 'Baragam' afterwards as 'Borasambur'¹³⁰ and subsequently detached as portion of the Gurjhat State of that name, and to the east in continuation between the rivers to Ang and Tel to the Mahanuddy.

2nd- As annexed to Patna Proper, all the land embraced within the Ang and Mahanuddy rivers, and bounded on the west by Phooljhar¹³¹ and Sarungur¹³², which flow comprises the southern portion of Sambulpore¹³³ and parts of Sonepore¹³⁴.

3rd, 4th and 5th- As tributary dependencies, the Gond Gurjhat States Bindanawagarh, Phooljur and Sarungurh

¹²¹ Ang

¹²² Mahanadi

¹²³ Khariar

¹²⁴ Bendra Nawagarh

¹²⁵ Ramur

¹²⁶ Ramai

¹²⁷ Gurhagarh

¹²⁸ Kenmnagarh

¹²⁹ Garhjat

¹³⁰ Borasambar

¹³¹ Phuljhar

¹³² Sarangarh

¹³³ Sambalpur

¹³⁴ Sonepur

The lands and estates lying contiguous to the left bank of the Mahanuddy were, it is believed, at that time attached to Surgooja¹³⁵, with the exception of the north-western portion of the present Sumbulpore district, known as Chundurpore¹³⁶ and Bhorti¹³⁷ which belong to Ruttunpoor¹³⁸.

Subjugation of States and Acquisition of Territory on Left Bank of Mahanuddy

The fourth Maharajah Pirthee Sing¹³⁹ Deo subjugated and made tributary to Patna, the three dependencies of Sirgooja, named Bunaee,¹⁴⁰ Gangpoor¹⁴¹, and Bamra, and annexed to Patna itself by dispossession from the Rajah of Bamra the Zemindaree¹⁴² of Rehracole¹⁴³ and so much of the lands (now) of Sumbulpore on the left bank of the Mahanuddy, as were contained between Rehracole and Bamra to the east, Bamra and Gangpoor to the north, and to the west, by the river Eebe¹⁴⁴ to its sudden bend westward and from thence by a line running south, to the spot at the extremity of the present city of Sumbulpore where now the jail bridge stands.

Erection of a Fort in Phooljhur

Maharajah Bikrumadit¹⁴⁵ Deo, the ninth Rajah of Patna, erected a fort in Phooljhur at Seespalgarh,¹⁴⁶ where its remains are said to be still traceable- a proof of the unflinching authority then exercised over the Gurjhat States.

Acquisition of the Gurh of Chundurpoor

It is probable that the erection of this advanced post in a tributary State had, for its aim, as much the extension of dominion, as the maintenance, in security, of existing dominancy, for no sooner did the next ruler, Maharajah Baijul Deo¹⁴⁷ (2nd) succeed to the Guddee¹⁴⁸, then he advanced to Chunderpoor and forcibly dispossessed the Ruler of Ruttunpoor of that 'Gurh' with its surrounding lands.

There still remained, to complete the circle known afterwards as the '18 Gurhs', first, the three Northern Gurjhat States of Raigarh¹⁴⁹ and

¹³⁵ Surguja

¹³⁶ Chandrapur

¹³⁷ Not known

¹³⁸ Rutanpur

¹³⁹ Pruthari Sinha

¹⁴⁰ Bonai

¹⁴¹ Gangpur

¹⁴² Zamindari

¹⁴³ Rairakhhol

¹⁴⁴ Ib

¹⁴⁵ Birabikramaditya

¹⁴⁶ Sisupalgarh

¹⁴⁷ Vaijal Deo

¹⁴⁸ Gadi

¹⁴⁹ Raigarh

Suktee¹⁵⁰ (dependencies of Sirgooja), secondly, the central tract of land (now an integral portion of the Sumbulpore district) falling between the Eebe and the line drawn therefrom, as before observed, to the present Sumbulpore Jail Bridge, and the Gurjhat State of Sarungurh (also belonging to Surgooja), and lastly the two eastern Gurjat States of Boud¹⁵¹ and Atmullick¹⁵².

It never fell to the lot of Patna itself to include these remaining States and lands within the scope of its authority or possession. The completion of the circle was not effected till Patna had retired from the banks of the Mahanuddy, so far as the mouth of the Ang river near Binka, and a new State had sprung up under its auspices (on the north of the Ang) afterwards known as Sumbulpore¹⁵³. It might therefore seem foreign to the object of these "Notes" as touching Patna to speak of the rise and power of this second State. Nevertheless the advance of the latter was so intimately connected with, and so immediately the result of the dominion of the former and against the decline of the former so direct an issue of the rise of the latter, that it is necessary to trace the History of the extension of power across the Mahanuddy in so far as the grouping of the once known 18 'Gurhs' shall be concerned.

Relinquishment by Patna of Territory and Dominion on the Left Bank of the Ang River. Creation of New State of Chowunpoor¹⁵⁴, Subjugation of other States Dependencies of Sirgooja and Acquisition of further Territory—Erection of Fort of Sumbulpore and Foundation of Sumbulpore State in lieu of Chowunpoor—

Nursing Deo¹⁵⁵, the 12th Maharajah of Patna, and his brother Bulram Deo quarrelling, the former made over absolutely to the latter (probably on compulsion) all such portions of his territories as lay north of the river Ung, the engagement between the two brothers being, that each was to be perfectly independent of the other. Bulram Deo taking possession of his allotment erected a fort on the right bank of the Mahanuddy exactly opposite the present city of Sumbulpore, at Chowunpoor (where to this day the traces of his fort are visible) and adopted the title of Rajah of Chowunpoor. Shortly after this he dispossessed Sirgooja of the dependencies of Suktee, Raigurh, and Burgurh and of the remaining portion, as before noticed, of Sumbulpore and finally included Boud and Atmullick (now Gurjhat State of Cuttack) amongst the number of this tributary Muhals. After this he abandoned the fort of Chowunpoor, and crossing the river erected a new fort on the opposite bank. To this he gave the name of Sumbulpore from the number of Seemul trees that existed then on its site. Then changing his own title to that of Maharajah of Sumbulpore, he founded a dominion which soon took the real ascendancy over the parent State of Patna.

¹⁵⁰ Sakti

¹⁵¹ Boudh

¹⁵² Athamallik

¹⁵³ Sambalpur

¹⁵⁴ Chowanpur

¹⁵⁵ Narasimha Deo

The two States of Patna and Sumbulpore were now distinct and the area of the '18 Gurhs' was now fully embraced; But as yet this number of Gurjhat States with independent Chiefs, tributary to the two paramount rulers of Patna and Sumbulpore were not fully formed.

Enumeration of the 15 'Gurhs' of the Sumbulpore Patna and Group —

The then existing Tributary Gurjhat States attached to Sumbulpore were Phooljur, Sarungurh, Suktee, Raigurh, Bunnaee, Gangpoor, Bantra, Boud, Atmullick and by admission of the Sumbulpore Maharajah, Rehracole. These may be added Chundurpoor retained by the Maharajah under his own immediate authority. In Patna the only dependency was Bindanawagurh. The total therefore of the '18 Gurhs' or Gurjhat States, during the time of Nursing Deo and Bularam Deo¹⁵⁶ Maharajahs, respectively of Sumbulpore and Patna was 15. Wanting to complete were Sonapore in the one case, and Khurriar and Borasambur in the other.

Formation of the 8 remaining Gurjhat States

The necessity of providing for younger sons caused the alienation from the parent States of Sonapur and Khurriar. Thus Sonapore, as far as the left of the river Ang (the land on the right to the Tel river till, as before need belonging to Patna) its chief town being Binka, was constituted independent tributary Gurjhat State by the 4th Rajah of Sumbulpore, who made it over with the title of Rajah to his 2nd son Muddun-Gopaul¹⁵⁷. And again the 15th Maharajah of Patna giving over three 'Gurhs' of the original 8 of Patna, viz., Kholagurh, Goorhagurh, and Koomragurh, to his younger son Gopaul Ray, and the latter obtaining Khurriar as a dowry on his marriage with a daughter of the Rajah of Jaipoor¹⁵⁸, those gurhs merged into Khurriar, and the whole now constituted one Gurjhat State with the title of Rajah.

The last created Gurjhat was Borasambar¹⁵⁹, the present Chief of which owes his position to the cunning and power of an ancestor. Originally Borasambur consisted of eight villages, which went by the name of 'Atgaon', and formed a small Zamindari part of the integral estate of Patna. It is stated that one of the Zamindar of 'Atgaon' having saved the life of a Sambur deer by killing a 'bora' or boar constrictor, which had attacked it, the name of the Zamindari was changed to Borasambur. Notwithstanding the smallness originally of the area of the Zamindari the proprietor was a man of some importance- he was Chief of his caste-man, Bhinjawal¹⁶⁰ and, on the occasion of a new Maharajah being raised to the guddee it was his special duty to take the latter on his lap and hold over his head the turban of State. Again the Zamindar held an important position. His lands were situated

¹⁵⁶ Balaram Deo

¹⁵⁷ Madangopal

¹⁵⁸ Jeypur

¹⁵⁹ Borasambar

¹⁶⁰ Binjhal

along on the north side of the range of hills called Goondamardhum¹⁶¹ which form part of the northern boundary of Patna, and thus he could hold the approaches through those hills to Patna for or against any hostile forces. It would appear that during the first inroads of the Mahrattas, the Zamindar of Borasambur was successful in guarding these approaches. For this service he was granted an extension of property on the Patna side. What the real grant was it is impossible now to say, but when the Maharajah of Patna, in AD 1818 was released from the captivity, in which he had been kept for 14 years by the Mahrattas, under orders of the British Government and replaced in possession of his estates by Major Roughsedge, it was found that the Zamindar had encroached upon a large tract of Patna territory, and it is said had possessed himself also of some 84 villages of the Phooljur Gurjhat. Complaint was made by the restored Maharajah of Patna, and he was forced to retire to his proper side of the hills, a gainer however so far that he retained the 84 villages of Phooljur and was allowed to hold possession of Borasambur with them in his own right from that time as an independent tributary chieftain.

Completion of the 18 Gurhs

Thus then was completed the cluster of the 18 'Gurhs' as follows Patna, Sumbulpore, Sonepoor, Rehracole, Bamra, Gangpoor, Boud, Atmullick, Phooljhur, Bunnaee, Raigurh, Buragurh, Suktee, Chundurpoo, Patna, Sarungurh, Bindanawagurh, Khurriar and Borasambur

Loss to Patna of the Land on the Right Bank of the Mahanuddy between the Ang and Tel Rivers

Before proceeding to notice the ultimate severance and distribution of these States, it is necessary to refer back briefly to the time of Ram Sing Deo, the 21st Muharajah of Patna. This chieftain, having recovered possession of his Guddee from one usurping uncle, after a reign of nearly 60 years, and at the age of 80 was ultimately forced, on a general insurrection, to flee his country. He sought refuge at Binka, the seat of the Rajah of Sonepoor, and fearful of pursuit or treachery promised the latter a grant of that portion of his estate which fell between the Ang and Tel, if he would protect and assist him. The Rajah of Sonepoor was not slow to take advantage of the offer. The son secured to himself the possession of the promised land, but assistance was confined to personal protection. The aged Maharajah, 3 years after died as a refugee in Sonepoor, without blow being struck for his restoration. This insurrection caused the loss to Patna of the last relic of its early acquisition.

Gurjhat States brought under direct supervision of the British Government.

The incursions and depredations of the Mahrattas had now caused the intervention of the British Government for the protection of the Gurjhat States. This ultimately resulted (in 1821) after that Boud and Atmullik had

¹⁶¹ Gandhamardan

been transferred to Cuttack, in the rest being separately disconnected and placed under the immediate control and supervision of British agency.

In 1861 the States of Bonai and Gangpoor were transferred to Ranchee¹⁶², and thus the circle of Gurjhat States becomes reduced to those exhibited in the annexed Schedule (Annexure II).

Summary

To sum up, reverting to Patna, it may be observed that, between the time of its foundation by Ramaee Deo and the reign of its 12th Muharajah, or say, during a period of 340 years, Patna had grown, from a comparatively small State of 8 united gurhs, held by chiefs who each in turn for a day aped supreme authority over the rest to a powerful province extending in territory and dominion for miles across the Mahanuddy to the confines of Sarungurh, and on the left bank from the borders of Athmullick to a line drawn northward from the west end of the (present) city of Sumbulpore falling in with the river Eebe, to Gangpoor, and its authority embracing the Gurjhat States, surrounding these possessions, of Bindanawagarh, Phooljur, Sarungurh, Gangpoor, Bunnaee and Bamra, that by the abandonment of all its property and dominion on the north or left side of the Ang river, it relapsed to the area of its original Gurhs, including the plain between the Tel and Ang rivers, and to the authority over the one Gurjhat State of Bindanawagarh. That subsequently at first alienated 3 of its original Gurhs and afterwards had to relinquish 12 of its most important villages, in return for all which, with additional lands from other quarters, it obtained control over two newly created Gurjhat States, viz., Kharriar and Borasambur. That previously to the last noted relinquishment it had lost the tract of land between the Tel and Ang rivers, and that lastly being brought itself under the direct control of the British, it became deprived of the last vestige of its power, the control of its three tributary States (Bindanawagarh, Kharriar and Borasambur) and thus finally fell into a smaller circle of power and property than that which it embraced when, some 600 years before (dating from the usurpation of Ramaee Deo) it had first sprung into powerful existence.

Such then is the history of the extension and contraction of the territories and dominions of Patna. Like as its first a sacrifice of ground, and of prospect of further advancement was owing to family dissension, so also was the final loss of the last tract of its former acquisitions caused by family dissensions. In the one instance however it was left with the substances of conquest, and the opportunities, from arrested ambition of employing such to the development of its own reserved dominions, but in the other it was brought ultimately to entire ruin. A glance at the present features of the country of Patna, and a brief review of the dissensions that occurred during the time of Rant Sing Deo, and of their results, will serve to explain these last assertion.

¹⁶² Ranchi

Description of the Present Area of Patna

It is calculated that the present territories of Patna contain 5,000 square miles although they are dotted, at distant intervals, with a few small hills, yet it may be stated that they compose a plateau of undulating surface, so peculiarly favourable for the cultivation of rice, the pulses, oil-seeds and sugarcane. There are certainly, besides the few scattered hills, interruption also of gravelly or rocky rises covered with jungle and a few forest trees. But making allowance for the deduction of these from the general area, there remains a vast expanse of culturable lands the soil of which is of a good description.

Present Condition of the Area and Indications of Past Prosperity

Tracts or scrub by jungles have usurped the sites of former fields, and wild beasts now hold domain where once stood the habitations of men. The gurbh of Patna is now the centre of such a jungle, radiating across or say 20 miles in every direction. Close around the 'Gurbh', as distances varying from one to two miles, are about 100 tanks, and in the rounding jungle beyond these, at intervals of four or six miles are said to be the remains of other tanks, with traces of villages, marked, not only by the general certain evidence of planted trees, such as the mango, but also by the unmistakable proof of old broken tiles, and brick foundations of houses and temples. Nor is it alone, immediately around the 'Gurbh' of Patna, that signs of former welfare and former energetic rule are to be found. Turning to the southern portion of the State, in the Kondhan Zamindaries of Torva¹⁶³ and Topa, at Jhoorwal¹⁶⁴ in Torva, at Titoola¹⁶⁵ and Odeypoori¹⁶⁶ in Topa, are numerous ruins of solid buildings, of from one three stories high, and generally through the Kondhan lands are the walls of neglected temples at distance of two or four mile apart. Moreover to prove in some measure the earnestness which formerly existed for developing the country and the respect which is still held for the race of its once energetic rulers, it is to be remarked that the Khondhs of the oldest Kondh settlement at Saintala, claim to have been brought to Patna from Jeypoor by Rumaee Deo, and pride themselves in being still loyal and khalsa subjects of his descendants. Further indication of decayed prosperity and past enterprise might be adduced, and not least this, the innate respectability and intelligence of some of the Zamindars and Gountiahs¹⁶⁷ of old families, but enough perhaps, has been noticed to prove that there is just ground for the boast of the Patna people, that their country was once thickly populated, and flourishing of such an extent that even rich merchants were numbered in it up to the time when anarchy, at first, and the depredations of the Mahrattas afterwards, compelled them to depart. Till the occurrence of these events, which now remain to be noticed it is believed then that the attention of the rulers of Patna, 20 in succession, was given to the welfare and prosperity of their country and subjects.

¹⁶³ Tarbha

¹⁶⁴ Jharial

¹⁶⁵ Titilagarh

¹⁶⁶ Udaypur

¹⁶⁷ Gauntias

Decline of Power and Prosperity

Hiradur Shah Deo¹⁶⁸ the 20th Muharajah of Patna died leaving two young sons- the eldest, named Raee Sing Deo¹⁶⁹, under the guardianship of his younger brother, their uncle, Buckraj Singh¹⁷⁰. This uncle in view to the usurpation of the Guddee, murdered the mother of the two boys and intended to kill also the latter. But he was frustrated in this intention, for the boys were carried off in security to Phooljur by their maternal uncle and there they were brought up. Raee Sing Deo, on coming of age, sought assistance from Nagpore, and procuring a force of Mahrattas, proceeded to regain his rights. He attacked and killed his uncle, and thus obtained possession of his estate. But however much this was beneficial to himself and pleasing perhaps to a portion of his subjects, still the country paid heavily at the time of his restoration, while party spirit and enmity having now been excited, it was to be expected that, an occasion of offering conflicting interests might again stir them to a blaze, and again the plains of Patna having now been opened out to the view of the Mahrattas it might have been regarded as certain that their greed would spend itself on the first opportunity of home dissensions in depredatory incursions. And this prospect was indeed brought to issue as follows: Raee Singh retained his position for many years, but, during this period, he roused spirit of discontent and rebellion was spreading through the land, till ultimately it was brought to burst upon the unfortunate Muharajah then nearly 80 years old, by the intrigues of his second wife. The story is that he had three wives, no offspring by the first, two boys by the second and one son, the eldest of all by the third; the second wife was fearful that the oldest son by the third Ranees would be his father's favourite, succeed to the Guddee unless during the Muharajah's life she should take steps to prevent it. The measures she took for prevention were exciting; a general rebellion which resulted, as before noted, in the flight of the Muharajah Raee Sing Deo to Sonapur. The Maharajah however frustrated the design of his second wife, for he took him with to Sonapur, his grandson, son of his eldest born, and on his death, 3 years afterwards, appointed him his successor, by putting the regular pugree on his head. During these three years the whole of Patna was in a state of perfect anarchy, the Ranees at Patna were quarrelling for dominion, and their partisans were pillaging the country indiscriminately around. Life and property were nowhere secure. All respectable persons fled to Sonapur and were followed by numbers of the general population. On the death of old Rajah the people acknowledged his appointed successor who then returned to Patna. He was however but a youth, and found no one to advise or assist him, except such as bad and hazed¹⁷¹ in the outrages of the interregnum.

Even his father, dismayed at the state of general disturbance, and disap pointment at the preference given to his son, retired on a pilgrimage to

¹⁶⁸ Hiradhar Singh Deo

¹⁶⁹ Rai Singh Deo

¹⁷⁰ Batsaraj Singh Deo

¹⁷¹ The writing here in the Ms is very indistinct and unintelligible

Allahabad and died there. The young Muharajah, Prithee Singh Deo¹⁷² lived only three years after succeeding to the Guddee. The next ruler was Ramchundur Deo¹⁷³ the captive of the Maharattas, who now had completely overrun and split the country already so unhappily ripe for spoliation.

It was scarcely to be expected that, after an anarchy of 3 years and a total disruption of order, under the force of subsequent events that the Zamindars of the frontier, who had been so long reveling in wild independency, would soon be brought back into proper subjection, especially when the power, by entire loss of resource, of the succeeding Maharajah (father to the present one) was almost utterly paralyzed. Still less could it be supposed that, within the short space of the reign of that one Maharajah, the vacuum in the population could be filled up. Yet it is satisfactory to be able to state, that a move towards a clearance of the jungle, and an extension of cultivation was certainly being made and that out of 22 Zamindars four only are complained of and of these four, only one is rebellious.

Description of land tenures

The various land tenures may be thus described.

- 1st Zemindarees (Zami ndari)
- 2nd Gurhoteeahees (Gurhtiahi)
- 3rd Babooans (Babuan)
- 4th Jageerdars (Jagiridar)
- 5th Sendor Teekas (Sinduratika)
- 6th Barhwnoters (Brahmottara)
- 7th Dhurumoters (Dharmottara)
- 8th Home Villages

Classification of Zemindarees

The Zemindarees may be divided into four parts.

Firstly —Those held as Khorak-Poshak by near relatives or the Maharajah.

Secondly—Hereditary holding of Gonds and others in the centre of Patna.

Thirdly—The Bhinjeer estates(Binjhari estate)

Fourthly—The Kondhmals (Kandhamalas)

Khorak-Poshak Estates

Of the 1st part there are two only, but in comparison with the size of Patna and the present resources of the Muharajah they are far too large. One Jhorasinga, is the property of the Muharajah's uncle Jograj Singh¹⁷⁴ and

¹⁷² Prithviraj Singh

¹⁷³ Rama Chandra Deo

¹⁷⁴ Jugaraj Singh

was a grant by the late ruler. The other is an allotment by the present Muharajah to his younger half brother Baijul Singh made however upon pressure of superior authority.

Insubordination of the Two Khorak-Poshakdars

It is of the proprietors of these two estates that complaint has been made, and justly, that they do not sufficiently respect the authority of the Muharajah. This complaint it is hoped will not be of further duration. Jograj Singh, an old man over 80, is a fine specimen of a Rajpoot—Baijul Singh¹⁷⁵ is a worthless drug consumer.

Of the 2nd sort there are Zemindarees the proprietors all respectable and loyal.

The Bhinjeers, or estates of Bhinjwal population, are six in number, lying under the hills of Gondhmardhun and Rabaeedinga which form the northern and north-western boundaries respectively between Borasambar and Khurriar. All the Zemindars of these are subject to authority but one, Salik Ram Burhmyas¹⁷⁶. This man is a reputed harbourer of dacoits—for the last years he has refused to pay any revenue, and has completely thrown off his allegiance. The Muharajah was at this moment advancing with a large force to apprehend him.

There were nine Kondhan estates situated on the southern frontier bordering on Kalahandy, one only of the chiefs of these is said to be slow to obey the Muharajah's orders. He was punished a year ago for such disrespect and as he is decidedly an intelligent man it is hoped that punishment will have good effect. The rest of the Chiefs are under proper subjection, and all are regular in the payments of their fixed revenue, but two who will not admit of a regular assessment but still are ready every three years, when the Muharajah goes himself to them to make him an equivalent present, increasing it even if by chance the Muharajah be accompanied by his mother.

Designation of Gurhotteeahees Jurisdictions

There are 5 Gurhotteeahees, or clusters of villages under the Police jurisdiction of 5 Gurhotteeahees. The pay of these officers and that of the pikemen under them, is met by service lands out of one or more of the village or villages in which their headquarters are located. The circle of a Guhotteeahee jurisdiction does not only include such service paying villages, but also contains home villages and rent free tenures. For instance (referring to the schedule attached to these notes), Salabatha¹⁷⁷ is noted as one

¹⁷⁵ Vaijal Singh

¹⁷⁶ Salik Ram Bariha

¹⁷⁷ Salebhata

village. But the Gurhotteeahee is resident and deriving his pay in land produce there has police authority over 21 other villages of which 5 are Khalsa, 6 Rent free, and 10 Jhageers.

Number of Tenures held by Baboos or Connections of the Muharajah

The Baboos are 3 in number; of these one is rent free, another at nominal rent, the third peppercorn.

Number of Jagheerdars

The Jaghreedars 27 in number are held by illegitimate offsets or distant relatives or friends of the Muharajah.

Villages held by Ranees

The Sendor Teekahs are the marriage portion of various Ranees and amount to 19 villages.

Grants to Brahmins and Endowments to Temples

The Burhomoters and Dhurumoters are grants and endowments to Brahmins and temples. The former at 2 festivals according to a scale present the Muharajah with a golden *jineo* (Brahminical thread) of a rupee in value, and one cocoanut.

Number of Home Farms

The Home farms in consequence of the absorbing proportions of the Khorak Poshak tenures, amount only to 38 in number.

Revenue and Expenditure

The Revenue derived from the whole estate by the Muharajah at this present time is shown in the annexed schedule to be Rs. 8,823.

Out of this he has to pay Peshkush	Rs. 600
Sums income fixed	Rs. 1,000
Body Troops	Rs. 1,000
Total	Rs. 2,600

Land Produce

The produce of Patna consists of Rice-paddy, khooltie, Til, Mung, Goor, Castorseed, Linseed, and Cotton, Rice-paddy is only grown in sufficiency for home consumption. There is a small export of the remaining produce in cotton to about the extent of 1,200 maunds.

Castes

The Castes inhabiting Patna are Kondhs, Bhooleahs, Bhinjuals, Keunts, Gonds, Telees, Souras, Ghasees, Khooltas, Gours, Agurias, Soondees, Gandas

Condition of the Gurjhat State

From all that could be gathered from the village holders and Zamindars it would appear that Patna is in a quiet and peaceable state. Cattlelifting is not uncommon and house breaking occasionally perpetrates but it does not appear that dacoitees or other heinous offences are prevalent except it may be near Ramoor where a dacoitee was reported a short time back.

MAJOR H. B. IMPEY
Deputy Commissioner

Annexure I

Genealogical Tree of Muharajahs of Patna

Rajahs of Sambargurh

- 1 Richpal Sing (1)
- 2 Bhab Sing
- 3 Dalbhunju Sing
- 4 Bahan Sing
- 5 Bhan Sing
- 6 Nath Sing
- 7 Kurun Sing
- 8 Bhun Sing
- 9 Soor Sing
- 10 Dheer Sing
- 11 Chutturpaul Sin
- 12 Ukhaee Sing (1)
- 13 Pritheee Sing
- 14 Oujo Sing
- 15 Kaisaree Sing (1)
- 16 Murkut Sing
- 17 Jai Sing
- 18 Bulwunt Sing
- 19 Pudun Sing
- 20 Richpal Sing (2)
- 21 Nursing Sing
- 22 Sumoondur Sing
- 23 Uchit Sing
- 24 Govind Sing
- 25 Kaiseree Sing (2)
- 26 Duswant Sing
- 27 Ukhaee Sing (2)
- 28 Dip Sing
- 29 Dhoul Sing
- 30 Nag Sing
- 31_Hutumbur Sing

Rajahs of Patna

- 1 Rumaee Deo (Ramai Deo)
- 2 Mahaling Sing
- 3 Bajjal Deo (1)
- 4 Buckraj Deo (Vatsaraj Deo)
- 5 Bhojraj Deo
- 6 Purtab Roodra Deo (Prataparudra Deo)
- 7 Bhopal Deo (1)
- 8 Nagsing Deo
- 9 Bikuramadit (1) Bikramaditya Deo
- 10 Bajjal Deo (2)
- 11 Bujur Heeradhar Deo (1) (Bajra Hiradhar Deo)
- 12 Nursing Deo

- 13 Chutturpal Deo (Chhatrapal Deo)
- 14 Baijal Deo (3)
- 15 Hirdai Narain Deo (1) (Hruday Narayan Deo)
- 16 Purtap Deo
- 17 Bikramadit Deo (2)
- 18 Mukund Deo
- 19 Balaram Deo
- 20 Herdanarain Deo (2) (Hruday Narayan Deo)
- 21 Raeesing Deo (Raising Deo)
- 22 Pirthee Raj Sing Deo (Prithvira Sing Deo)
- 23 Ram Chandra Deo
- 24 Bhopal Deo (2)
- 25 Bhujjur Heeradthur Deo (2) (Bajra Hiradhar Deo) Present Rajah

Annexure II
List of the Gurjhat States attached to Sumbulpore in 1861

Sl. No	Name of Gurjhat State	Name and Caste of present Chiefs	Remarks
1	Patna	Bhujjur Heera Dhur Deo, Muharajah, Caste Chowan	Originally a cluster of 8 united gurhs the chiefs which took it in turn to rule for a day under the title of Rajah was formed into one compact state under one paramount ruler Muharajah about 600 years ago by Ramaee Deo a Rajput who derived his origin from a race of western Rajput Rajahs.
2	Bindana-Yagarh (Bendra Nawagarh)	Rajah Oomraosai, Caste Gond	Was an independent Tributary state of Patna from the first
3	Kharriar	Rajah Bussoon Chander Sing, Caste Chowan	Was constituted into an independent tributary State with title of Rajah by Hiradhur Deo 15th Muharajah of Patna for his younger son Gopaul Roy being composed of 3 gurhs of the original 8 Patna gurhs and the area of Khariar given in dowry to Gapaul Roy by the Rajah of Jaipore (Madras Presidency) on his marriage with the latter's daughter
4	Borassambar	Soonder Barhia Zamindar, Caste Binjwal	Created an independent tributary State by Ram Chandra Deo A. D. 1818 with the sanction of the then Political Agent being composed of 12 villages originally of Patna which formed the small Zamindaree called first Atgaon and afterwards Borasambar and 84 villages wrested from the Phooljur State during the inroads of the Mahrattas
5	Phooljur	Rajah Sai, Caste Gond	Was an independent tributary state with title of Rajah from the first
6	Sarangurh	Rajah Sangram Sing, Caste Gond	Was an independent tributary state with title of Rajah from the first

7	Suktee	Rajah Ranjeet Sing Caste Gond,	Originally an independent tributary State of Sergooja without a title was brought under the dominion of Sumbulpore by Balaram Deo Muharajah of Sumbulpore. The title of Rajah was created by Narain Sing last Muharaja of Sumbulpore
8	Raigarh cum	Raja Ghansham Sing Caste Gond	Originally two independent tributary States of Sergoorjah, the first with title of Rajah were brought under the dominion of Sumbulpore by Balaram Deo, 1st Muharajah of Sumbulpore. Baragarh being confiscated in 1833 for the rebellion of its Chief was made over to the Raigarh Rajah by the British Government
9	Bargarh		
10	Bamra	Raja Tribhooban Deo, Bahadoor Caste Chowan	Originally an independent State with title of Rajah, tributary to Sergoojah. It comprised with Modern Bamra the Zamindari of Rehracole and the portion of the lands of the present district of Sumbulpore that lay between Bamra and Rehracole on the east and the river Eebe with a line continued from the bend thereof to the west and of the city (present) of Sumbulpore. It was brought under the dominion of Sumbulpore by Balaram Deo, 1st Rajah of Sumbulpore who deprived it of the Zamindaree lands above noted.
11	Rehracole	Bisson Chunder Jenamonee	Was originally a Zamindaree of Bamra was created a Tributary Gurjhat State of Sumbulpore by Balaram Deo, 1st Maharajah of the Sumbulpore
12	Sonepur	Rajah Nilladree (Niladri) Sing Deo, Caste Chowan (Chauhan)	Was originally a Zamindaree of Patna. Was created a tributary State Sumbulpore with title of Rajah Bansee Gopal Deo, 4th Rajah of Sumbulpore for his second son

H. B. IMPEY

Major, Deputy Commissioner, Sambalpure

APPENDIX II

Events Leading to Adoption of Shri Rajendra Narayan Singh Deo

(This account has been obtained from Raja Aditya Pratap Singh Deo of Saraikela)

Maharaja Sur Pratap Singh Deo of Patna (1866— 1871) had no male heir. He adopted Shri Ram Chandra Singh Deo, the son of his brother Biswanath Singh Deo. Ram Chandra Singh Deo succeeded Sur Pratap Singh Deo to the Gadi of Patna after attaining the age of majority in 1893. Dalganjan Singh, the third brother of Maharaja Sur Pratap Singh Deo, was not happy with this arrangement and he tried to succeed to the Gadi of Patna State. His activities annoyed the British Government who banished him from the State. The order of banishment was, however, withdrawn on representation of Ram Chandra Singh Deo who wanted that his thread ceremony would be performed by his uncle Dalganjan Singh. Maharaja Ram Chandra Singh Deo married the Raj Kumari of Lanjigarh who had been adopted as a daughter by Srimati Biswas Kumari Devi, the third Maharani of Kalahandi and the sister of Maharaja Sur Pratap Singh Deo of Patna. Dalganjan Singh Deo tried to create estrangement between Shri Ram Chandra Singh Deo and his Maharani, as a result of which relation between them tended to be unhappy. A proposed trip of Maharaja Ram Chandra Singh Deo to England could not be materialised as the Maharani, on persuasion of Dalganjan Singh, filed a petition to the Government opposing such a trip. This made Maharaja Ram Chandra Singh Deo greatly agitated and he shot his Maharani to death and himself committed suicide. By that time he had only a daughter named Padmini Kumari who was one and half year old and the Maharani was enceinte. After their tragic end, Dalganjan Singh was allowed by the British Government to succeed to the Gadi of Patna State. Some interested persons vainly attempted to make Padmini Kumari, the ruler of Patna State. This led to embitter relationship between Maharaja Dalganjan Singh Deo and the dowager Maharani of Sur Pratap Singh Deo, who brought up Padmini Kumari under her fostering care.

When Padmini Kumari was about 5 years of age her marriage with Shri Aditya Pratap, Yubaraj of Saraikela was arranged by Maharaja Pratap Rudra Singh Deo of Sonapur and his consort Maharani Amulyamani Devi. The betrothal ceremony was performed and the ceremonial pan was sent to the Saraikela house through Babu Upendra Singh of Banksahi.

The marriage of Shri Aditya Pratap Singh with Srimati Padmini Kumari was celebrated on the 3rd February 1907. Padmini Kumari developed into a talented lady. She was proficient in five languages—Odia, Bengali, Hindi, Sanskrit and English. She had considerable skill in embroidery and oil painting. In later life she exhibited her talent as a poet philosopher. She was

a mother of nine children, six sons and three daughters. Her third child Rajendra Narayan was born on the 31st March 1912.

Maharaja Dalganjan Singh Deo of Patna died in 1910 and was succeeded by his son Pruthviraj Singh Deo. Pruthviraj was very fond of his niece Padmini Kumari and after coming to the Gadi used to take keen interest in her welfare. Once in 1914 on his way to Calcutta, he broke journey at Sini Railway Station and sent for Maharaja Aditya Pratap of Saraikela and his consort Padmini Kumari. He spent the day in company with the children of Padmini Kumari, particularly with Rajendra who was then only two years old. In 1917 after the birth of her fifth child Bhupendra, Padmini Kumari suffered from acute dyspepsia. She was taken to Sambalpur for a change and stayed in the Sonepur House, as the Patna House was then occupied by Maharaja Pruthviraj Singh Deo. Maharaja Aditya Pratap and his Maharani shifted to Patna House on request of Maharaja Pruthviraj Singh and stayed there for a couple of months. A very cordial relation developed between the Patna and Saraikela royal families.

Maharaja Pruthviraj Singh Deo had no issue and he wanted to adopt a son of his brother Patayat Shri Batsaraj Singh Deo. But the first born boy of the Patayat became deaf and dumb and died at an early age. His second child was still-born. Shri Batsaraj Singh feared that his children were dying because of the desire of Maharaja Pruthviraj Singh Deo to take them in adoption. When the third boy was born to him the Maharaja wanted to adopt him from his very birth by performing the Nabhi Chhedan ceremony (cutting of umbilical cord). But the parents firmly refused. Maharaja Pruthviraj Singh Deo had four other brothers but none of them had any issue by that time. So the Maharaja being disappointed to get a son from his own family turned towards the family of his beloved niece, and the natural choice was Rajendra. Pruthviraj Singh was, however, advised to marry for the second time so that the second queen could give birth to a son. He married the daughter of Badalal Harish Chandra Bhanja of Mayurbhanj but no issue was born to the junior Maharani for several years and it was found that there was no possibility of a child on medical grounds.

Maharaja Pruthviraj Singh Deo was constructing a new palace called Badal Mahal. Once he went to see the Palace, while it was under construction, accompanied by his Dewan Jugal Kishore Tripathi and the Agency Engineer Becket. The Maharaja was then very weak due to after-effects of influenza and he was advised not to climb stairs. So the Maharaja remained in the car in the porch while his Dewan and Becket went upstairs to see the construction of the palace. They returned a little late and the Maharaja asked the reason for their delay. They, however, hesitated to say anything to the Maharaja, but being pressed by him humbly told him that

they were discussing so long as to who would occupy the palace after the Maharaja. This greatly shocked him and he decided to adopt a boy soon.

Shortly after that, Maharaja Pruthviraj Singh Deo met Maharaja Aditya Pratap at Patna (Bihar) on the occasion of the visit of the Prince of Wells in December 1921. Pruthviraj Singh told him that his Dewan would be deputed to Saraikela for some important talk with him. Aditya Pratap wanted to know the purpose of the deputation of the Dewan but Pruthviraj Singh only said that his Dewan would tell him the purpose at Saraikela. It was arranged that Shri Jugal Kishore Tripathi, Dewan of Patna, would meet the Maharaja of Saraikela at Saraikela on the 1st January 1922. The Dewan came to Saraikela on the appointed date and proposed to Maharaja Aditya Pratap to give one of his younger sons, either Rajendra or Bhupendra, in adoption to Maharaja Pruthviraj Singh Deo. He wanted to take the horoscopes of both the boys to get them examined by a renowned Pandit of Banaras proficient in Bhrgu Samhita and to choose one of them for adoption. He further said that the education of the boy to be adopted would be the sole concern of Pruthviraj Singh Deo and there would be no interference from Saraikela side. Maharaja Aditya Pratap Singh agreed to the proposal but he put forth the following conditions:

1. That the Government of India's prior sanction be procured for the adoption.
2. That the approval of Maharanis of Patna was to be taken and that they should be present at the time of adoption ceremony.
3. That the adoption ceremony was to be performed at Sambalpur in the presence of the Political Agent.
4. That the voice of the Maharaja of Saraikela be effective in the matters of selection of guards, servants etc., for the safety of the boy to be adopted.

The Dewan accepted the suggestions of the Maharaja and promised to confirm by a letter. He also promised to take necessary steps to procure approval of Government of India for the proposed adoption. The final choice of Maharaja Pruthviraj fell upon Rajendra. Maharaja Aditya Pratap wrote to Political Agent C. L. Philip, I. C. S., informing him all the details of talk with the Dewan of Patna and requested him to procure the sanction of Government of India for the proposed adoption. The Political Agent informed him, as well as the Maharaja of Patna that the Government regarded taking of adoption as a private and personal matter and that no official sanction was necessary for the purpose. He, however, agreed to be present at the adoption ceremony.

It was decided to celebrate the adoption at Sambalpur. On the appointed day, Maharaja Aditya Pratap Singh came to Sambalpur with his family and Maharaja Pruthviraj Singh Deo came there with his Dewan but not with his Maharanis. Adoption ceremony was duly performed in Sonepur House. Political Agent C. L. Philip was also present. After the ceremony was over, Maharaja Pruthviraj Singh Deo and his Dewan told Aditya Pratap that Rajendra Narayan be taken to Saraikela where from he would be sent to the Mayo College, Ajmer to study there under the guardianship of Principal Leslie Jones.

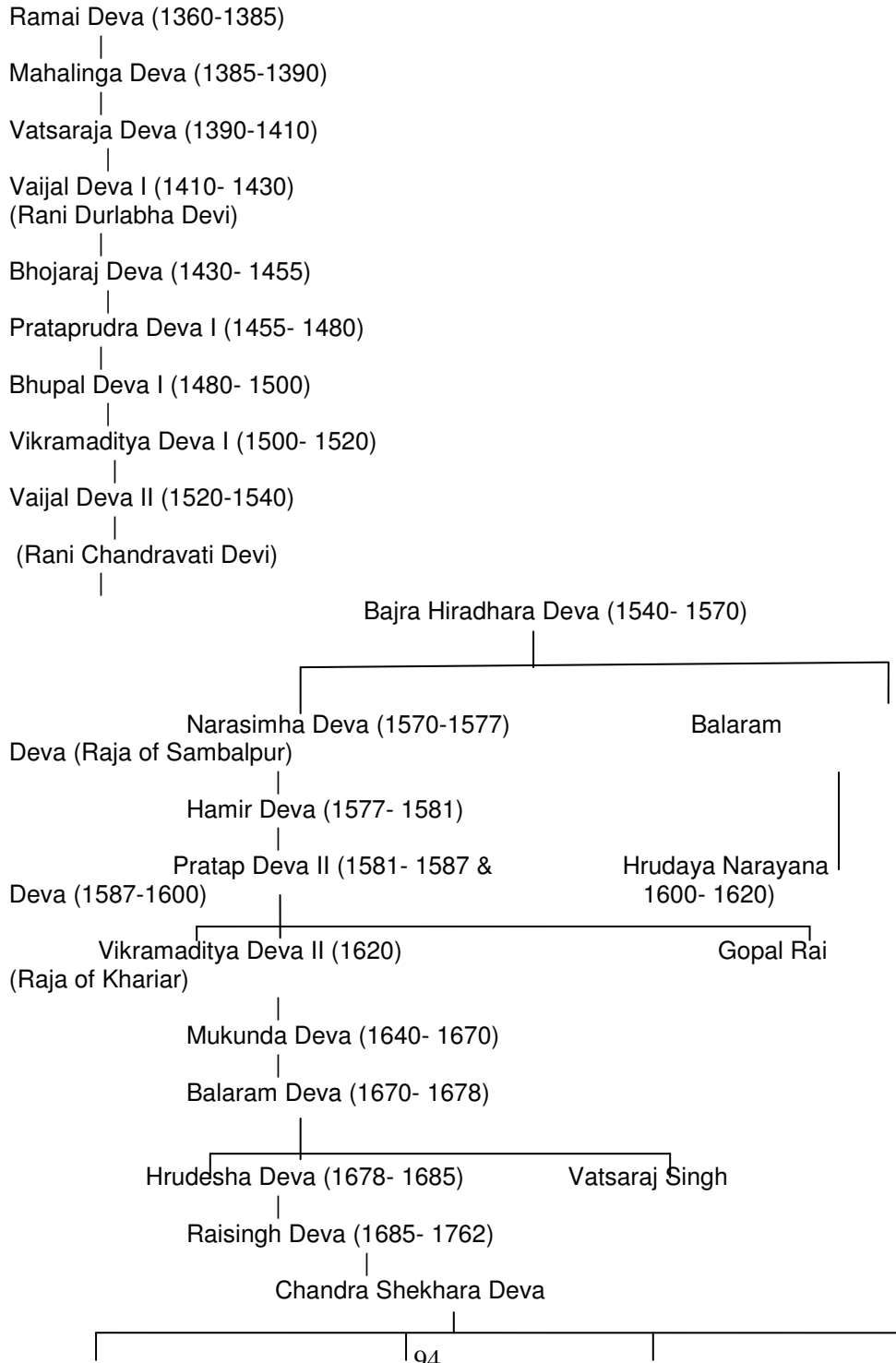
In the mean time, Patayat Sri Batsaraj Singh of Patna put forward the claim before the Government that his son Bhupal Singh had already been adopted by Maharaja Pruthviraj Singh Deo prior to the adoption of Rajendra Narayan Singh Deo and prayed for recognition of Bhupal's adoption. Sir Henry Wheeler, the Governor of Bihar and Orissa, visited Balangir to ascertain the claim of the Patayat. He tried to meet the Maharaja, who however evaded him on various pretexts. Sir Henry examined a Bill in which Patayat Sri Batsaraj Singh had drawn Rs.100 from the Treasury to celebrate the birthday ceremony of his son Bhupal Singh after the alleged date of the boy's adoption. This proved the falsity of his case and on the report of Sir Henry Government of India rejected Patayat's claim and recognised the adoption of Rajendra.

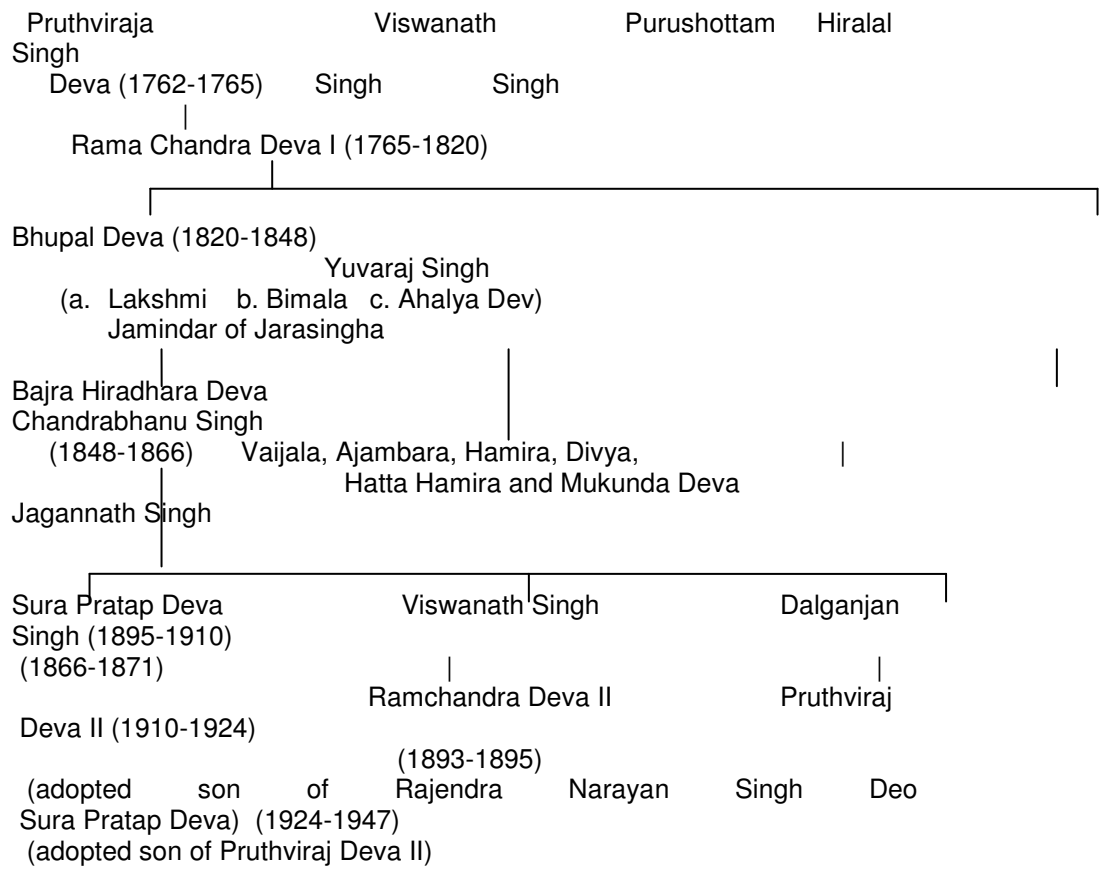
Maharaja Pruthviraj Singh Deo died in 1924. After his death, his Maharanis represented that Bhupal Singh had been duly adopted by the Maharaja and as such he should be recognised as the legal heir for the Gadi. The question of adoption was thus opened again. Maharaja Aditya Pratap requested the Political Agent to arrange an interview with the Governor of Bihar and Orissa. The Governor assured the Maharaja that he would report to the Viceroy and the Governor General his opinion for recognition of the adoption of Rajendra Narayan Singh Deo.

The representation of the Maharanis was rejected by the Government of India and Rajendra Narayan Singh Deo was duly recognised as the adopted son and successor of Maharaja Pruthviraj Singh Deo. Rajendra Narayan Singh Deo was installed on the Gadi with full ruling powers by Sir John Sifton, the Governor of Bihar and Orissa, on the 3rd February, 1933.

APPENDIX III

Genealogy of Chauhan Rulers of Patna





CHAPTER III

PEOPLE AND DEMOGRAPHY

Population

The total population of Balangir district as enumerated in the Census of 2011 was 16,48,997 out of which 8,30,097 were males and 8,18,900 females. The male and female population figures were well-balanced. Out of 3 subdivisions of the district, the Balangir subdivision had the highest population, which was 6,64,974 including 3,36,595 males and 3,28,370 females. Next to that comes Titilagarh subdivision having a population of 6,09,743 of which 3,06,375 were males and 3,03,368 females. Patnagarh has the population of 3,74,280 (1,87,127 males, and 18,71,53 females).

Growth of Population

The statement below shows the growth of population of the district from 1971 to 2011

Year	Population	Variation
1971	1,263,657	+ 18.24 %
1981	14,59,113	+15.46 %
1991	12,30,938	+15.64 %
2001	13,37,194	+8.5%
2011	16,48,997	+23.32 %

It may be mentioned here that Census in the year 1991 was conducted for Sonepur & Birmaharajpur Subdivisions (now comprised Subarnapur district with effect from 01.04.1993). The population figure mentioned above in respect of the Census, 1991 for Balangir district excludes two subdivisions of Subarnapur district.

Distribution of Population- Rural and Urban

There are 5 towns and 1783 villages in the district. The towns are Balangir, Patnagarh, Kantabanji, Titilagarh and Tushra. Total population is 1,97,381 according to 2011 Census. Out of these towns, Balangir and Titilagarh are administered by Municipalities and the remaining three are under Notified Area Councils. Tushra town has been declared as a notified area with effect from 27.05.2014.

Language

Odia is the principal language of the district. The other modern Indian languages spoken in the district are Hindi, Bengali, Gujarati, Telugu, Malayalam, Marwari, Marathi, Tamil, Urdu and Punjabi. Non-Indian languages used in the district are English and Nepali. The rest are tribal languages.

The Odia language spoken in this district is classed with the western variety of Odia commonly known as Sambalpuri. This form of Odia is considerably influenced by Hindi and as such many of the Odia speaking people of this district can speak and understand Hindi even though they are unable to read and write the language.

The script used by the people of the district is the same as in other parts of Odisha. People having a mother-tongue other than Odia follow their respective scripts.

Literacy and Work Participation Rate

A person aged 7 years and above who can both read and write with understanding in any language has been taken as literate. It is not necessary for a person to have received any formal education or passed any minimum educational standard for being treated as literate. People who were blind and could read in Braille are treated to be literates.

A person, who can neither read nor write or can only read but cannot write in any language, is treated as illiterate. All children of age 6 years or less, even if going to school and have picked up reading and writing are treated as illiterate.

The literacy percentage of the district is 64.72. Male literacy is 75.85% and female literacy is 53.50%.

Work Participation Rate

Work participation rate is defined as the percentage of total workers (main and marginal) to total population. The relation between education and work participation has remained a subject of study and research in many fields like demography. In the context of Balangir district, the gender gap in literacy is high and one of the major concerns of the district. Literacy rate of women is low in rural set up due to a large number of drop outs among girls. Educating a girl child is one of the most effective means to counter gender discrimination and to enhance the status of women. They can help in producing better citizens by educating their children properly. Moreover, educational attainment of women is said to be enhancing the women's earning capabilities. Considerable proportion of women workers are marginal workers in the district. Almost 90 per cent of women workers are dependent upon agriculture and 98 per cent of rural women workers are participating in unorganized sector. Nearly 80 percent of rural female

workers are either illiterate or educated up to primary level. Work participation rate of females in rural areas is not encouraging in the district. Casualisation among female workers is high and is on the rise. When occupational structures among male and female in the district are compared, female marginal workers outnumber the males. Out of the total marginal workers of 3,18,374, the number of female marginal workers is 1,80,701. Again, female agricultural workers also exceed the male agricultural workers in the district. The total number of female workers as per 2011 Census is 1,65,719 as against male agriculture workers of 1,65,719 .

The work participation rate of the district as per 2011 Census is 43.7. In rural area it is estimated 45.0 while that of urban is 34.1.

CASTES AND TRIBES

General Structure of Castes

The Scheduled Caste population of the district according to 2011 Census was 2,94,777. The following seven of these castes are numerically important, as they constitute 96.6 per cent of the total Scheduled Caste population.

Name of the Caste	Population
Dhoba	14,453
Chamar, Mochi or Satnami	3,302
Dewar, Dhibar	45,670
Dom or Duria Dom	1939
Ganda	2,01,043
Ghasi	6,625
Mehra or Mahar	3,490

(Survey Report of SCSTRTI, Bhubaneswar)

List of Scheduled Castes (other than the list above):

Adi Andhra, Amant or Amat, Badaik, Bagheti, Bajikar, Bauri, Beldar, Bhata, Bhoi, Chakali, Chandala, Dandasi, Dewar, Dhanwar, Ghantarghada or Ghantra, Ghogia, Godra, Hadi, Jaggali, Kandra, Karua, Khadala, Kurunga, Laban, Laheri, Mala, mang, Mangan, Mundapotta, Naik, Paidi, Pano, Panika, Pantanti, Pap, Relli, Samasi, Sanei, Sidhria, Sindhuria, Siyal, Tamadia, Tanla, Tior .

Some of the castes above are now extinct (i.e. Bhata, Dandasi, Godra, Mala, Relli, Mundapotta and Paidi).

A detailed list of community-wise SC population of Balangir district, Census 2011 is appended as Annexure I at the end of the chapter.

Betra

The chief occupation of the people belonging to this Caste is weaving of baskets made from bamboo and cane. They are tabulated as a Scheduled Caste. They are mainly found in Tarbha, Kantabanji and Patnagarh areas.

Chamar

The Chamars are also tabulated as one of the Scheduled Castes of the district. They make shoes and chapals out of leather. They also tan leather in their own indigenous method. Some of them earn their livelihood by polishing and repairing shoes. The Dhoba and Bhandari do not serve them and the Brahmans do not officiate in their religious ceremonies. Widow remarriage and divorce are traditionally allowed by their caste. They are mainly found in Sonepur, Balangir and Titilagarh.

Dhoba

They are the washermen caste of Odisha. There are two types of Dhobas in this district, namely, Udia Dhoba and Telugu dhoba. Washing clothes of higher castes is their traditional occupation whereas cultivation is subsidiary. Jajmani system prevails among them. They neither accept water and cooked food nor wash clothes of such low castes as Ganda, Ghasi, Hadi, Chamar and others. They are distributed evenly throughout the district.

Ganda

Another Scheduled Caste of the district is the Ganda who serves as drum beaters on the occasion of marriage of other castes. Their subsidiary occupation is manual labour. They purchase drums from the Ghasis and no other caste except the Ghasis accept water and cooked rice from them. Widow marriage and divorce are allowed by them. Brahmans do not officiate in their religious functions. Dhobas and Bhandaris do not serve them. They procure fuel from the jungle to sell in the market. Some of them have taken to cultivation. There are several sections of the caste of which the following are important: Suna, Mahanandia, Dipak, Kumbhar, Tandia, Bayana, Kusa, Chhatriya, Banki, Nag, Bagh, Sika, Luha, Vesra, Jagadala, Varsagar, Ranbir and Bibliar.

Ghasi

They are the scavenger caste of the district and making of drums is their subsidiary occupation. The Ghasis are often found polygamous. No other caste accepts water or cooked food from them. They occupy the lowest stratum of the caste hierarchy. They are tabulated under the category of Scheduled Caste.

Keuta

The Keutas are the fisherman caste of Odisha. They have got two major sections such as Jamatalia and Bharajalia. Most of them have taken to cultivation as their means of livelihood. Their traditional occupations are fishing and boating.

There are several sections such as Gingraj, Keuta, Simli, Dhibara, Jhara and others. The above sections do not practice intermarriage. They are known by the titles of Behera and Pande etc. There are several endogamous clans of this caste namely Bagh, Sethi, Pande, Taria, Donsana, Mahalik, etc. Widow remarriage and divorce are allowed in their caste.

Luhar

The chief occupation of this caste is iron-smelting and iron-smithy. The caste name has been derived from the word 'luha' which means iron. Their subsidiary occupation is cultivation.

Sundhi

They are the traditional distillers and liquor sellers of the district. They are of three types, namely, Kandha Sundhi (Local), Sambalpur Sundhi (from Sambalpur) and Dakhini Sundhi (from South)

At present, most of them have shifted over to cultivation to earn their livelihood. The headman of their caste-assembly is known as Puruseth or Naik. No marriage is allowed in the same lineage and same clan. Widow marriage and divorce are prevalent in their community.

General Structure of Tribes

The tribal population of the district is 3,47,164 in 2011 Census, which is 21 percent of the total population of the district.

The following 8 tribes which are numerically important and constitute 97 per cent of the total tribal population.

Name of the Scheduled Tribes	Total
Binjhal	39,833
Dal	20,405
Gond, Gondo	1,08,128
Khond, Kond or Kondha	92,452
Mirdhas	8,056
6Munda	2,057
Saora, Savar, Saura or Sahara.	50,401
Shabar or Lodha	11,615

(Survey Report of SCSTRTI, Bhubaneswer)

A list of the community-wise ST population of Balangir district, Census 2011 is furnished at the end of the chapter as Annexure II.

Binjhals

The Binjhals inhabit chiefly the south-west of the district. They are the earliest inhabitants of the district. Their traditions associate them with Vindhya hills, and their former home is believed to have been Ratanpur in Chattisgarh, whence they moved eastward in the direction of Borasambar. It is said, their original ancestors were twelve archer brothers, the sons of the goddess Vindhyabasini.

There is an interesting legend current in this district, according to which the mother of the first Chauhan Raja of Patna had taken shelter in the hut of a Binjhal, where she gave birth to the son who was named Ramai. This boy succeeded in getting the throne of Patna and made the Binjhal who had given shelter to her mother the chief of Borasambar.

The majority of the Binjhals of this district are cultivators and the rest are farm servants or field labourers. Those who have settled in the plains have taken to improved methods of rice cultivation. The staple food of the poor consists of roots and Mahua flower. They eat rice on special occasions. Cultivators, however, eat rice in the form of 'Pakhal' (Cooked rice soaked in water).

The Binjhals worship all Hindu deities, and also worship arrows, swords and spears. Bindhyabasini and Nrusinghanath are specially worshipped by them.

The Binjhals do not employ Brahmans in any ceremony, but every Binjhal believes in taking 'Karna-mantras', that is, Mantras whispered in the

ear (Karna). They believe firmly in ghosts or the spirits of the dead, for the soul of any wicked person may after his death become a malevolent spirit.

The marriage takes place after the girl attains puberty. Special facilities are given to young girls on festival days to mix with the other sex. Child marriage is not common among them. Widow marriage and divorce are allowed. A widow is expected to marry the younger brother of the deceased husband. The dead are usually buried but persons of advanced age and rich persons are generally cremated.

Gond

Like Khonds and Binjhals, the Gonds are an important Scheduled Tribe of the district. This tribe is also found in the districts of Sambalpur, Mayurbhanj, Dhenkanal and Koraput. According to the Census of 1951, their total number was little below 4 lakhs in Odisha. The Gonds possess a sound physique, quite well developed shoulders, bulging out chest and have scanty hair growth over the face. They are generally very industrious and active. They speak Odia. Recently they have been integrated into Hindu society as a high ranking caste particularly in the districts of Balangir and Sambalpur.

Keionds (Kandha)

About the Khonds of the ex-Patna State, Cobden Ramsay writes:

The original home of the Khonds is said to have been in the hill tracts of Boudh and Kimedi, and the order in which the successive Khond tribes travelled east and northward and the chief places they traversed on their route through the north-east of Kalahandi in their migration towards Patna are still mentioned in their ancient lore. The first immigration of the Khonds into Patna is said to have occurred during the period of the Gangabansi Rajas, and to have continued late into the period of the Chauhan family. And the fact that some of the present leading Khond families in Patna still intermarry in Boudh and in the tracts said to have been traversed by the Khonds in the course of their movement eastwards, gives colour to their version of the events connected with their early immigration. The Khonds now found in the Patna State have assimilated themselves in many ways into their Hindu brethren. They have taken largely to regular cultivation though at the same time they continue like all people of these parts to practice 'dahi' cultivation. They have adopted the Odiya language and do not take water from or intermarry with their wilder brethren living in the hill tracts of Kalahandi and neighbouring regions.

The process of assimilation of Hindu ideas and customs among this tribe has become more rapid since the time of Cobden Ramsay. The development of communications spread of education and closer association

with urban life have contributed much towards progressive assimilation of the Khonds of district into the Hindu fold.

Saoras

They are believed by some authorities to be a dominant branch of the great Kolarian family of Indian tribes. The language of this tribe has been included by Grierson in the Munda family. This tribe mostly lives in Koraput and Ganjam Agency and it is sporadically distributed over almost all the districts of Odisha. The hill Saoras are not found in the district of Balangir. The plain Saoras inhabiting the district are very simple and straight forward in manners. The principal occupation of this tribe in the district is agriculture. Like the Gonds, the Saoras have also been regarded as a caste in western Odisha and thus have been given a place in the Hindu Society.

Besides SC/ST, there are a few castes which are regarded as belonging to other backward classes. Below is the list of OBC's in Balangir district Aghria, Bania, Bairagi, Bhani, Bhulia, Dumal, Gudia, Kalhara, Khadura, Kostha, Malli, Suda, Teli, Thanapati, Chasa, Kulta, Gauda, Kumbhar, Gandhamali

An account of the important Castes of the district is given below.

Aghrias

The Aghrias are said to be decedents of Bidura of the Mahabharat fame. They claim to have belonged originally to Kshatriya caste. But later on they adopted agriculture as their profession and were regarded as a cultivating caste. They are called Aghrias as they came to Odisha from the Agra region of Uttar Pradesh. The Aghrias are divided into three classes bearing the surnames Chaudhury, Naik and Patel. Their Caste symbol is dagger, but it is differently named for the above three classes. The Chaudhurys call their symbol 'Kull Katar', the Naiks call it 'Qamdarlt Katai' while Meghnadh Katar' is the symbol of the Patels.

The Aghrias do not cultivate onion and do not take meat of goats. They are very conscious of their caste rules and do not accept cooked food from any other caste. They however, take water from the Gaudas. The Aghrias both male and female are industrious. The women, besides helping their male partners in cultivation, spin cotton in leisure hours. Aghrias are mainly found in Balangir, Puintula, Loisingha and Agalpur blocks of Balangir district.

Bairagi

They are recruited from different castes. Begging alms and selling necklaces of beads are their main occupation. They influence people to become Sanyasies by giving 'mantras' and 'dikshas'. They are sporadically distributed in the district.

Bhulias

The Bhulias weave fine cotton cloth. Cultivation is their subsidiary occupation. Although all weavers have the honorific title of Meher, the Bhulias claim to occupy the highest rank among them. According to tradition, the Bhulia came to this region with Ramai Deo, the first Chauhan Raja of ex-Patna State. Non-weaving Bhulias are generally found as middle-men in the field of business and they have profitable money-lending business in many parts of this district. The Bhulias of this district have different Gotras like other castes and having different sections known as 'Bahajit', 'Kutri', 'Hero', 'Karjit', 'Nehar' etc. Previously, child marriage was very common among them. But that practice is no longer found. They do not intermarry with other weaving communities of the district.

Gudia

This caste is named after the word 'One which is made by boiling and condensing sugarcane juice. Preparation of sweets out of 'gur' or sugar is their main occupation. Like many others, people of this caste also have taken to cultivation and service. Members of this caste have the titles of Sahu, Chopdar and Saraf. It is divided into two classes, viz., Udia and Jhadua. Previously interdining and intermarriage were forbidden between these classes, but such restrictions are no longer respected. Widow marriage is allowed among both the classes.

Khadura

Their traditional occupation is to prepare bangle (Khadu of silver and alloy metals). Cultivation is their subsidiary occupation. There is no sub-section under this caste. Formerly, child marriage was common among them, but now it has gone out of practice. Their caste-assembly is known as 'Panchasghara', the 'Parma' occupying the post of headman. The office of Panda is hereditary. Divorce and widow marriage is prevalent among them.

Kostha

Kosthas weave only tusser. They purchase eri-cocoons from the Gandas, who are experts in ericulture. The caste name is perhaps derived from 'Kosa' which means the eri-cocoon. There are two sub-classes of the caste, namely, Laria and Udia. The Larias originally came from the Chhatisgarh region while the Udias are probably the indigenous Kosthas. No intermarriage is allowed between these two sections. They have several clans or bargas, the notable among which are Dhakita, Henduba and Garkata.

Kulta, Sudh and Dumal

These three castes are considered as the agricultural community of the district, their chief occupation being cultivation of land. Dumals are found in large numbers in Sonapur area, while Kultas are an important caste in Patnagarh subdivision. According to tradition the Kultas immigrated from the ex-State of Baudh where they had settled during the wandering of Rama whom they accompanied from Northern India. There is an interesting episode regarding the origin of these three castes. It is said that when Rama was wandering in the forests of Sambalpur, he once met three brothers and asked them for water. Out of the brothers one brought him water in a clean brass pot and as such was called Sudh, meaning 'pure' and the second brother drew water in a pot of leaves from a well with a rope and hence was called 'Dumar'. According to Cobden Ramsay this name is derived from the words *dori* and *mar* meaning the chord of rope. The third brother is said to have brought water in a hollow gourd, and so he was named 'Kulta' which according to the same authority is derived from the words 'Kurita' meaning 'bad mannered'. This episode suggests the connection of the three castes among themselves in Western Odisha. The 'Kultas' are probably an off-shoot of the 'Chasa' caste although they do not intermarry with the Chasas.

Gauda

They are the cowherd caste of the district, and are divided into three sections, such as Jhalia, Nanda and Magadha. According to Cobden Ramsay, the Magadha Goudas rank last, and are probably a recent accretion from some aboriginal tribe. The Nanda Goudas are elsewhere known as the 'Gopapurias' and they claim to have been connected with the family of king Nanda, the adoptive father of Krishna. Little is known about the Jhalia Goudas. It is not possible to say whether they are the same as the Mathurapur Goudas found in other districts of Odisha. The traditional occupation of the caste is tending of cows and selling milk products. Some of them have shifted over to agriculture as their primary occupation, while some others have adopted the profession of supplying water for domestic use among higher castes. The Gouda women go round to sell milk and milk products. They do not work as field labourers.

Kumbhar

They are the potter caste of the district. Their caste name is derived from the word 'Kumbha' which means an earthen pitcher. Two classes of Kumbhars, viz. Jharua Kumbhars and Udia Kumbhars are found in the district. Jharua Kumbhars are those who belong to the forests and are inferior in social status to the Udia Kumbhars.

Bhandari

They are the barber caste of Odisha. There are three types of Bhandaris in the district, namely, Udia Bhandari, Jhadua Bhandari and Telugu Bhandari. The Udia Bhandaris are superior to other two classes in matters of social status. Telugu Bhandaris who have settled in the district are said to have come from the south. The Bhandaris are known by several titles, such as, Barika, Dakua, Bej, Behera and Tarasia. There are several Gotras under the caste, e.g. Nagesa, Kasyapa, etc., and Gotra exogamy is strictly followed by them. The above three sections generally do not intermarry. Widow Remarriage and divorce are allowed. All upper castes accept water from the Udia Bhandaris but not from the Jhadas. Panch is the headman of their caste assembly. Their primary occupation is haircutting, shaving and paring of nails. Cultivation is their subsidiary occupation.

Teli

Oil-pressing and selling of oil are the traditional occupations of this caste. Two classes of Telis live in this district, viz., Haldia Teli and Ekbalidia Teli. The Haldia Telis sell *haldi* (Turmeric) and hence they are so named, while the Ekbalidia Telis derive their name from the fact that they employ one ox (Ek-balad) instead of two or more while pressing oil. Cultivation is the subsidiary occupation of this caste. Widow marriage and divorce are allowed among them. Like many other castes the Telis have also their caste assembly to adjudicate minor social offences.

Brahman

The Brahmans, though not in a majority, form the most influential caste in the district. Before the abolition of intermediaries, they were holding several villages as *Muafi* and also enjoyed *Muafi* lands in several villages which they got as grants from rulers. Some of them were also carrying on money-lending business. There are broadly four types of Brahmans in the district, namely, (1) Jhadua, (2) Udia, (3) Sarua, (4) Halua. The Udia section of Brahmans claim to be the same as the Utkal section and their traditional occupation is to officiate as priests at religious rites and functions of other castes. Their subsidiary occupation is agriculture. In the past, no intermarriage was allowed among these four sections. Divorce and widow remarriage are not allowed by any of them.

Karan

The Karans are found in a small minority in this district. They are generally engaged in service although many of them are at present carrying on business. Widow Remarriage and divorce are not allowed in their caste.

In this district they are known by the titles of Das, Pattanaik, Bahidar, Mohanti, etc.

Religious Beliefs

Among the religious communities of the district mention may be made of the Hindus, Christians, Muslims, Jains and Sikhs. Besides, there are some Buddhists whose number however is very negligible. The number of persons professing Hinduism is 1,060,237 of whom 530,114 are males and 530,123 females. The next in numerical order are the Christians who are 5,071 (2,402 males and 2,669 females). The Muslims who come next are 2,364 (1,117 males and 1,247 females). The number of Jains and Sikhs are 732 (399 males and 333 females) and 259 (176 males and 83 females), respectively. There are only 13 (7 males and 6 females) Buddhists. People belonging to other religions are only 10 (4 males and 6 females).

The religious communities in the district are tolerant and have friendly feelings for one another. In the towns of Balangir and Sonepur the Hindus and the Muslims have very close social relations. The Hindus are seen taking part in Muslims festivals like Muharram and the Muslims in Hindu festivals like *Dussehra*.

Christianity

The Christians of the district mainly belong to the Baptist Mission (Protestant) and they are mostly concentrated in Balangir subdivision where as many as 3,587 of them are found. Many of them are tribal people like Kondhs and Binjhals. The missionary activities started in the ex-State of Patna in 1893 during the rule of Maharaja Rama Chandra Deo III. The first mission centre was established at Loisinga in 1897 and the centre at Balangir was opened in 1911. From a modest beginning the activities of the mission extended rapidly and there are at present 87 churches in the district. The main activities are found in the sphere of education. In 1838, attempts were made for adult literacy and at present twenty adult literacy centres are running in different parts of the district.

Hinduism

So far as the tribes are concerned, most of them belong to the Hindu fold, but each tribe is having its specific faith and they all believe in totemism, sorcery and polytheism.

The Hindus worship various gods and goddesses as in other parts of India. But different castes are found to be attached to different deities although communal worship is observed for some important gods and goddesses. Deities like Durga, Mahalakshmi, Siva and Vishnu are commonly worshipped by all the Hindus. Besides these deities there are,

separate caste gods or goddesses, a few instances of which are presented below.

The Goddess Maheswari is worshipped by the Khaduras, the bangle-makers of the district. She is worshipped on the Dussehra festivals when she is appeased by special sacrifices. People of this caste offer worship to Siva and Vishnu with equal devotion.

Nitaidhobani is the caste goddess of the Dhobas, the washermen of the district. They believe that she inhabits the bank of the tank on which they put their stone for washing clothes. On the occasion of Nabanna (eating of the new paddy crop), ceremonious offerings are made to her. The Dhobas are more or less Vaishnavite and worship lord Krishna and Vishnu. They also believe in the presence of spirits, ancestral cult, ghosts, black-magic and sorcery. Except marriage and funeral rites, other ceremonies are performed by them without the help of priests.

The Naria Gaudas (a section of the cowherd caste) of the district worship deities like Patkana, Kanavaora, Mahalakshmi, Kalisunciri and Mirchu. They do not require Brahmans to officiate in their religious festivals. They also believe in black-magic, sorcery and ghosts and at times practice exorcism of ghosts and demi-gods. Some of their village deities are Kalka, Gangadi, Thakurani, Jadain, Donger, Muili and Bhima. Their forest deities are known as Donger Devta, Dhanpachen, Tengrabamni and Jadenguda. The man who exorcises the ghosts and spirits is known as Gunia and one who officiates at religious function is known as the Dehuri.

The important deities of the Sundhis, the traditional brewers of the district, are the Dwarseni, Patamaheswari, Samalei and Rakatmalei. At the time of calamities, they seek help from these goddesses and propitiate them at intervals by sacrificial offerings. They worship their ancestors' spirits and make annual offerings of *panda* to them like other higher castes. They have also their Dehuris who worship the village deities or the Gramadevatis known as Bugulen and Gangadei.

The goddess Banjari, also known as Chandi and Ghantaseni, is worshipped by the barbers (Bhandaris) of the district. Their village deities are called Bastrani and Thuntimonli. Like other higher caste people, the Bhandaris perform Lakshmipuja on every Thursday in the month of Margasira, Mangala puja on every Tuesday in the month of Chaitra and such other performances as Janmastami and Ekdasi.

The Gandas, one of the Scheduled Castes of the district, regard Mangala as their highest goddess and also believe that she has seven sisters known as Satabahen. The forest god is known as 'Thardevta' and 'Banjardevta'. The deities of mountains are known as 'Budhapahar', 'Dongardevta' and 'Grambati'. They believe in Dharmadevta (the sun-god),

Basumata (the earth-goddess), Masandevta (Chandi) and the ghosts, such as Bhuta and Petni. If adult men die before marriage, they are believed to become Dangua, a type of ghost in after life. Cock sacrifices are offered to Mangala and well-to-do persons offer Buka or castrated goat as sacrifice. Their village deity is known as Thanapati.

Udayaparameswari is the popular goddess among the Kosthas, the weavers of Tusser cloth in the district. Biswakarma is their vocational deity and Samaleswari and Budhei are the village deities. They worship both Siva and Vishnu. `Aguandevta' is their forest-god. The head man of the house or the 'Sian' worships gods and goddesses. There are 21 types of deities of small-pox of which Kolthia,, Gundi, Sindhiri, Mugia, Pudamatu, Motijhara and Milimila are important. If anybody suffers from small-pox the deities are appeased by offering of milk, flower and incense.

Chaurasi, Samalei, Barlordevta and Thakurani are the important deities of the Keutas, the fisherman caste of the district. Gangamata is their water deity and there are some other deities whom they worship at home. They believe in the existence of black-magic, sorcery and call for the assistance of Gunias of other tribes for exorcising ghosts and evil spirits. Worship of Krishna, Siva and Hanuman are made according to individual attitude.

The Bhulias are a weaving caste of the district who regard Samaleswari as their highest goddess and Biswakarma as the vocational deity. They also worship a number of gods and goddesses namely Hadmai and her consort Had Gopal, Dhanmai and her consort Dhan Gopal, Kansalei and her consort Budharaja. Dasmati, the ten sisters and Satbahen, the seven sisters are worshipped by them. They believe in spirits called Dahaka and Matia.

Manners and Customs

Customs Connected with child-birth

Among most of the castes, the pollution connected with childbirth continues for a period of seven days. This pollution is known as `Chhutia'. On the sixth day of child-birth, they worship the Sasthidevi, i.e. goddess of fate, believed to be the guardian deity for the child. On the 21st day, Ekoisa or name-giving ceremony is performed. The name is generally suggested by an astrologer who fixes it by getting the first letter of the name from the child's zodiac signs. On that day, well-to-do persons arrange feasts which are attended by agnates as well as friends. The name-giving, first hair-cutting, as well as the ear-boring ceremonies are performed from the first to sixth year of the child.

In a Brahmin family, an elderly woman cuts the umbilical cord of a newborn baby by means of a knife or a piece of broken earthenware. The birth

pollution continues for a period of 21 days and during this period priestly functions are restricted. Sasthidevi is worshipped on the sixth day and the name-giving ceremony is held on the 21st day.

In a Dhoba family on the occasion of child-birth, the umbilical cord is severed by an old lady of the family. The birth pollution is taken to be over when the stump of the cord falls between 6 to 9 days of the birth. On 12th day they have their sacred bath and new earthen pots are allowed in the kitchen for the purpose of cooking. On the 21st day (Ekoisa) the name-giving ceremony is performed.

Among the Naria and Gaudas, the customs and manners connected with child-birth are quite different. The umbilical cord is cut by means of a broken piece of earthenware. The placenta, etc, are put under a pit dug in a nearby garden. The mother and the new-born baby are kept in a secluded hut till the navel stump falls off. The final purification ceremony is observed on the 21st day when a name is given to the child. Generally grand-father and grand-mother attend the function and bless the child. On the occasion, the mother, as well as, the baby is given new clothes to wear.

In a Bhandari family, the midwife or an old woman of the locality cuts the umbilical cord of the baby. Placenta, etc., are put under a pit generally dug at the spot where the child is born. They are not buried carelessly outside the house as they believe that catastrophe may befall the child and the mother if the placenta, etc. are eaten up by animals. On the 5th day, an interesting ceremony called 'Panchuati' is performed. The pollution continues for a period of 12 days and the 12th day ceremony is named by them as 'Barajatra'. On the 21st day, Ekoisa ceremony is observed and a name is given to the baby. A feast called 'Suklabhoji' may be offered to friends and relatives on that occasion. Outsiders coming to attend the feast bless the child and offer presents. In well-to-do families, the exact time of birth and zodiac signs, etc., are recorded by maintaining a horoscope which is prepared by an astrologer.

Among the Bhulias of the district, the pollution (Chhutikia) connected with child birth continues for a period of 6 days. Name giving ceremony is performed on the 21st day. There is no elaborate ceremony connected with 1st hair-cutting or ear-boring ceremonies.

Mortuary Rites

The Brahmins generally cremate the dead body. A string cot is laid upside down and the corpse is placed on it and carried by relatives to the cremation ground. A piece of new cloth is wrapped over the dead body, and fried rice, cotton seed and flowers are generally strewn on the road while carrying it for cremation. A man from Dhoba caste accompanies the party with his axe to cut the firewood for the purpose of cremation. The barber

shaves the corpse before it is cremated. The funeral pyre is kindled by the eldest son who applies fire to the mouth of the deceased and in his absence it is performed by any other son. The ritual is known as 'Mukhagni'. The man who performs it keeps his sacred thread over the right shoulder. *Pinda* is offered at the spot. A Brahmin of another family officiates over the function. After 'Mukhagni' the eldest son immediately leaves the cremation ground and having a dip in the tank returns to his house. The persons who accompany the dead to the cremation ground return home after washing themselves. They are known as 'Bahampurja Samaja Bhai'. An incense of fried rice (Khai) and neem leaf is then prepared for their purification. And the clothes used by them are washed by the household Dhoba. No cooking is allowed for that day in the house of the deceased. On the 3rd day a small hut is built near a tank and food in a new earthen pot is offered to the spirit of the dead. On the 10th day, shaving and nail paring are done and on the 11th day, non-vegetarian food which is restricted during the period of mourning is allowed to all concerned. On the 12th day, *Sudda Bhoji* (purification feast) is offered to friends and relatives.

Among the Dhobas, the corpse is either buried or cremated if the person concerned can afford it. The corpse is carried on a string cot kept upside down. During the period of mourning the relatives of the deceased are not allowed to touch fish or meat. On the 10th day, 'Sradha' and 'Pinda' are offered in the name of the deceased and ceremonial haircutting, shaving and paring of nails are performed. On the 11th day, the members of the family are allowed to take fish and on 12th day, feast is offered to friends and relatives. The man who first applies fire to the dead body is entitled to perform the *Sradha* ceremony.

Among all other non-tribal Hindus of the district the manners and customs connected with the funeral rites conform to the general Brahminical rites. Muslims and Christians bury the dead and perform mortuary rites according to their respective customs.

New Religious Movement

In the later part of the 19th century, a new religion named Kumbhipatia appeared in the district. The preacher of this religion was Bhima Bhoi, an illiterate Kandha of Rairakhol who was a disciple of Mahima Gosain, the propounder of Mahima religion in Odisha. The Kumbhipatia faith is a branch of Mahima religion. The followers of this sect wear the bark of the Kumbhi trees from which the sect is so named. They regard the cow as a divine animal and the cow dung as having purifying properties which they use unsparingly on religious occasions. They condemn the caste system although they take cooked rice as alms from people of all castes except those belonging to the Brahmin, Kshatriya, Dhoba Bhandari and Harijan

castes. They decry idolatry and in fact, in 1880 a large number of Kumbhipatias, led by Bhima Bhoi himself, marched all the way to Puri to challenge the worship of Jagannath. The aggressive Kumbhipatias had a clash with the Pandas of Jagannath temple at the temple gate where a large number of people were injured and one succumbed to death. Peace was restored by the intervention of Police. Bhima Bhoi came back to Sonapur and founded a monastery at Khaliapali close to that town. He spent the later part of his life in composing philosophical works and Bhajans (songs of prayers) which he was dictating to his disciples. Khaliapali became a place of pilgrimage and Bhima Bhoi was honoured as a prominent preacher in the area. He, however, married two wives declaring that he would create one son and a daughter who would be two ideal personalities in the world. In fact, a son and a daughter were born of the two wives and they were named as Kapileswara and Lavanyavati, respectively. BhimaBhoi died at Khaliapali in 1895 and was entombed in the compound of the monastery. His tomb is being honoured by the people of the district and by both Kumbhipatias and non-Kumbhipatias alike. Kapileswara and Lavanyavati led a staunch religious life at Khaliapali and died a few years back.

Social Life

Property and Inheritance: Family system, matriarchal system and other forms of inheritances:

Except among Bengalis all Hindus are guided by Mitakshara law of inheritance as amended by the Hindu Code giving daughters equal right with sons in the father's share of the ancestral property. The eldest son gets an additional share on account of his obligation to perform the Sradha of the father. Bengalis follow Dayabhag Law.

Joint family system is common among Hindus. But this system is fast disintegrating.

Those who are issueless generally adopt sons with the object of perpetuating the lineage and the adopted son is entitled to inherit the property of the father. Matriarchal system does not exist in the district.

Marriage and Customs

Monogamy, Polygamy and Polyandry

Monogamy is commonly followed by all sections of people. When the first wife proves sterile or suffers from incurable disease the husband can take another wife. Keeping of concubines is also not widely practiced and it is found only among some rich people. In majority of such cases women of lower castes are generally kept as concubines. The system of polyandry is unknown in the district. The children of concubines are not entitled to inherit

property. This system finds little appreciation in the society and people having concubines are generally looked down upon.

Traditional Restrictions on Marriage Alliances:

In Hindu society marriages between near relatives are avoided as far as possible. The institution of marriage is characterised by certain fundamental rules and conventions, codified or uncodified. Among many castes, marriage within the same gotra is also strictly prohibited. But marriage with the maternal uncles's daughter is permitted among certain castes in the district.

Muslims and Christians have their own law regarding marriage.

Marriage, Customs and Rituals

Rituals connected with marriage in all Hindu castes are mostly alike, but they vary according to the status of the parties. Before the marriage negotiations or before fixing of the auspicious day and time for marriage, some castes have the system of bride price (Harja) which is paid by the groom to the bride's father or guardian.

In many castes negotiation is taken to be finalised when the bride's party receives presents consisting of a piece of sari, bangles and sweets from the groom's party and this function is known as 'Kanya-pindhani'. The day preceding the marriage is known as 'Mangalana', and on that day both the bride and the groom in their respective houses annoint themselves with turmeric and oil and take sacred bath. Seven married women (Satabhuasuni) perform this ceremonious bath and the function is called 'Ganasnan'. On the appointed day the groom with his father, friends and other relatives goes to the bride's house where marriage ceremony is performed. Honeymoon is observed on the 4th day of marriage in the groom's house.

Among Brahmins, Karans and other higher castes the marriage rituals are elaborately performed.

Some castes besides the usual rites perform a symbolic marriage known locally as 'Thulbiha'. The maternal uncle of the bride keeps some flowers in a pot and the groom before marrying the bride marries the flower which symbolises her.

Among the Gandas, the groom makes some presents called 'PindhaiVara' comprising two pieces of cloth, oil, turmeric, bangles and sweets. They call the bride price 'riaithi-mula' which at times goes as high as hundred rupees. On the first day of marriage, the Gandas worship a branch of Mahul tree which represents prosperity.

Among the Kosthas, negotiations of marriage are known as 'Radbadal'. The bride-price among them ranges from ten to forty rupees. After negotiation, presents are given to the bride which includes ornaments like Katuria, Banduria, bangles, waist chains (gunchi) sari, etc.

The Binjhals perform adult marriage. Marriage among them is fixed by a queer custom of rice grain-divination. If they get auspicious signs from it, the marriage is fixed. Their marriage rites are not so elaborate as in the case of many other castes.

Dowry system is not prevalent in the district. The bride, while coming to the house of the groom, brings articles of common use and ornaments and dresses, indicative of her starting a new home. The groom on this occasion is not to make any demand and the value of the articles brought by the bride depends on what her father can afford. And such articles are generally exhibited before friends and relatives.

Frequency of Inter-caste and Sub-caste Marriages

Inter-caste marriages are generally not observed in the district and marriage between the caste people and the tribes is almost unknown. Exceptions are, however, found here and there and society is gradually tolerating such cases, while caste restrictions are also becoming more and more feeble. Inter-caste marriage generally does not follow the rites and practices of the caste marriage and it very often assumes the 'Gandharba' form which is generally solemnised by registration.

Marriage of Widows and Divorcee

Widow marriage is allowed by many castes such as Dhoba, Bhandari, Gauda, 'Gudia, Teli, Bhulia, Dumal, Ganda, Ghasi, Pan, Behera, etc. No elaborate ceremony is connected with such marriages. Rituals are performed in case of the marriage of a child widow but in case of adult widows rituals are observed in a summary manner. The widows are mostly found marrying either a widower or the younger brother of their deceased husband. The bride-price for widow marriage is comparatively lower than that in regular adult marriage. This system is called 'Paisamudi'. Many castes like Kultas, Keutas and Goudas have some special rules regarding widow marriage. The widow is not allowed to marry in case she has a baby who is still at the natal stage and is only allowed to take another husband after complete two years of the child-birth or after the baby has been weaned.

Cases of divorce are few and far between. Either party has a choice to divorce, but it is not exercised until and unless reconciliation between husband and wife becomes possible. In all castes and tribes divorce is allowed according to their traditional rules. There are very few cases of

judicial divorce in the district. This trend of divorce is however slowly increasing in numbers in recent times

The principal reasons for divorce are as follows Adultery by wife, Sterility of the wife, Incurable disease of husband or wife, Frequent conflict and quarrel between husband and wife

Rules regarding social customs in many communities prescribe ex-communication and fines for a man who takes another wife without the consent of the first or without divorcing her. In case of a second marriage of the husband the first wife has the liberty to divorce the husband. In case of a woman, remarriage without divorce is not possible as polyandry is not allowed in the society.

Among the tribal, widows and divorced women are free to marry again. Choice in case of a widow generally falls upon the younger brother of the deceased husband.

Economic Dependence of Women and Their Place in Society

Women are not completely dependent upon men and the degree of their dependence varies according to their social status. The women of considerable social status are free to accept service for their livelihood. On the other hand women belonging to higher castes like Karans and Brahmans are dependent on their husbands in many respects. Hats and Bazars in the district are thronged by large number of women of lower and middle class families, who either maintain small shops or make purchases for domestic consumption.

Father is regarded as the head of the family in which male member usually get an upper hand. Now-a-days females are gradually asserting their rights and are claiming equal treatment with the male folk. The spread of education has contributed much towards the emancipation of women.

Prostitution, trafficking in Women, Drinking and Gambling etc.

Prostitution as a profession is not in vogue in the district. It is now illegal throughout the country. Cases of sex crime and adultery are, however, occasionally reported, but trafficking in women is almost unknown. Among Scheduled Castes and Adivasis, country liquor is generally used. Foreign liquor has a restricted market in the district and is only open to those who can afford it. Gambling was widely prevalent in the past and the month of Dussehra was regarded as the month of gambling. This practice is gradually on the deck line due to the attention of the police. At present only minor types of gambling are found particularly in market places.

Communal Life

Pilgrim Centres and Jatras

Detailed description on different pilgrimage centres is given in the Chapter 'Places of Interest'. Important Jatras observed by the Hindus are described below.

Sivaratri

The Sivaratri festival is widely observed in India on the 14th day of the dark fortnight of `Falguna' in honour of Lord Siva. In this district it is observed at many places like Sonapur, Charda, Baidyanath, Balangir, Jogisarda, Titilagarh and Patnagarh. Big fairs are held at these places on the occasion and some of these continue for 3 to 4 days. People from far and wide assemble in these places and observe the festival praying to Lord Siva the whole night without sleep.

Patkhanda Jatra

The village of Jarasingha situated 5 miles from Tusra and two miles from Deogaon is famous for the Patkhanda Jatra which takes place in the month of `Aswina', from 8th to 10th day of the bright fortnight. A man locally called 'Barna' becomes possessed by the spirit of Goddess `Patkhanda' and under that condition he is believed to bestow miraculous boons on devotees. People suffering from mental diseases are brought here for cure and barren women also come here in large number in the hope of getting children by the blessing of Goddess Patkhanda.

Ratha Jatra

Like other parts of Odisha, Car Festival is also observed in this district in the month of `Asar' at places like Sonapur, Balangir, Patnagarh and Bhaliamunda (in Loisinga P.S.).

Nrusimha Chaturdasi Jatra

This festival is observed on the 14th day of the bright fortnight of `Baisakh' at Harisankar, a peak of the Gandhamardan range. This festival is a synthesis of the cults of Hari and Shankar. Large number of pilgrims gather on this day at this place and take their bath in the perennial waterfall. Near Harisankar there is a small village named Dhandamunda where a festival is observed on this very day called Harihara bheta Jatra. It is a very popular festival in this district.

Sithalasasthi Jatra

The festival is held in the month of May end and June 1st week (6th day of the bright fortnight of the Odiya calendar Jestha month). Elaborate rituals are performed to celebrate the marriage of Siva and Parvati which is celebrated for three days. Earlier this was being celebrated in the district in one to two places in Balangir town. This has now been spreading to other localities nearby following the path of Sambalpur and other western Odisha towns where Sithalsasthi is held in a more ceremonious way.

Dhanujatra

This festival is being celebrated in the month of December-January (during Puoshapurnima time). Bhaler is one of the villages near Balangir town where it has been celebrated for last one hundred years. Patkhanda Jatra of Jarasingha is almost the same as the Bali Jatra of Sonapur.

Hanu Jatra

This is also called 'Kalisi Jatra' and is observed on the 10th day of the bright fortnight of 'Wartika'. The village Charda, 3 miles from Biaka, is a famous centre of this Jatra. Besides this, an important festival called 'Chandilipat Jatra' is observed on the full-moon day of Chaitra at Rampur and Kandado Jatra is observed in the month of 'Marghasir' at Loisinga. The latter Jatra is mostly observed by the Gonds of the district.

Folk Dance

Danda Nata

This is mainly a ritual dance and performed during the Chaitra Parva festival in the month of April. After sonic rituals, the dance begins in the evening.

Parva Dance is the first item of Danda Nata. A man dressed in coloured garments (usually a multi-coloured skirt and a tight fitting shirt of local design) dances at the beginning. The dancer places a piece of cloth on the shoulders and holds the ends of it in the front with both the hands. He moves his hands in different directions according to rhythm of the dance. A semi-circular coloured plate, (made of bamboo sticks and coloured cloth) is attached to his back. Dance seems to be an invocatory one, in which steps and movements are of sixteen varieties. Dhol (double sided drum) and a Mahuri (Sahnai) are the only accompanying instruments in this dance.

When the Parva dance is over, the Veenakara enters the arena. He is also dressed in coloured garments. He holds a country-made lute (Veena) after which he has been so named. Actually he does not play the Veena, but the tiny bells attached to it produce the tinkling sound while he moves his hands. He invokes different deities through songs and dances tuned to

various types of movements. When the Veenakara finishes his dance, a male dressed as female, who is locally known as `Thetal (meaning intermediary) enters the arena. After dancing a while, he invites his inmates in local dialect. All of them wear cheap local ornaments and trinkets. After some humorous conversation all of them sing songs in Sambalpuri Odiya, the `Thetal' being in the front. The melody of this dance has now suffered considerably due to the influence of film songs.

Lastly, the Danda dancers enact a story from the Ramayan or the Mahabharat or the Purans through songs and dances. Most of the story songs are excellent composition of the ancient bards of the locality. During the enactment of the story-dance, different characters appear, all of whom sing for themselves and dance. A group of singers also refrains the songs in chorus. The story-dance seems to be a later addition. Perhaps the unsophisticated villagers wanted to have more amusement from the dance for which the latter part was added, which bears resemblance with Jatra performance.

The dance is important from the religious and social point of view. Most of the people obey various religious rites of the dance. This dance continues for a period of 13 to 21 days. The dance is performed by men only. As it is a ritual dance there is no class distinction for participation. The question of untouchability is set aside during the dance period, as some untouchables are generally allowed to take part in it.

Gboomra Dance

`Gboomra' is a typical drum after which the dance is so named. It is a clay pitcher, the mouth of which looks like a cylinder. The mouth is covered with the skin of the monitor lizard known as godhi, and it is played by both the hands. All the dancers play this drum while dancing. They hang it on the shoulders and fasten it tightly on the waistband, so that during the dance it may not swing.

At the beginning, dancers who are all male play with drum and walk happily in a circular pattern. In the middle, two persons playing on big drums called Nisan and Khol conduct the spirit of the dance. After dancing for some time in different forms the dancers make circles and stand in a line after which a singer sings in praise of Saraswati and other gods and goddesses. During the dance songs, drums are not played. When the song is over, dancers dance for some time with various steps and movements. After that, the prayer song Chhanda, Chaupadi and other literary songs are recited. Stories from the Ramayana, the Mahabharata and other Purans form the main source of their songs. Sometimes amorous and humorous songs are sung in Sambalpuri Odiya. Dancers bend, forward and backward, some time

in half-squatting position and sometime fully sitting on the ground. The costume is colourful like that of the Danda and Karma dances.

Dalkhai Dance

This is performed mostly by the teen-aged girls who stand in a line or in a semi-circular form and sing songs which are commonly known as Dalkhai songs. They sing for a while and then dance by bending forward in a half-squatting posture. While singing, they do not dance and the Dhol is played as the only accompaniment, but during the dance, varieties of drums and wind instruments are played. The Thor is a big drum which is played with one stick in the left hand. Nisan, Tanki, Tasa and Mahuri are associate instruments, all of which form a rich orchestra of folk music inspiring and vigorously beating to the movements of the dance. The Dhol player dances with the girls and other musicians sit and play by the side of the dancing place. Most of musicians are from untouchable class. The different movements of the hands, legs, knees and hips are given primary importance at the time of dancing. The dance has no special costume and girls wear their usual clothes. But during the dance they place a piece of napkin on shoulders and hold the ends in both the hands. While dancing they move their hands forward and backward alternately in rhythmic order.

Keisabadi Dance

This is a dance where only men take part, each of them holding a stick two feet in length. They dance in different forms by striking the sticks according to the rhythm of the songs they sing. The leader sings first and others follow him. They sing songs in local dialect and in every stanza they shout 'Haijo'. The main theme of the song is derived from the love story of Radha and Krishna. Most of these are the composition of ancient poets and bards of the locality. Different types of groupings and formation of intricate patterns of movements are the peculiarities of this dance.

Indoor Games

Chhaka

Chhaka is an indoor game popular among the women folk of the district. It is played with the help of 6 pieces of large-sized Cauri shell or their imitations made of brass or bronze and 16 pieces of multi-coloured wooden dots. This is a very old game and is played in different parts of western Odisha including Balangir with local variations. The game is so popular that a complete set of Cauris' and dots is taken by the bride to her husband's house after marriage.

In order to play the game, 4 rectangles connected with each other by a small square in the centre are drawn on the floor. The rectangles are divided into 24 equal squares which are numbered and the dots move in those

squares. Four ladies play the game in which players may act individually or in pairs. The game lasts for hours together and stakes are nominal.

(ii) Ganjapa

This game is popular among the male-folk of western Odisha including Balangir. It is also played in a different form in the districts of Puri and Ganjam. The game is probably named after its inventor Ganja Pada. It is played with cards circular in shape, one and half inches in diameter. The pack consists of 144 cards divided into 12 suits of 12 cards each, six of the suits belonging to Ram's division and the remaining six suits to Ravan's division. Thus the game centres round the famous epic episode of the fight between Ram and Ravan

Recreation Clubs and Associations

Following are the few old recreation clubs in the districts George Literary and Social Club, Balangir, Rajendra Club, Titilagarh, Recreation Club, Titilagarh, Railway Colony Recreation Centre, Titilagarh and Railway Colony Recreation Club, Kantabanji

Numbers of clubs and associations have increased in recent times in Balangir district. These take part in arranging sports, cricket and football matches and other cultural and literary activities. The villages had their own 'Bhagavat Ghar' where people used to assemble after the day's work to hear recitation from epics and Purans and spend the evening in religious discourses and sometimes in gossip. Slowly and gradually this religious practice is being forgotten in villages.

George Literary and Social Club, Balangir

The club was started in commemoration of the visit of King George V and his Coronation Durbar in Delhi on 12th December, 1911. The initiative was taken by Sriram Chandra Mullick, the well-known historian of the ex-Patna State. The club building was constructed at a cost of Rs. 27,714 in 1926 and the foundation was laid by Cobden Ramsay, the then Political Agent. The club had its decline for a period after 1948. It has recently been revived by the efforts of local enthusiasts. The club has a big library and spacious reading room. It provides both indoor and outdoor games and various entertainment facilities.

District Museum, Balangir

In the middle of the 70s, to enrich the rural tourism and culture and to preserve precious antiquities of the rural areas, Government of Odisha proposed to establish district museum in the undivided 13 districts of Odisha. But in Balangir district, the museum could not be established at that time due to some unavoidable situation. District Culture Officer, Balangir and the then



Collector, Balangir took a keen interest for the establishment of a museum at the district headquarter. Subsequently, the museum was established in the year 1995. In the beginning, the District Culture Officer had played a key role in motivating the rural people to donate age old specimens and antique pieces for the museum. Many meetings and seminars had been organised throughout the district for organisation of the museum. A lot of responses had been recognized and people started to donate specimens for the museum. These specimens were collected and arranged in a hall. Then in the year 1996, an independent museum building was constructed out of MP/MLA/LAD and all specimens were shifted to the newly constructed museum building.

The Koshal Kalamandal, Balangir is a leading cultural institution which looks after the socio-cultural activities of the district played a significant role in formation of the museum. A building has been constructed exclusively for the proposed museum in Koshal Kalamandal campus which functions from 5th November 2003 onwards.

The museum has collections such as stone sculptures, metal images, metal objects, Jewellery, terracotta, pottery, glass objects, wooden objects, textiles, manuscripts, ivory, miniature paintings, oil paintings, anthropological objects and others. The archaeological collections of the museum though very few in number are yet culturally very important.

The archaeological collections include sitting bull, old bricks, Human figurine etc. The palm leaf manuscript collections of the district museum are more attractive than any other objects of the museum for research scholars. The bamboo made manuscript containers are also preserved in the museum. But the important collections of the museum are the tribal artefacts and ornaments of the local tribes. The wooden objects like Gajabidala are most attractive ones for its intricate workmanship.





The traditional art objects of local areas are fascinating not only for local visitors but also for research scholars. The museum requires further renovation and application of modern techniques of display and preservation for posterity.

Home Life

Types of Dwellings

In rural pockets, Khapar houses are predominant. These houses have slopes with the availability of space there are courtyards and backyards for a house. The plinth of a dwelling house is raised to the height of three to three and half feet above the ground level. The plinth is constructed either of stone-chips and mud or bricks.

The walls are generally made of mud or brick and earth.

In rural areas, `Khapar' houses and thatched houses are predominant, whereas in urban areas pucca dwellings and tiled houses are to be seen. The houses in villages differ considerably from the houses in urban areas.

In urban and semi-urban areas, pucca houses are seen now-a-days with modern amenities, mostly with toilets, water supply and improved

kitchens. In urban areas, lower middle class people prefer asbestos or tiled roof houses. In slum pockets, people prefer temporary houses made up of khapar as roof and bricks. Toilets are lacking in slum areas. However, most of houses even in town are constructed without the view of planning personnel or Authority.

Furniture and decoration

Both in rural and urban areas, well-to-do persons possess furniture like chairs, tables, cots, almirahs, desks, benches, with modern kitchen appliances etc. But in urban areas, people have more advanced amenities of life and better furniture. In a well-to-do family household in urban areas one can find sofa-sets, chairs, tables, almirahs, television, air-conditioner, refrigerator with artistic designs.

Furniture sets of cane, like cane chairs, tables and other cane articles are also found in many households.

Dress and Ornaments

Dress

The costumes of the people of this district do not differ much from those of other districts of Odisha. Effects of modernity and publicity of various brands over TV and Internet have certainly shaped the mind of people over the years in their choice of dresses: both in respect of male and female in age group of 20-40. Designed shirts and trousers are garments used by 70-80 percent of people of various age groups.

Dhoti is the common lower garment of the elder male folks of rural area. It is performed in urban area during festive occasions or marriage function. A dhoti is generally 40 to 50 inches in width and 4 yards to 5 yards in length. Now-a-days, the use of trousers and pajamas in urban areas has to some extent replaced the dhoti.

Sari is the common wear of women. It is a piece of cloth 40 to 50 inches in width and 9 yards to 10 yards in length. It has two colourful and artistic borders lengthwise. In many handloom saris colourful designs are woven into the side ends. Sambalpuri pattern of saris are commonly used in the district. Undergarments like saya, blouse, bodice and brassiers are rapidly coming into use among women in towns and villages. Salwar and Kameez, and other garments like shirts, T-shirts, and trousers are prominent in college going girls.

Ornaments

Various types of ornaments are used by women of this district. The local names of different ornaments are given below.

- (1) Ear Ornaments— Ganthia, Karnaphula, Jhalka, Kanaphasia, Kananoli, Sikla and Bentla.
- (2) Nose Ornaments— Dandi, Panapatriguna, Guna, NakaputkiGulasuna, Phulguna and Notha.
- (3) Head Ornaments— Sinthi, Gojikathi, Gara, Phiriphira and hairpins (Kanta), etc.
- (4) Neck Ornaments— Necklaces like Kantahimala, Dhanniali, Gutimali, Gajamala, Jintia, Khagala, Panla, Patramali, Channali, Chainmali.

These ornaments are made of gold or silver or any alloy metals.

- (5) Arms : Tada, Bahasuta, Bandana, etc.
- (6) Hands : Rupachudi, Kachachudi, Katria, Khadu and KalariKhadu.
- (7) Waist : Gunchi and Antasuta.

These are only made of silver or alloy metals and no gold ornaments for the waist are used.

Now-a-days there is a tendency among women to give up using heavy and massive ornaments. These ornaments are presently in rare use. Present day women in the district both in rural and urban area use little ornament except in ear and neck. On festive and marriage occasions, women are seen with special ornaments of gold.

Food

The standard of diet of people depends upon their economic status. Rice is the staple food of the people of the district. Wheat comes next in importance and the people of lower income group live on millet and suan. Vegetables form a substantial part of their diet. Fish, meat, milk and egg are relished by the men of higher income-group. Fruits like mango, guava and banana are seasonally taken. Milk of cow, buffalo and goat are consumed by many. So far as vegetables are concerned, potato, tomato, cauliflower, cabbage, lady's finger ribbed gourd, snake gourd, sweet gourd, pumpkin, brinjal, radish and bitter gourd are commonly grown and consumed. Pulses like black gram, red-grain, kulthi and horse-gram, etc. are cultivated for food and fodder.

Various types of sweet-meat, cakes, and pickles are prepared for domestic consumption. Non-vegetarian dishes include various kinds of meat preparations. Some people also take dried fish, crabs, snails and birds of different types.

Tea is popular even in remote villages. In summer, cold drinks like 'Sharbat' and 'lashi' are enjoyed.

Amusement and Festivals

Cinema houses are located at Balangir, Titilagarh and Patnagarh. Theatrical performances are sometimes held on festive occasions. In rural areas, performances like Dandanata, Dhudki dance as well as dramatic performances by amateur opera parties are held.

People of this district observe various festivals which are commonly performed in different parts of Odisha. Some festivals are, however, specially observed in western Orissa. Among these special festivals, Nuakhai, Bhajijuntia and Puajijuntia are the most popular.

The 'Nuakhai' ceremony is held sometimes during 'Bhadra Pada' (August-September) when new paddy of the year ripens. This is observed in every Hindu home and people on that occasion offer preparation of the new crops to various gods and to ancestors after which they take food in ceremonious manner. Both rich and poor wear new clothes and enjoy the day with good spirit and mirth. The ceremonious observation is an expression of gratitude for the new life that they are to experience because of the new crop of the year.

The Puajijuntia and the Bhajijuntia ceremonies are held on the 8th day of the dark fortnight and on the 8th day of the bright fortnight respectively in the month of 'Ashwina'. The former is celebrated by mothers and the latter by sisters wishing long life and prosperity of sons and daughters and of brothers and sisters respectively. On the occasion of Puajijuntia all mothers keep fast for the whole day and night and worship the deity called 'Dutibahana'. On the occasion of Bhajijuntia, sisters worship goddess 'Durga'. New clothes are presented by sons to mothers and also by brothers to sisters.

Laxhmi Puja is performed on every Thursday in the month of Margasira. On that occasion, all houses are decorated with flowers, mango leaves and Alpana painting locally called Jhunti.

Muslims and Christians of the district celebrate their respective festivals.

Annexure I

Community-wise SC Population of Balangir District, Census 2011

Sl. No.	Name of the Caste	Population	Sl. No.	Name of the Caste	Population
1	Adi, Andhra	01	49	Kurunga	
2	Amant, Amat	71	50	Laban	318
3	Audhelia		51	Laheri	01
4	Badaik	10	52	Madari	01
5	Bagheti, Baghuti		53	Madiga	07
6	Bajikar	01	54	Mahuria	01
7	Bari	3	55	Mala, Jhala, Malo, Zala	136
8	Bariki	69	56	Mang	44
9	Basor, Burud	01	57	Mangan	
10	Bauri, Buna Bauri	25	58	Mehra, Mahar	3,490
11	Bauti	06	59	Mehtar, Bhangi	51
12	Bavuri	24	60	Mewar	
13	Bedia, Bejia	36	61	Mundapotta	
14	Beldar	07	62	Musahar	
15	Bhata	815	63	Nagarchi	
16	Bhoi	139	64	Namasudra	61
17	Chachati		65	Paidi	
18	Chakali		66	Painda	08
19	Chamar, Mochi	3,302	67	Pamidi	
20	Chandala		68	Pan, Pano, Buna Pana	91
21	Chandhai Maru		69	Panchama	
22	Dandasi	04	70	Panika	645
23	Dewar, Dhibara	45,670	71	Panka	79
24	Dhanwar		72	Pantani	27
25	Dhoba, Dhobi	14,453	73	Pap	
26	Dom, Dumbo, Duria	1,939	74	Pasi	03
27	Dosadha	32	75	Patial, Patikar, Patratanti	64
28	Ganda	201,043	76	Rajna	01
29	Ghantarghada	59	77	Relli	
30	Ghasi, Ghasia	6,625	78	Sabakhia	
31	Ghogia	129	79	Samasi	
32	Ghusuria	01	80	Sanei	
33	Ghodagali		81	Sapari	04
34	Godari		82	Sauntia, Santia	05
35	Godra	22	83	Sidhria	04
36	Gokha	18	84	Sinduria	02
37	Gorait, Korait		85	Siyal, Khajuria	22
38	Haddi, Hadi, Hari	20	86	Tamadia	
39	Irika	01	87	Tamudia	03
40	Jaggali		88	Tania	27
41	Kandra, Kandara	341	89	Turi	04
42	Karua	14	90	Ujia	
43	Katia	06	91	Valimik	09
44	Kela, Sapua Kela, Nalua	194	92	Mangali	
45	Khadala	161	93	Mirgan	
46	Kodalo, Khodalo			Unspecified	14,423
47	Kori	04		Total	294,777
48	Kummari				

Annexure II
Community-wise ST Population of Balangir District, Census 2011

Sl. No.	Name of the Tribe	Population	Sl. No.	Name of the Tribe	Population
1	Bagata, Bhakta	10	33	Kol	502
2	Baiga		34	Kolah Loharas, Kol Loharas	113
3	Banjara, Banjari	903	35	Kolha	612
4	Bathudi, Bathuri	20	36	Koli, Malhar	35
5	Bhottada, Dhotada, Bhotra, Bhatra, Bhattara, Bhotora, Bhatara	09	37	Kondadora	1,615
6	Bhuiya, Bhuyan	92	38	Kora, Khaira, Khayara	757
7	Bhumia	08	39	Korua	
8	Bhumij, Teli Bhumij, Haladipokhria Bhumij, Haladi	29	40	Kotia	03
9	Bhunja	65	41	Koya, Gumba Koya, Koitur Koya, Kamar Koya, Musara	100
10	Binjhal, Binjhar	39,833	42	Kulis	2,240
11	Binjhia, Binjhoa	09	43	Lodha, Nodh, Nodha, Lodh	54
12	Birhor	12	44	Madia	
13	Bondo Poroja, Bonda Paroja, Banda Paroja	11	45	Mahali	43
14	Chenchu		46	Mankidi	
15	Dal	20,405	47	Mankirdia, Mankira, Mankidi	73
16	Desua Bhumij		48	Matya, Matia	04
17	Dharua, Dhuruba, Dhurva	121	49	Mirdhas, Kuda, Koda	8,056
18	Didayi, Didai Paroja, Didai		50	Munda, Munda Lohara, Munda Mahalis, Nagabanshi Munda, Oriya Munda	2,057
19	Gadaba, Bodo Gadaba, Gutob Gadaba, Kapu Gadaba, Ollara	04	51	Mundari	09
20	Gandia	03	52	Omanatya, Omanatyo, Amanatya	03
21	Ghara	20	53	Oraon, Dhangar, Uran	160
22	Gond, Gondo, Rajgond, Maria Gond, Dhur Gond	108,128	54	Perenga	
23	Ho	17	55	Paroja, Parja, Bodo Paroja, Barong Jhodia Paroja, Chhelia	60
24	Holva	228	56	Pentia	
25	Jatapu	09	57	Rajuar	05
26	Juang	03	58	Santal	224
27	Kandha Gauda	1,820	59	Saora, Savar, Saura, Sahara, Arsi	50,401
28	Kawar, Kanwar	34	60	Saora, Based Saora, Bhima Shabar, Lodha	11,615
29	Kharia, Kharian, Berga Kharia, Dhelki Kharia, Dudh Kharia	663	61	Sounti	15
30	Kharwar	05	62	Tharua, Tharua Bindhani	416
31	Khond, Kond, Kandha, Nanguli Kandha, Sitha Kandha	92,452		Unspecified	3,009
32	Kisan, Nagesar, Nagesia	70		Total	347,164

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

Physiographic and Agro Climatic conditions

Balangir district is one of the hottest districts in the western part of the state. The climatic condition of the district is generally hot with low humidity during March to June. Annual normal rainfall of the district is recorded 1289.8 mm. The district is located under West Central Table land Agro Climatic Zone characterized by hot and sub-humid climate.

This district comprises of two types of agro climatic situation namely rainfed and dry land. The district may be divided into two physical divisions as follows.

Hills of the west and south

Plains of north and east

The district is situated in the valleys of river Ang and Tel, two main tributaries of Mahanadi. Important tributaries of Tel are Lanth, Sonegarh and Suktel which have fertile valleys. The district is suitable for both extensive and intensive agricultural operations. The total cultivable area in the district is 3,46,000 hectares.

Basing on physiographic and irrigation availability, Balangir district is again divided into four Agro Ecological situations (AES) and characterized by a hot dry summer and highly erratic rainfall distribution of south-west monsoon rains, i.e., (i) Plain land irrigated, (ii) Plain land rainfed (iii) Undulating plain drought prone and (iv) Undulating sub- mountainous tract rainfed.

Nature & Types of Soil Fertility

Broadly speaking, the Balangir district has red & yellow, red & black, black, laterite and brown forest soils.

Red & Yellow Soils

The coverage of red soil is seen in almost all areas of Balangir district except Puintala Block. Mixed red and yellow soils occur as catenary associations in undulating and rolling terrains which differ in depth, texture, and colour. Soils are moderately shallow in depth and coarse-textured. Upland soils are shallower and lighter in texture than low land soils. Presence of ferruginous concretions and fluctuation of water table imparts a mixed red and yellow colour to soils. Upland soils are moderately acidic whereas low land soils are slightly acidic. Low land soils are formed mainly by acolluvial deposits. Upland soils are low in nitrogen and phosphorous

content whereas low land soils are moderate in phosphate and high in potassium. Upland light textured soils are deficient in boron and lowland soils with rice-rice cropping system are deficient in zinc. Soil acidity can be corrected through liming. Upland soils are suitable for crops like rice, finger millet sugarcane, potato, brinjal, tomato and pointed guard. Low and soils are suitable for paddy following pulse as pyra crops.

Red & Black Soils

These soils occur in mixed form of both red & black soil together in which black soils occur in patches within the predominant red soils. Red & black soils are so intermixed that red soils are found in upper ridges whereas black soil occurs in lower ridges. Soils are light to medium textured having neutral pH. Black soils are rich in calcium and red soils are predominant with iron giving catenary formation to soils. Soils are deep with medium fertility status. Low land soils growing rice are deficient in zinc. Rice, Sugarcane, Maize, Ragi, Groundnut and all type of vegetables are cultivated successfully with adequate application of fertilizer.

Black Soil

Red soils are mostly found in Puintala Block and in some part of Loisingha Block. Black colour of soils is due to presence of titaniferous magnetite, humins, bitumins etc. these soils are formed due to weathering of basic rocks in low lying areas. Soils are heavier in texture having clay content more than 30%. Clay minerals are predominant with smectites due to which deep cracks are seen to be developed observed during summer. Effective soil depth extends up to more than 90 cm. Soil pH is neutral to alkaline having free calcium carbonate modules in profiles. Soils are rich in calcium but deficient in phosphorus, potassium, zinc and boron. These soils are suitable for cultivation of rice, bengal gram and cotton etc.

Laterite Soils

Laterite soils are generally distributed in few limited patches in Balangir district. Lateritic soils are characterized by compact vesicular structure and are rich in hydrated oxides of iron and aluminium with small amount of manganese, titanium and quartz. Degraded laterites are honey combed structure and found in few parts of the District. These soils are loamy sand to sandy loam in the surface having hard clay pan in the subsoil. Crusting is a problem in upland laterite. Presence of higher amount of exchangeable aluminium and manganese results in slightly acidic to strongly acidic soil with pH ranging between 4.5 to 5.8. These soils are poorly fertile with low organic matter. Available nitrogen and phosphate are low and potash is moderate. Nitrogen is lost due to leaching and phosphate becomes unavailable due to fixation by Fe and Al oxides. Cation exchange capacity of the soil is low and it is low in percentage base saturation. Sulphur is

absorbed as pyrites or zinc sulphide. Rice, finger millet, miner millets and sesamum can grow well with proper fertilizer application. Soil fertility is improved by green manuring and application of lime.

Brown Forest Soil

Brown Forest Soils are mostly found in Khaprakhol, Tureikela, Bangomunda, Titilagarh, Saintala and Gudvella Block. These soils are brown to grey brown in colour, light textured and acidic in reaction. Organic matter and nitrogen content of soils are moderate to high. Phosphorous and potash content are moderate. Contents of most of the micronutrient are high barring molybdenum.

As per 'Soil Taxonomy', soils of Balangir District come under three orders/ sub-orders, out of four orders i.e., Inceptisols, Alfisols, Entisols and Verisols found in Odisha. Inceptisols which come under the soil group mixed red and yellow is found are almost all areas of Balangir district except Puntala block. Alfisols (Red Soils, Leterite and Lateritic, Brown Forest soils) are found in Titilagarh, Muribahal, Belpada, Khaprakhol and Patnagarh. Vertisols are found in all blocks except Balangir, Belpada, Khaprakhol and Muribahal.

Land Utilization Patterns in the District

Utilization Pattern	Area in 000'ha
Geographical Area	657
Forest area	154
Permanent pastures	46
Cultivable waste	18
Land put to non agricultural uses	53
Barren and uncultivable land	23
Other fallow	13
Cultivable area	346

Classification of Cultivable Land

High land - 190,000 ha
 Medium - 70,000 ha
 Low - 86,000 ha

Irrigation

This district has no perennial irrigation except Hirakud Command area which covers only three villages in Agalpur Block of this District. This district has only 18.8% and 4.96% of total cultivated area with flow irrigation system during khariff and Rabi respectively which is also very negligible as

compared to the state average. The irrigation potential created in Balangir District is 30.8% during khariff and 12.2% during Rabi with an area of 1,06,372 ha and 42,132 ha respectively which includes saving irrigation systems like Dug wells, Kata, Nalas and WHS.

A list of source-wise irrigation potential in different blocks of Balangir district is furnished as Annexure I at the end of this chapter.

Pani Panchayat Programme in Different Blocks of Balangir District

Pani Panchayat Programme has been implemented in different blocks of Balangir district namely Agalpur, Bangomunda, Belpara, Balangir, Deogaon, Gudvela, Khaprakhol, Loisingha, Muribahal, Patnagarh, Puitala, Saintala, Titilagarh and Tureikela.

Crops Grown in the District

Paddy, Maize, Cotton, Kulthi, Arhar, Mung, Biri, Groundnut and Sugarcane crops are the potential crops in the district. Besides, minor millets like Gurji and Kudo are also grown in Titilagarh, Bangomunda, Muribahal and Tureikela block.

Different variety of crops grown in the district are furnished below:

Paddy

Traditional Varieties

Saria, Dhoba Sarian, Kala Krushna, Maliful Jhili, Akul, Kalajira, Sorisha Fula, Magura, Jhili, Dhalashree, Magura, Mahipal, China, Bharati, Asamchudi, Geleikhati, Karni, Hiran, Jhali, Kapaanthi, Pustak, Basmati, Dengbari, Kasanpuri, Majhlijhuli, Tulsibasa, Harishankar, Kanhav, Jhitipiti, Badachinamal, Suantuti, Basapatri, Salekhai, Jhelka Keri, Rat ka rani, Rani Saheba, Lendka, Kusuma, Mugudhi, and Luchi etc.

High Yielding Varieties

Most farmers prefer to grow MTU-7029. Other high yielding varieties generally grown in the district are MTU-1001, MTU-1010, Lalat, Puja, Surendra, Pratiskya, Padmini, Kanchan, RGL-2332, Tapaswinin, Mahanadi, Sonam, Satbdi and jogesh.

Hybrid Varieties

KRH-2, RIL-030, RIL-060, RIL-090, Proagro 6201, JK-40, PHB-71, PAC- 835, N-30, N-89, Durga, Lokanath-505, Lokanath-510, Ariese-6444, Dhani and durga etc.

list of season-wise estimated area, yield-rate and production of paddy in different Blocks and Urban areas of Balangir district is given as Annexure II at the end of the chapter.

Mung

Local Varieties

Jayati, Local black, Kadia, Methi, Baisakhi and Jhain.

Improved varieties

B, K-851, PDM-54, PDM-11, PDM-139, LGG-460 and SML-668 etc.

Biri

Improved varieties

Sarala, T-9, PU-30, PU-31, PU-19, Sekhar-II, Ujala and PDU-1 etc.

Arhar

Upash- 120, Asha, IPCL-87, Laxmi, Prava, Jagruti and Maruti etc

Groundnut

AK-12-24, TAG-24, TMV-2 and Smruti etc

Sugarcane

Anakapali, Sabita, CO-62175, 83R23, CO-87044 and CO-86032 etc.

Cotton

MCU-5, Savita, Bunny

Marketing of Agriculture Produce

Marketing of agricultural produce is poor in the district. Systematic marketing of paddy and cotton through RMC are being organized in each year by the government. The sugarcane is being procured by the existing Sugar Mills. The Maize is procured by existing poultry farms. There is no facility for marketing of other produce. Onion is an important crop grown in the district. But due to storage problem, farmers are forced to sell onions at cheaper rates during harvest.

Agro-based Industries

Bijayananda Cooperative Sugar Mills at Deogaon, one private Corn Flex Industry at Kantabanji, 13 nos of private Ginning unit at Balangir, Titilagarh, Kantabanji and Patnagarh etc. and 36 Rice Mills are the only Agro based industries in the district.

The farmers are now following the crop rotation as depicted below:-

Farming Situations	Remunerative Cropping Systems
Low rainfall Shallow Lateritic soil, upland	Groundnut + Green Gram (6:2)
Low rainfall Shallow Lateritic soil, upland	Arhar + Groundnut (2:6)
Low rainfall Shallow Lateritic soil, medium land	Arhar + Rice (2:5)
Low rainfall Shallow Lateritic soil, Low land	Rice –Rice
Low rainfall, red lateritic and black soil, upland	Rice-Mung
Low rainfall, red lateritic and black soil, upland	Maize-Pulse
Low rainfall, red lateritic and black soil, medium land	Rice- Tomato- Okra (only in irrigated condition)
Low rainfall, mixed red and yellow, up land	Rice--Onion/okra/pumpkin
Low rainfall, mixed red and yellow, up land	Rice-Onion-water mellon

Soil Conservation

Directorate of Soil Conservation, Odisha was separated from Directorate of Agriculture & Food Production, Odisha in the year 1977-78 and functions as Directorate of Soil Conservation under a Director level officer.

The efforts and programmes of the Department are aimed not only at providing soil cover to mitigate accumulated soil erosion, but also at developing rural and farming communities with basic amenities, infrastructure and incentives for creating sustainable alternative farming systems with a view to wean them away from destructive traditional methods of cultivation as well as uplifting the socio-economic status of farmers at large.

Objectives

Conservation, development and sustainable management of natural resources including their use.

Enhancement of agricultural productivity and production in a sustainable manner.

Restoration of ecological balances in the degraded and fragile rainfed ecosystems by greening these areas through appropriate combination of trees, shrubs and grasses.

Reduction in regional disparity between irrigated and rainfed areas.

Creation of sustained employment opportunities for the rural community including the landless.

Principles

Conservation of natural resources, integrated development of natural as well as social resources, in situ moisture conservation, sustainable farming system, adoption of ridge to valley approach, due emphasis on production enhancement activities for land owners and livelihood support for landless families, democratic decentralization in decision making, transparency in transactions, mobilization of community at the village level, direct funding to community, emphasis on Government participation in Community's plans, contributory approach to empower community, building upon indigenous innovations, initiatives and ideas, equity for resource-poor families and empowerment of women, moving away from subsidy oriented development to self-reliant development, convergence of activities / schemes of government and non-governmental organizations etc. are some of the principles adopted for the betterment of agriculture in the district

Functions

The Department has been striving towards conservation of three most vital natural resources - soils, water and vegetation by implementing various conservation measures. Accordingly, the Department has taken up the following as its main functions:

Conservation of natural resources like soil, water and vegetation for sustainable development and continuing economic progress and improved way of life of the people

To combat inefficient agricultural practices of shifting cultivation or Jhumming to preserve, maintain and improve balance in ecology and environment

Maximum utilization and conservation of soils, water and vegetation in catchment areas by making judicious use of land according to its capabilities.

With this in perspective, the Department has taken up the challenging task of controlling the depletion of natural resources of soils, water and vegetation through various efforts and programmes with the objective of conserving these vital resources for achieving sustained food production and adoption of improved techniques for ensuring food security.

Soil conservation has been taken up in this District since 1962-63 under the control of Kalahandi (Bhawanipatna Office). From March 1964, the Office of Asst. Soil Conservation Officer (ASCO) has been functioning at Balangir in 1987, one Soil Conservation Division started functioning at Balangir headed by Soil Conservation Officer to control four subordinate offices of ASCOs at Balangir, Patnagarh, Titlagarh and Sonepur.

The main activities of this department are as follows.

Soil & Water Conservation

Soil Erosion Control Measures

Conservation of natural resources

Integrated development of natural as well as social resources

In situ moisture conservation

Sustainable farming systems

Convergence of activities / schemes of government and non-governmental organizations

Tree plantations including plantations of Cashew, Coffee and Sisal

Development of pastures

Soil Conservation Measures such as contour bunding and nala bunding
Gully control structures, water harvesting structure, stream bank erosion control, farm ponds, silt retention dams, bench terracing and stone terracing.

Watershed Development

Odisha Watershed Development Mission is a constituent organization established in the year 2000 to look after soil and moisture conservation activities in Watershed areas along with the livelihoods of the inhabitants. Prior to establishment to this organization the Directorate of Soil Conservation was the pioneer Department to implement watershed programme under NWDPPRA, RVP, IWDP, DPAP and RLTP (ACA).

From August 2000, a separate office of Project Director (WORLP) was opened at Balangir to look after watershed development programmes under Western Odisha Livelihood Project (WORLP) scheme funded by DFID.

Thereafter, all Watershed Development Programmes were brought under the control of Project Director (WORLP) which was later renamed as Project Director (Watersheds).

Components of Watershed Development

Adoption of ridge to valley approach

Due emphasis on production enhancement activities for land owners and livelihood support for landless families, Democratic decentralization in decision making, Transparency in transactions, mobilization of communities at the village level with direct funding to communities, Emphasis on Government participation in Community's plans, Contributory approach to empower the community, Building upon indigenous innovations Initiatives and ideas, Equity for resource-poor families and empowerment of women.

After independence, emphasis was given for construction of big water storage like Hirakud dam, Rengali dam, Indrabati dam and Machkund. After 20 years of operation of such structures siltation was deeply felt. It was due to erosion of soil mass from their catchment areas. To arrest soil erosion and increase the life span of big projects, catchment treatment programme were launched in 1970 under river valley project (RVP) scheme .To implement RVP in Rengali-Mandira catchment and Machkund catchment the Department of Soil Conservation was assigned the sole responsibility.

Besides, NWDPRRA scheme was launched in 1988 in the same line of Watershed development in ridge to valley approach along with soil conservation over 258 blocks in the state out of which all 14 blocks in Balangir district were covered during the 8th plan period. Further, 77 watersheds were covered in KBK district under NWDPRRA scheme in the 8th plan. Also it was taken up in the 9th plan period and 10th plan period.

Watershed programmes were also taken up under Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) by the Department of Panchayati Raj where soil conservation department was an executing agency. Thereafter DPAP and IWDP were taken up to implement watershed development programme.

WORLP, a project assisted by DFID, UK for watershed deelopemnt plus livelihood option for pro poor communities was launched in 2000 for a term of 10 years in which 140 watersheds were in all 14 blocks taken up in District at the rate of 10 watershed in each block. All the Watershed Development schemes were converged and brought into a single umbrella under the name IWMP following common guidelines for Watershed Development 2008 of MoRD.

Sl. No	Name of the Scheme	Total no. of Watersheds	Period of Execution
1	NWDPRA-8 th	14	1992-93 to 1996-97
2	NWDPRA- 8 th Extended	14	1992-93 to 1996-97
3	NWDPRA-9 th	14	1997-98 to 2001-02

Such structures are serving the purpose of water conservation and to supplement kharif crops during scarcity of water for cultivation and irrigation. Different soil conservation measures like loose boulder checks, field bunding, gully plugs and trenching are adopted on the upstream catchment to check soil erosion and silt inflow into such projects. Field bunds/contour helps in in-situ moisture conservation. Cropping practices across slopes also reduce soil erosion. Plantations also help to hold soil in position. Stone wall, masonry stone bund, plantation on banks of rivers; also help to control stream bank erosion.

Details of achievement under IWMP schemes operated watersheds (117 nos.) of this district are given in following table:

Sl No	Activity	Unit (No/ ha./ rmt/ cu.m)	Achievement
Land Development (Productive use)			
1	Afforestation	ha	6
2	Horticulture(Block Plantation)	ha	2
3	Horticulture (Backyard)	No	3735
4	Other-Agro forestry	No	11890
5	Misc. Plantation	ha	5
Soil & Moisture Conservation			
1	Staggered trenching	Rmt	50114
2	Contour Bunding	Rmt	1266
3	Graded Bunding	Rmt/Ha	43
4	Field bunding	ha	60.86
5	Others (specify)		0
Vegetative and Engineering Structure			
1	Earthen Checks	No	16
2	Gully plugs	No	154
3	Loose boulder	No	118
4	Diversion Bund	Rmt	1

5	Others (Recharge Pit)		36
Water Harvesting Structure (Renovated)			
1	Farm ponds	No	0
2	Check dams	No	3
3	Percolation tanks	No	34
4	Ground Water recharge structure	No	34
Sl. No	Activity	Unit (No/ ha./ rmt/ cu.m)	Achievement
Water Harvesting Structure (New Created)			
1	Farm ponds	No	55
2	Check dams	No	71
3	Nallah Bunds	No	3
4	Percolation tanks	No	582
5	Ground Water recharge structure	No	613
6	Renovation of Tal and Soaking pit	Rmt	826
7	Diversion Channel	Rmt	6
8	Others (specify)-RMS	No	107

The ongoing watershed management development under IWMP scheme continuing in 8 blocks of the district in 12 clusters namely Loisingha (02), Agalpur, Deogaon (02), Balangir (02), Patnagarh, Belpada, Saintala (2) and Khaprakhhol.

They amalgamated into one office in one district in May'2011. The office of soil conservation officer and the office of Project Director (Watersheds) were restructured and headed by PD, Watersheds cum Deputy Director, Soil Conservation, Balangir. The staff working in both organizations were brought under the control of PD, Watersheds cum Deputy Director, Soil Conservation, Balangir. In order to supervise and monitor watershed development programme in the district, PIAs are engaged at block level supported by a multi-disciplinary team comprising of engineering, social,livelihoods and micro-enterprises. In each cluster of IWMP watersheds 4 WMT members are engaged. Now, 12 clusters are in operation engaging 7 PIAs and 21 WMT members.

Use of Agricultural Implements, Manures, Fertilizers, Agricultural Technology and Productivity Agricultural Implements/ Farm Machineries

The farmers generally use locally made implements like langala(plough), koroda etc. made of wood and iron for cultivation. Now-a-days, farmers face many problems in arranging huge labours for cultivation. So, farmers, to increase the productivity of their lands naturally have turned to mechanized cultivation.

Agricultural productivity depends to a great extent on the availability of farm power. Agricultural Mechanization through popularization of tractors, power tillers, transplanter, reapers, combine harvesters and other self-propelled power driven / manual and bullock drawn implements help farmers to take up timely and quality agricultural operations, which reduce cost of production and drudgery to a large extent and improve productivity.

Since last 10 years, 1137 tractors, 872 power tillers, 178 reapers, 18 transplanters, 59 rotavators, 242 axial flow paddy threshers (tractor and power tiller operated) and power operated paddy threshers , combines harvester, 8254 pump sets and 2125 nos of other manual/bullock drawn and small power driven implements have been popularized under subsidy in our State. The yearwise supply of farm machineries include tractors, power tillers, reapers, transplanter, rotavator, hydraulic trailers, power drivers, power threshers, Combine harvester, pump sets, M/BD Implements etc. from 2003-04 to 2013-14.

After launching of RKVY scheme during 2007-08 and formulation of New Agriculture policy-2008 the State ahead in farm mechanization sector. It only becomes possible because of the initiative taken by our State Government that starts infusing more funds for subsidy under farm mechanization sector over and above the Central Government subsidy.

Since 2011-12, agricultural machinery and implements are being popularized through on-line e-permit system. It is an innovative step in simplification of procedures for availing permit to release subsidy and transparency has been maintained at every step. By way of this programme anybody can browse the website of Directorate of Agriculture and Food Production at the address as1.ori.nic.in/agrisnetodisha under the heading citizen view. The website can be accessed by typing agrisnetodisha in the address bar and selecting farm mechanization. The Scheme has been highly appreciated by Government of India and other States.

Adequate steps have been taken and the programme for popularization of different agricultural machinery / implements during next five year plan has been chalked out accordingly.

Consumption of Chemical Fertilisers
Consumption of Chemical Fertiliser (Kharif and Rabi) in different
Blocks of Balangir District

Sl.No.	Year / Block	(in 000' M.T.)				Per Ha.Consumption of Fertiliser (kg)
		Nitrgeneous (N)	Phosphatic (P)	Potassic (K)	Total (N+P+K)	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	Agalpur	0.91	0.44	0.34	1.69	58.00
2	Bangomunda	0.87	0.40	0.32	1.59	51.00
3	Belpara	1.03	0.46	0.36	1.85	42.00
4	Balangir	0.90	0.47	0.32	1.69	58.00
5	Deogaon	0.82	0.42	0.31	1.55	54.00
6	Gudvella	1.03	0.48	0.42	1.93	54.00
7	Khaprakhol	0.85	0.43	0.24	1.52	56.00
8	Loisingha	0.94	0.40	0.34	1.68	49.00
9	Muribahal	1.18	0.48	0.42	2.08	42.00
10	Patnagarh	0.84	0.42	0.25	1.51	49.00
11	Puintala	0.86	0.42	0.34	1.62	54.00
12	Saintala	0.84	0.39	0.30	1.53	70.00
13	Titilagarh	0.99	0.46	0.41	1.86	56.00
14	Tureikela	0.76	0.34	0.27	1.37	46.00

Agriculture Technology

Providing appropriate technology to farmers is the basic duty assigned to Agriculture Department to make available up-to-date technical knowhow at the doorsteps of farm families. To achieve this objective, extension agencies are being tuned by ensuring the fundamental principles of training and visit system.

State Government has already implemented new Agriculture Policy 2013 to make agriculture as profitable business, cooperation from all line departments such as Co-operation, Irrigation, Power, Horticulture, Soil Conservation and Revenue Department, which are pivot of administration, has been solicited to achieve the goal.

After implementation of scheme 'Support to State Extension Programme for Extension Reforms' through ATMA, there is a scope for transfer of technology from the Lab to Land. The extension machineries

works together with scientists under ATMA. Exposure visit, inside and outside the State, and within the District involving interested farmers of the District are organized to visit the different Research Stations and also farmers Field of different areas. Farmers of the District get scope to share and refresh their experiences among themselves. Agricultural Scientists interaction programmes are also organized to solve problems of farmers.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Balangir conducts the frontline demonstrations in the fields of farmers so that farmers can adopt new modern technologies in cultivation which can be easily transferred to other farmers.

Besides this, a portal has been launched for farmers i.e. www.farmer.gov.in in which information on farmer oriented activities is readily available. Another website i.e www.mkisan.gov.in has also been developed for SMS and other kinds of activities. State Government organizations in agriculture and allied sectors may use this portal to give information/ services/ advisories to farmers by SMS in their language, preference of agricultural practices and locations. By this time, 56789 farmers' mobile number have been registered on m-kisan to obtain website needful messages from various quarters

Productivity of Crops

The productivity of different major crops of Balangir District is furnished below:-

Year	Productivity in kgs/ha						
	Rice	Cereals	Pulse	Food grains	Oilseeds	Fibres	Sugarcane
2001-02	1527	1481	344	1101	465	228	54911
2002-03	292	313	279	302	423	262	53000
2003-04	1428	1386	343	1055	480	471	65300
2004-05	1086	1069	334	841	583	483	80306
2005-06	1335	1310	336	974	592	703	78680
2006-07	1492	1458	343	1049	597	388	78685
2007-08	1825	1774	352	1249	819	454	78585
2008-09	1451	1426	424	1052	890	440	77865
2009-10	1557	1533	397	1101	846	494	83625
2010-11	1899	1891	468	1327	1116	678	70750
2011-12	430	493	477	486	1291	340	70750
2012-13	3195	3141	494	2014	1231	507	63930
2013-14	3195	3150	492	2047	1268	473	72458

Estimated Area, Yield Rate & Production of Different Major Crops in

Balangir District

(Source-Odisha Agriculture Statistics)

(Area (A) in ha, Yield (Y)rate in quintal Per ha & Production in quintals(P)

Sl. No.	Crop	A / Y / P	2009-10		2010-11		
			Total	Autumn	Winter	Summer	
1	Wheat	A	200	84	--	--	84
		Y	14.76	13.01	--	--	13.01
		P	2953	1093	--	--	1093
2	Maize	A	985	1555	1517	13	25
		Y	6.83	7.73	7.56	11.51	15.99
		P	6723	12018	11468	150	400
3	Ragi	A	1100	1245	1243	2	--
		Y	4.62	4.27	4.27	5.3	--
		P	5082	5319	5308	11	--
4	Greengram	A	15770	17706	7027	6864	3815
		Y	2.42	2.33	2.18	2.27	2.73
		P	38185	41315	15319	15581	10415
5	Blackgram	A	10997	9388	7089	2102	197
		Y	2015	2.43	2.38	2.43	4.3
		P	23675	22827	16872	5108	847
6	Horsegram	A	11866	11661	--	11661	--
		Y	2065	3.56	--	3.56	--
		P	31445	41513	--	41513	--
7	Til	A	4562	5063	3279	1750	34
		Y	1.76	1.97	2.2	1.49	4.25
		P	8039	9967	7214	2608	145
8	Groundnut	A	6097	5980	5156	362	462
		Y	9.71	9.69	9.48	8.98	12.56
		P	59217	57933	48879	3251	5803
9	Mustard	A	1517	1692	--	1692	--
		Y	1.64	1.47	--	1.47	--
		P	2488	2487	--	2487	--
10	Patato	A	95	25	--	25	--
		Y	84.01	89.97	--	89.97	--
		P	7981	2249	--	2249	--
11	June	A	--	--	--	--	--
		Y	--	--	--	--	--
		P	--	--	--	--	--
12	Sugarcane	A	544	490	--	490	--
		Y	722.12	701.03	--	701.03	--
		P	392833	343505	--	343505	--

Crop Diseases, Control Mechanisms and Crop Protection

Crop Diseases

Major insects, pests and diseases observed in Balangir district are furnished below:

Sl. No	Crop	Major insets & pests with local name	Diseases with local name
1	Paddy	Stemborer (Ganthi Poka), BPH (Chakada Poka), Swarming caterpillar (Leda poka), Leaf folder (Patramoda Poka), Gundhi bug (Chhagodia Poka)	Blast (MahisaRoga), BLB (patrapoda Roga), Sheath Blight & sheet rot (Kanda sadha Roga)
2	Pulses	Spodopter asps (Kalimundi) in Mung &Biri Leaf eating caterpillar (Patra kata Poka) in Mung &Biri Aphids (Jaupoka) & white fly (DhalaMachhi) Pod borer (Chhuinbindha Poka) in Arhar	Powdery & Mildew (Paunsia Roga) in Mung & Biri Seed rot, seedling damage & collar rot (Sadhapacha Roga) YMV (Sahebi Roga) Leaf spot rust & Blight (PatrachitaRoga&PatrapodaRoga)
3	Oilseeds	Hairy caterpillar (Sambalua Poka) in groundnut Tobacco caterpillar (Gotipoka) Trips (Ukunia Poka) Leaf eating caterpillar (Patra kata &Patrakhia Poka) Head Borer (Phulabindha Poka in sunflower)	Root rot, stemrot and collar rot (CheraSadha, Kenda Pacha & Bekasadha roga), Wilting (Jhaunla Roga)
4	Cotton	Leaf roller (Patramoda Poka) White fly(Dhala Machhi) Aphids (JauPoka), Jassids (Patradian) Mealy Bug (DahiaPoka) Red cotton bug (Lal DagaraPoka)	Angular Leaf spot (Kaunika Patra Daga Roga) Wilt (Jhaunla Roga)
5	Sugarcane	Early Shoot borer (Sahalakandabindha Poka) Intenode borer (Pababindha Poka) Top shoot borer (Aga bindha Poka) Termite (Uei), White fly (Dhala Machhi)	Red rot (Nalisadha Roga) Root rot (Cherasadha Roga) Wilting (Jhaunla Roga)

Besides this, panicle mite and foot rot in Kharif Paddy are being observed recently in some patches. This may pose a problem in future.

Control Mechanisms & Crop Protection

Farmers have their own strategies for management of insects, pests and diseases in an innovative way by using local Indigenous Technical Knowledge (ITK). They are not always dependent on chemical pesticides for crop protection for the following reasons.

1. It is not cost effective
2. It pollutes environment
3. It has mammalian toxicity
4. It creates resistance and resurgence in in situ
5. It is not always easily available

Some of the major ITK adopted by farmers are as follows:

1. Destruction of crop remnants of previous crop after harvest
2. Summer ploughing
3. Sun drying of seeds in hot summer and sunny days to destroy seed borne pathogen and hibernating insects pests.
4. Spraying / sprinkling of diluted cow urine and cow dung extract to control diseases in paddy.
5. Hand picking, collection & destruction of egg masses, larva & adults insects pests from affected plots of different crops.
6. Uprooting and destruction of plants affected by wilting and yellow mosaic virus.
7. Crop rotation in endemic pest affected areas.
8. Use of neem, karanja and different oil cakes available in the local market.
9. Use of neem oils, neem seed kernel, extract and neem leaf (green & dried) which is plentifully available in the district.
10. Use of FYM and compost enriched with neem extracts, karanja extracts and fortified with different locally available plant materials.
11. Use of extracts from bel leaf and tobacco leaf along with soap solution to control lepidopteran larvae and different sucking pests.
12. Installation of bird perchers in vegetable fields and in different field crops.
13. Use of resistance cultivators of different crops known to the farmers in the locality.
14. Adjusting the time of sowing early sowing in paddy and cotton by few elite farmers to get rid of some major pests.
15. Summer burning and use of fire balls.
16. Use of charcoal dust.

However, with advance in technology and rapid spread of knowledge through Agriculture Extension personnel including mass media, farmers are now more inclined towards use of chemical pesticides which are readily available with different pesticides dealers.

Some of the pesticides used by the farmers are as follows:

1. Use of carbendim for seed treatment
2. Use of granulars like carbofuran, phorate, cartap hydrochloride in paddy nursery beds and also in main field for control of BPH, Stem borers etc
3. Use of systemic insecticides like Trizophus, Profenophus, Dichlorovos, Cartap Hydrochloride, Lambda- Cyhalothrinetc to control elepidopterin pests in paddy, pulses and oilseeds,
4. Use of systemic insecticides like Dimethoate, Imidachlopid Aceptiate, Acetamaprid, Thiomethoxan to control sucking pests in paddy (BPH, WBPH and GLH), Pulses, Oilseeds and cotton. The use of these insecticides helps in controlling white fly, thrips, aphids, mealy bug and different plant hoppers and leaf hoppers in various crops also.
5. Use of new generation insecticides like spinosad, Emamectin benzoate, Buprofezin, Novaluron, Flonicamid, etc in high value garden crops for controlling various pests.
6. Use of syntheicpyrethroides like Cypermethrin, Fenvalerate and Lambada- Cyhalothrinetc for quick destruction of various insects pests in vegetables crops.
7. Wide spread use of Prophylatic sprays of fungicides like Carbendazim, mancozeb, sulphur dust, wettablesulphur copper oxy-chloride etc for control of various fungal diseases in different crops.
8. Use of systemic fungicides like Tricyclazole, Hexaconazole, Propicanazoleetc for control of Blast, Helminthosporium leaf spot sheath blight and sheath rot in paddy. It also helps in control of different airborne, soil borne & seed borne diseases in externally visible parts in different crops.
9. Use of antibiotics like plantomycin, streptomycin, kasugamycine and validamycineetc for control of different bacterial diseases in paddy, vegetables and cotton.

However, initiatives from government sectors for implantation of schemes like e-pest surveillance and Pest Management Programmes have helped a lot. Farmers are being advised for need based application of chemical pesticides. The e-pest surveillance and pest management programme is being implemented with the following objectives:-

1. Adoption of early warning system.
2. Avoiding population build up of major pests through surveillance and monitoring,
3. To identify pest endemic areas.
4. Adoption of IPM measures and use of need based pesticides.

Besides, use of Pheromone traps (for Spodoptera, Helicoverpa and Scirpophaga infestation in different crops), bio-pesticides like NPV, BT, Trichoderma Virideetc have been introduced and revolutionized pest control measures in the district for different crops.

Soil Testing

There is a Soil Testing Laboratory at Balangir District Head Quarter with a capacity of testing 10000 soil samples per year. There is also provision for testing secondary micronutrient in the laboratory. Besides this, soil testing kits have been supplied to each block. One Soil Testing laboratory is going to be established in Saintala Block with active participation of Cooperation Department.

State Farms

There are 3 Government Farms in the district. The details of the farms are furnished below:

Name of the farm	Fig in ha.		Cultivable area			Paddy Land	Irrigation Potential		Year of estt.
	Geographical Area	High	Medium	Low	Total		Khari	Rabi	
RE Farm	32.530	1.000	9.016	13.054	23.070	19.000	19.000	0	1938
Mudghat	21.978	8.500	5.730	1.770	16.000	14.020	0	0	1962
Desil	14.455	4.290	5.910	0	10.200	9.600	0	0	1957

Cultivated areas of the land of farms have been used for production and multiplication of quality seeds, which are supplied to the farmers.

New Approach Cotton Farming

As Balangir district was reeling under drought like situation time to time, various alternative methods of cotton farming have been introduced to boost the economy of farmers. Soil for cotton farming are most suitable in parts of Patnagarh and Titilagarh Subdivision. Cotton is now one of the major commercial crops grown in Balangir district. Livelihoods of tribal farmers mostly depend on its cultivation. It is predominantly cultivated in three major blocks of Patnagarh subdivision followed by Titilagarh and Balangir. It was introduced in this district during the mid-eighties in which nearly 150 ha of area has been cultivated with cotton plantation mostly in Patnagarh subdivision. The area increased very slowly up to mid nineties during which only traditional varieties were cultivated excepting few improved variety like MCU-5.

During mid-nineties hybrid varieties were introduced. The major hybrid varieties at the beginning were Savita and Bunny. Both varieties belong to long staple length category having a crop duration of 165 days. After the privatization of sale of cotton seeds allowed major seed companies to enter the district market, areas under for cotton farming grew significantly.

Gradually, all cotton growing areas were covered by Hybrid Cotton seeds. The area, production and productivity for the last 10 years are as follows.

Sl. No	Year	Area (ha)	Productivity(Qntl kapas ha)	Productivity (kg lint/ha)
1	2005-06	19494	7.14	238
2	2006-07	20500	8.82	294
3	2007-08	17399	11.04	368
4	2008-09	21837	10.35	345
5	2009-10	19049	12.84	428
6	2010-11	29240	18.72	624
7	2011-12	35330	8.88	296
8	2012-13	38478	14.04	468
9	2013-14	39755	13.05	435
10	2014-15	37858	11.25	375

Due to significant increase in area and productivity, Cotton ginning and pressing units have been established in the district at different places namely Balangir, Belpara, Kantabanji, Tusra, Titlagarh, Banjari, Odia pali and Kapani. The first ginning mill was established during the nineties. Their number has now increased to eleven.

The rise in area and productivity after the year 2000 is mainly due to introduction of Mini Mission II of Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC). The scheme was introduced in the name of Intensive Cotton Development Programme (ICDP) under MM-II of T.M.C. in the year 2000. Its major initiatives, which contribute to the increase in cotton productivity under the above scheme are Farmer Field Schools, Frontline Demonstrations, Farmers Training, distribution of Plant protection equipments, Bio-agents along with pheromone traps on subsidized rates, subsidy supply of water saving devices. Surveillance and monitoring of diseases and pests including seed treatment with pesticides and conduct of different demonstration programmes under INM and IPM module has revolutionized cotton cultivation with increased productivity in Balangir district. Besides, implementation of RKVY in Cotton farming during the year 2012-13 and launching of NFSM Commercial Crop (Cotton) since 2014-15 have also significantly contributed to the increase in cotton productivity.

All horticultural activities including fruit tree plantations have been executed through Agriculture Department in all the districts in Odisha till 1979. During 1979, separate Directorate of Horticulture under Agriculture Department was created at state headquarters for holistic development of horticulture in all parts of the state. As such, the post of Deputy Director of Agriculture (Horticulture) was created at district level and Horticulturists at Sub – Division level with small networks of field staff like gardeners, grafters, horticulture overseers, Junior Agriculture Officers (Horticulture). All horticultural activities like fruit tree plantation, vegetable, floriculture and

spices and other programmes etc. have been implemented for the benefit of the horticultural farms and farmers. The agro climatic condition of Balangir district is quite suitable for horticultural development. Upland (54.8%) and medium land (20.3%) account for 75% of total cultivated area which can be brought into the fold of horticulture crops which mostly include fruit tree plantations, vegetables and spices and condiments like onion and chilly. Since the creation of the Department of Horticulture, innovative scheme i.e. in situ Mango Plantations was launched during 1979 – 1983 in farmers field with a view to establishing considerable numbers of commercial, grafted mango plantations, which started yielding within 3-4 years of planting. It helped the poor farmers to earn their livelihood by growing mango orchards. It helped to check Soil erosion and through this programme, vast areas of upland and medium land could be converted to good number of grafted mango orchards both on private land and Government land. Subsequently, over the years, Fruit Tree Plantation programmes have been undertaken under different schemes like ERRP, IRDP, JRY, EAS and MGNREGS.

Balangir district being in the western part of the State is an area, where annual rainfall limits to only four months in the monsoon and thereafter there is occasional rainfall with a relatively low humidity. And therefore, there is a great potential for horticultural sector in the district. Currently, mango is the main fruit which is grown very successfully in the district. Apart from mango, other fruit crops like banana, papaya, lime etc. are also grown in the district. The district, despite its acute water scarcity has earned a good name in the production of vegetables. The district is one of the highest onion producing districts in the State producing almost 25% of the total production of onion. Apart from onion, chilli etc. are also widely grown in the district. However, flower production has not gained much momentum due to adverse climatic condition of the district. Crop wise area and production of fruits, vegetables and flowers are mentioned below.

Area and Production of Horticultural Crops in Balangir District

A. Fruits

Sl. No.	Crop Name	Area in ha.	Production	Productivity
1	Mango	9354	24356 MT.	5.34 MT / ha.
2	Banana	1560	29524 MT	20.56 MT / ha.
3	Citrus	684	5020 MT	9.49 MT / ha.
4	Papaya	108	2289 MT	23.60 MT / ha.
5	Others	4202	36036 MT	10.37 MT / ha.

B. Vegetables & Spices

Sl. No.	Crop Name	Area in ha.	Production	Productivity
1	Brinjal	4517	73446 MT	16.26 MT / ha.
2	Tomato	4186	57892 MT	13.83 MT / ha.
3	Onion	8548	123006 MT	14.39 MT / ha.
4	Garlic	402	1419 MT	3.53 MT / ha.
5	Chilly	2346	2349 MT	0.84 MT / ha.
6	Pointed Gourd	36	445 MT	12.36 MT / ha.
7	Sweet Potato	864	7893 MT	9.24 MT / ha.
8	Bitter Gourd	560	7246 MT	12.94 MT / ha.
9	Beans	436	2472 MT	5.67 MT / ha.
10	Reddish	402	3996 MT	9.94 MT / ha.
11	Potato	651	11822 MT	18.16 MT / ha.
12	Others	13216	146962 MT	11.12 MT / ha.

C. Flowers

Sl. No.	Crop Name	Area in ha.	Production	Productivity
1	Rose	36.00	1.97 Lakh / ha.	71.00 Lakh / ha
2	Gladioli	40.00	0.89 Lakh / ha.	35.60 Lakh / ha
3	Tube rose	16.00	23.64 Qtls. / ha.	378.00 Qtls. / ha.
4	Marigold	79.00	88.34 Qtls. / ha.	6979.00 Qtls. / ha.

Various schemes are under implementation in Balangir district for a holistic development of Horticulture. They are as follows.

1. Mission for Integrated Development in Horticulture (MIDH) (NHM)
2. Rashtriya Krishi Vikash Yojana (RKVY)
3. State Plan Schemes
4. On Farm Water Management under NMSA (National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture)
5. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)
6. National Mission on Medicinal Plants (NMMP)

Mission for Integrated Development in Horticulture (MIDH)

The National Horticulture Mission scheme has been introduced in the district in 2005-06. From 2014-15, the scheme was subsumed with several small schemes and is now being operated under a larger scheme called Mission for Integrated Development in Horticulture (MIDH). Various components like area expansion of fruits, vegetables and flowers are undertaken with a provision of subsidy which ranges from 40% to 75% of the total cost of production of respective crops. Apart from that, various post harvest management schemes such as pack house, low cost onion storage structures, and establishment of cold stores are under implementation in the

district. Organic farming is also adopted in farmers' fields by implementation of a component called Organic Adoption and Certification. Besides, flower cultivation is also promoted by supplying planting materials to farmers free of cost. Under this component, rose, gladioli, liliun and marigold cultivation are promoted. Marketing of produce and other human resource development programmes like training and exposure visits are also undertaken for the farmers of district. Protected cultivation in shade net houses and poly houses are also taken up in farmers' fields in which subsidy as high as 70% is given to the farmers. Individual farm ponds and community ponds are also implemented in the district for which subsidy is available. All subsidies are transferred to individual farmers' bank accounts on line.

Rastriya Krishi Vikash Yojana (RKVY)

The Rastriya Krushi Vikash Yojana (RKVY) has been introduced in the district in 2008-09. The following are some of the activities carried out under the scheme.

1. 2MT Onion Storage Structures: This is a small structure meant for storing of onions during the time of harvest and later disposing at a higher price.
2. Small Vermi Compost Unit: This is taken up for production of high quality vermicompost in farmers' fields.
3. Vermi Hatchery: This is taken up for production of earthworms for use in vermicompost pits.
4. Potato Cultivation: Under this scheme, subsidy is given to farmers for area expansion of potato.
5. Single Line Trellis: This activity is taken up in light cucurbit crops and light solanaceous crops for better yield and less incidence of diseases.

State Plan Scheme

The following activities are taken up under this scheme.

1. Intercropping in fruit orchards: Intercropping is taken up in orchards to make up the loss due to long gestation period of fruit crops.
2. Banana Plantations: Tissue culture banana plantations are promoted to lift the economic status of the farmers.
3. Input Subsidy: Under this scheme, any farmer requiring plantation in very small patches is assisted with a subsidy.
4. Single Line Trellis: This activity is taken up in light cucurbit crops and light solanaceous crops for better yield and less incidence of diseases.

On Farm Water Management under NMSA

Drip: Drip irrigation is promoted in the district for effective use of irrigation water. Subsidy is given to the farmers to the tune of maximum 75 to 90% for Non DPAP and DPAP areas respectively.

1. Sprinkler: Sprinkler irrigation is promoted in the district for effective use of irrigation water in light duty crops. Subsidy is given to farmers to the tune of maximum 75 to 90% for Non-DPAP and DPAP areas respectively.

2. Sprinkler under OLIC: Sprinklers are also provided to farmers in convergence with BKVY cluster bore well programmes of OLIC.

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS)

During 2012-13 MGNREGS Scheme was started under Horticulture Department in Balangir District. Under MGNREGS, Medium Density Mango Plantations have been done in Balangir district. In this scheme, Grafted mango plantations are taken up in individual fields of SC/ST/BPL farmers. The entire cost is borne by the Government in 60:40 ratios of labour: inputs.

National Mission on Medicinal Plants (NMMP)

Various medicinal plants like Aswagandha, Aloe Vera, Tulsi, Ashoke, Aonla, Bel etc. are promoted in the district. Appropriate subsidy is available for each crop. Besides, storage godowns and drying sheds are constructed by farmers in which 50% subsidy is given to farmers.

Future Prospects of Horticulture in the District

There is a great prospect for protected cultivation in the district. Since the climatic condition of the district is harsh, cultivation of high value vegetables and flowers can be taken up in the district in an extensive way. Some very successful models have been installed in the district in Dhauradadar village of Agalpur Block, Ghodar village of Titilagarh Block etc.

Animal Husbandry

Livestock production has always been an integral part of rural livelihood systems in Balangir district. The predominant farming system in Balangir is mixed crop. Livestock farming system and over 90% of farms of all categories conform to this farming system. The livestock resource in Balangir is impressive in number across all species constituting a natural resources base with immense livelihood implication, with growth in productivity level quite satisfactory over the last few years. About 80% of all livestock are owned by marginal/small/landless farmers, holders and

landless. Cattle are popular. The sector has ample scope to substantially enhance the production to meet the domestic market demand and create employment and income generating opportunities for the rural poor and enhancing their food and livelihood security. The climatic condition prevailing in the district is almost suitable for commercial livestock farming since natural calamities such as cyclone, flood etc. have less impact in comparison to other parts of the State.

Activities

1. To make ARD an engine of growth of rural economy providing income and livelihood opportunity to people.
2. To make dairying a viable livelihood option for small, marginal farmers and landless person by strengthening all forward and backward linkages.
3. To enable poor farmers to improve productivity of animals like sheep, goat and pigs.
4. To make backyard poultry a popular and viable subsidiary farming activity in rural areas.
5. Achieve self sufficiency / surplus in milk, meat and egg production.
6. Enhance per capita availability of milk, eggs and meat including poultry meat.
7. Enhance availability of feed and fodder for economic dairy farming.
8. Provide efficient veterinary services at the doorsteps of farmers.

General Information

Per Capita availability of milk	124.64 g./day
Per Capita availability of eggs	122 / year
Per Capita availability of meat	2.0376 kg/year

9. Livestock Wealth

Cattle Indigenous	412,841
Cattle Cross Bred	41,548
Total Cattle	454,389
Buffalo	89,075
Sheep	132,308
Goat	313,402
Pig	1,839
Poultry (Indigenous)	792,559
No of Layer Farms with capacity	7 Nos, 8.01 lakhs
No of Commercial layer birds reared	8.1 lakhs
No of Broiler farms	21Nos
Total No of broiler birds Capacity/ Reared	1.40 lakh /1.03 lakh

ARD Infrastructure

CDVO Office	01
SDVO Office	03
No. of Vet. Dispensary/ Veterinary Hospital	21
No. of Livestock Aid Center	114
No. of Mobile A.I Centers	135
LITC	01
District Poultry Farm	01
Deogaon Goat Farm	01

Role of the Institutions

CDVO Office: The CDVO Office is situated at Balangir district head-quarter. The Chief District Veterinary Officer is the apex supervising and monitoring authority in ARD sector of the district.

SDVO Office: There is one office of the Sub-divisional Veterinary Officer functioning at each sub divisional head quarter to monitor and supervise the activities of Veterinary Institutions.

VH/VDs/ LACs: These institutions provide veterinary and animal husbandry services to the livestock farmers of the district at Block/GP levels.

LITC (Livestock Inspector Training Centre): The Livestock Inspectors' Training Centre was established in the district in 1961 to train selected candidates from different districts. It is situated near the Govt. ITI, Larkipali of Balangir town. It has one office building with training centre and hostel facilities for 100 nos of trainees.

District Poultry Farm, Balangir

District Poultry Farm, Balangir was established in the year 1961-62. The farm is located at Larkipali, 2kms east of Balangir town over an area of 5 acres of land. The Farm is maintaining poultry birds to make them available to the people of Balangir and neighbour district and educate the people concerned in poultry keeping. The farm is supplying chicks to beneficiaries under different Government schemes. The farm can accommodate 6000 Birds and 2 boarder Houses for rearing of chicks with hatchery.

Many private Entrepreneurs have come up with their Poultry Projects to boost egg and meat production through Layer and Broiler poultry. In poultry sector, Balangir is 2nd in Odisha in meat and egg production.

Sheep Breeding Farm, Deogaon: The farm was established on 19.04.1973 at village Deogaon, Dist-Balangir covering a total area of 138.91 Acres. The farm is situated at a distance of 25 km from Balangir District head quarters on NH-201 towards Bhawanipatna. The total land is divided in to two patches by a road from NH-201 to Tusra. The farm was established with an objective to produce Graded Malpura sheep and rams which were to be sold to farmers of the district and neighbouring districts for genetic up-gradation of local breeds.

The sheep breeding farm was converted to Goat Breeding Farm from 09.05.2011. Now Ganjam goats are reared in the farm. The capacity of the goat breeding farm is 200 adult goats.

The objective of the farm is to produce breedable goats and and to sell these to farmers of the district and adjacent district for genetic up-gradation of local goats. There are three sheds to house 200 adult goats and their kids.

Two patches of forest land are wire net fenced enclosing approximately 7.5 acres of land for fodder cultivation.

Veterinary Health Facilities

The following veterinary health facilities are rendered with comparative figures for 4 years.

Year	Cases treated	Vaccination done	Castration	Artificial Insemination
2011-12	256,209	1,291,000	33,841	35,125
2012-13	266,476	1,009,135	33,004	33,355
2013-14	302,192	907,070	32,518	42,293
2014-15	490,665	1,241,930	37,986	57,437

Animal Diseases

The principal animal diseases are Haemorrhagic Septicaemia, Black quarter, Foot and Mouth disease, Anthrax, Ranikhet disease, Fowl pox and Rabbits. These are all contagious. Vaccinations against these diseases are going on every year in the district by the field functionaries and during the last 3 years there is no outbreak of any diseases reported from any part of the district.

14 MVUs (Mobile Veterinary Units) are in operation in all 14 blocks to reach interior pockets of the district.

Health camps

Health camps of different types such as (a) Intensive GP level health camps (b) Fertility Camp (c) Deworming camps and (d) ASCAD health camps are going on in routine manner to treat livestock with different ailments to improve general health condition of cattle, buffalos and other livestock with an objective to make them more productive .

National Animal Disease Reporting System

This involves computerised network, which brings about a linkage between each block, district and state with the centralised Animal Disease Database at national level which helps to analyse and interpret data

regarding the incidence of various diseases of livestock and poultry. All 14 blocks of Balangir district are connected to the NADRS portal and are regularly uploading the disease data.

Development in Animal Husbandry Programmes

Dairy Development

Central sponsored scheme such as DEDS(Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme) and State sponsored scheme such as PDE (Promotion of Dairy Entrepreneurship), Small term Interest sub-vention and Long term interest sub-vention are being implemented in the district to enhance milk production.

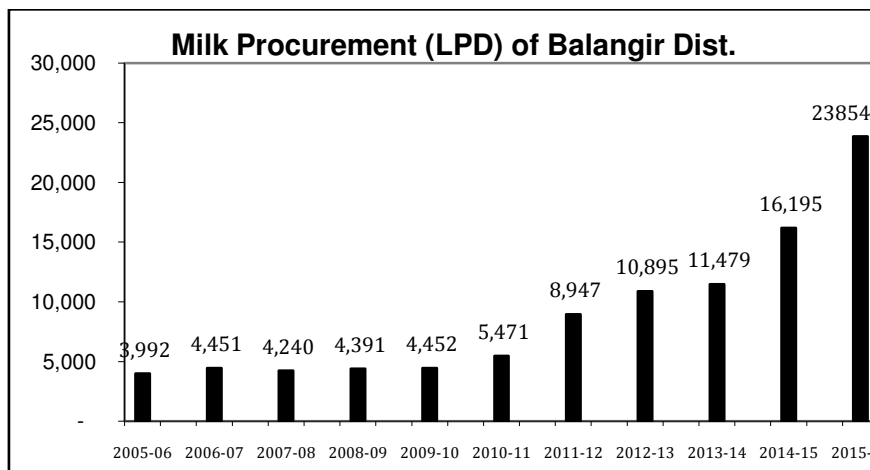
For dairy development in the district, a programme named 'Kalyani' under BAIF is going to (a) create opportunities for gainful self employment to rural poor by producing cross breeds/ improved breeds from non-descript cattle and buffalo, (b) to impart training to farmers on scientific management of CB cattle and (c) to support calf rearing and animal health care.

1. Date of Opening Center- 02.03.2011
2. No. of CDC- 15
3. No. of Block - 03 (Balangir, Deogaon and Puintala)
4. No. of Village - 313
5. Gram Panchayat- 64
6. Population -154215
7. Cattle Population-

A. Crossbreed -8,347 , B. ND-8,988 , C. Buffalo- 1,880

BKN Regional Cooperative Milk Producers' Union Ltd. Balangir

The BKN Regional Cooperative Milk Producers' Union is the organization playing a vital role in development of dairy activities in the district through dairy co-operative societies. There are 126 such societies functioning in the district of which 55 are registered. Eight nos of societies are exclusively women dairy co-op societies with 176 women members enrolled. At present the member strength of all societies taken together is 4518. Out of 14 blocks 9 blocks (except Khaprakhol block in Patnagarh subdivision and 4 blocks namely Titilagarh, Bangomunda, Muribahal and Tureikela in Titilagarh subdivision) are covered under the milk routes. As of now 17 bulk cooler plants with an overall capacity of 40,000 litre per day (LPD) chilling have been established in these 9 blocks. At present, through these societies 31,000 litre much is being collected daily and are marketed by the Union.



Poultry Development

Four Mother unit are formed with the source? recommendation of concerned BVO of the Blocks:

(1) Loisinga Block, (2) Balangir Block (At Chudapali VD Area) (3) Deogaon Block, (4) Belpada Block.

Rural Backyard Poultry Development

Chicks Distributed through Mother Units

Mother Unit	Target (Beneficiaries)	Chicks Distributed	Completed/Balance
Deogaon	222	9,990	Completed
Belpada	224	10,080	Completed
Balangir (Chudapali)	222	9990	Completed
Loisinga	222	9,990	Completed
TOTAL	890	40,050	

Sheep and Goat Development

For improvement in productivity of goats of the district, Govt. sponsored schemes like NMPS (National Mission for Protein Supplements) is working on since 2011-12. So far 59 goat units have been established in the district. Under the same, 4 Goat Clusters have been established in the district at Patnagarh, Loisingha, Bandhpada and Titilagarh. Goat Scouts provided vaccination, fast aid and deworming to goats in these clusters.

Goat Development Programme (Under BAIF)

BAIF Goat Development Centre Information

Blocks in which goat development programme has been taken up are :
Titilagarh, Bangomunda, Turekela, Belpada (Mandal) and Muriubahal

Activities taken-up by BAIF

Sl. No	Activity	2011-12 Achievement	2012-13 Achievement	2013-14 Achievement	2014-15 Achievement	2015-16 Achievement
1	Deworming	20,347	50,330	49,275	40,842	3,304
2	Vaccination	6,160	22,377	17,043	18,272	3,005
3	Group Training	69	276	196	204	0
4	Goat Keepers Training	10	10	05	270	0
5	Buck Supply	.....	274	62	.....	0
6	Buck Service	.....	251	47	9,207	2,564
7	Kidding	.....	.....	490	7,020	3,664
8	Weight Monitoring	.....	22,959	31,359	38,415	12,510

Fisheries

Fish culture is not only a profitable avenue but also provides gainful employment and solves the unemployment hazards of State/country. At present educated youths working women/fishermen/ cooperatives of rural areas are adopting pisciculture as their prime livelihood and gaining employment and income to uplift their socio-economic status. The average per capita consumption of Balangir district is 9.5 kg which in comparison to the state average of 9.13 kg.

In Balangir, the resources for growth of pisciculture are vast and varied in shape of private owned ponds, public Ponds, katas, MIP, reservoir, water logged areas in culture sector and river/ canals under capture fisheries sector but the major portion of them have not yet been covered under scientific pisciculture due to various geo-climatic problems. However, efforts are being made to introduce scientific culture system in major portion of resources.

General Features

Out of 14 blocks of the district mainly 8 blocks have potential for pisciculture and the rest are found to have carrying moderate potential for pisciculture. Generally the type of soil in Balangir district are termed as black cotton, milky and rocky which are less suitable for pisciculture, and this soil can be conducive for pisciculture if prolongation of culture practices are

made by deposit of silt over the basin of water bodies. Besides, although annual rainfall recorded to be 1444 mm, it does not generally rain in time for which pisciculture activities suffer a lot and as at the time in early summer most of water bodies get dried. The seasonal water bodies retain water only for 6 to 7 month in a year, whereas normal culture period needs at least 10 months. At this point, scientific method can be adopted which is termed as short duration pisciculture. The source of water mainly comprises the rainwater which comes late and as a result, water bodies do not retain enough water for the whole culture period. The alternative arrangement through digging of deep bore well, also proved futile since ground water layers are not traced everywhere. The details are given below:

Sl. No.	Particulars	Description
1	No. of Block	14
2	No. of Sub-division	03
3	Population	16,48,997 [(S.C.-2,94,777) (ST-3,47,164)]
4	Expected fish demand of the Dist.(in MT)	10,000
5	Annual per capita consumption (kg.)	9.50
6	Own Fish Production (MT)	7,714
7	Fish import from other source (deficit in MT)	2,286
8	Annual Rainfall	1,444 mm
9	Soil Type	Black Cotton, milky, rocky.
10	Source of water	Rain fed
11	Water retentively of ponds	Seasonal 95% and perennial 5%

Resources Available

There are 4,868.89 ha of ponds/tanks available under Culture Fisheries sector out of which 3,271.76 ha are found to be suitable for pisciculture. The public ponds covering 4,241.91 ha available in different blocks of the district are found unsuitable due to seasonal and derelict conditions with infestation of aquatic weeds. Those ponds can be taken up for pisciculture after their reclamation. Due to short retention of water in ponds, private farmers are not paying interest to convert their land into pisciculture units. However, they have been encouraged to excavate ponds with extra depth under NMPS (National Mission for Protein Supplements) for better pisciculture. Similarly under Captive Fisheries sector although 1403.29 ha of reservoir/MIPs are available yet 702.0 ha have been brought under fisheries management through PFCS/SHG. Sometimes, drop outs are found to be the main cause due to irregular leasing, derelict condition and aquatic weed infestation. These water bodies are also seasonal in nature.

The present fish production in the district is 7,714 MT which is far below the present fish demand of the district (10,000 MT). The river and canals measuring 3975 ha in seven riverine sources are also producing less quantity of fish due to mass killing of mother fish / fingerlings and other illegal practices by fishermen. In this context, sizeable fish seeds are required to be

released in such water bodies by the Government to enhance fish population and its regulation of fishing regularly by enforcing Fisheries Act.

At present major species such as Catla, Rohu, Mrigal, Grass Carp, Cy. Carpio and Silver Carp are being cultured in water bodies of farmers. In few cases introduction of new species such as Labeo-fimbriatus, Serrana, Jarda, Mola and Bata are being cultured as inter crop to enhance fish production of the district and these species fetch a good market price of Rs 80 to 120 per kg in Balangir.

Farm Gate Price of Species (Rs/Kg)

i)	Indian Major Carps	120
ii)	Minor Carp	80-120
iii)	Cat Fish	100

Different Schemes Operated

Fish Farmers Development Agency (FFDA)

Beneficiaries, irrespective of their economic status are being given technical and logistic support through FFDA for promotion of pisciculture in Inland area. The FFDA assists fishermen to access to institutional finance for excavation of new pond as well as renovation of existing ponds. The aim of the FFDA is to augment fish production. The FFDA also provide backended subsidy assistance to fish farmers under Bank Finance as well as under own source development and enhancing fish production. The subsidy assistance is available only for once to a beneficiary and is up to 5ha water area. The subsidy is 20% and 25% for general & SC/ST respectively with funding pattern of 75%. Central share and 25% State share under Central Sponsored Plan Scheme (CSPS).

National Fisheries Development Board (NFDB)

National Fisheries Development Board aims to realize the Potential through scientific, managerial and financial support to fish farmers and entrepreneurs through state. Various schemes are implemented for development of fisheries and for enhancing fish production. Under this scheme, there is no fixed limit of 5ha water area for the subsidy assistance. One can avail subsidy up to unlimited water area.

National Mission for Protein Supplement (NMPS)

Excavation of new tank with input assistance is encouraged under NMPS (RKVY) for excavation of 1 to 5ha water area. The project cost is Rs 4.0 lakh/ha and 40% subsidy of the project cost is given to all categories. Fish yield must be minimum 5.0MT/ha. Subsidy limit to an individual is up to development of 5 ha of water area.

New programme of State Government (STATE PLAN)

The State Government has introduced a number of new programmes from 2013-14 for enhancement of production and productivity. New programmes are given hereunder.

Interest Subvention on Credit Support to Fish Farmers

Short Term Loan:

The scheme aims at providing adequate and timely credit support from the banking system under a single window to fish farmers for pisciculture and other needs. Fish farmers under taking scientific fish farming in their existing fish ponds and availing short term loan are eligible to avail short term loan up to Rs 3 lakh for one year by way of interest subvention @5%. Further an interest incentive of 3% will be allowed for repayment of loan in time. Thus, a farmer will be charged @4% interest only with interest subvention by the State Government.

Long term loan for fisheries development:

Fish farmers can avail the benefit up to Rs 10 lakh term loan with interest subsidy subvention of 3%. Additional interest subvention of 2% will be provided to farmer for regular and timely repayment of loan instalment dues.

Promotion of Intensive Aquaculture: For promotion of Intensive Aquaculture, additional subsidy of 25% is being provided by the State Govt. over and above the exiting subsidy(Gen-20% & SC/ST-25%) from FFDA and NFDB. For NMPS programme, 10% additional subsidy is being provided by the State Govt. However the ceiling of maximum subsidy is up to 50% to each beneficiary and it is backended subsidy. Again the subsidy for pond development is being provided maximum up to 5ha water area per beneficiary under FFDA and NMPS.

Matshyajibi Unnayan Yojana (MUY): The MUY is a special welfare package for fish folk of Odisha. It consists of 14 programmes declared by Hon'ble Chief Minister, Odisha on 09.12.2011 to provide social security and livelihood support to fishermen community of Odisha. Five components are funded by rastriya krushi vikas yojana (RKVY) and other programmes are introduced in collaboration with other departments of the State Programme under MUY implemented in the District are hereunder:

Assistance for Net & Boat for Inland Fishers: The scheme aims at increasing the fishing efficiency and livelihood support to fishermen engaged in reservoirs and rivers. Subsidy of 50% limited Rs 12,500/- is admissible under RKVY.

Assistance for fish marketing infrastructure for fishermen/women: To provide livelihood to fishermen engaged in fish marketing and to sale their product in hygienic conditions, fishermen are provided with subsidy from RKVY as under:

Cycle with Icebox-50% of the cost limited to Rs 2,000/-

Motor Cycle/ Moped with Ice box- 25% of the cost limited to Rs 7,500/-

Auto Rickshaw with Ice box-25% of the cost limited to Rs 35,000/-

Financial Assistance to fishermen / women SHG: Provision of revolving fund of Rs 10,000/- is announced to be given (WCD Department Rs 5,000/- & Fisheries Department Rs 5,000/-) to fisher women SHG to carry on fishery activities. This is a State Scheme.

Award of Scholarships to meritorious children of fishermen community: This is a State Scheme in which one time financial assistance is provided to the meritorious children of fishermen community for higher education basing on the marks of last HSC examination in the following manner:

Mark above 70% :- Rs 7,500/-

Mark above 60% :- Rs 5,000/-

Mark above 50% :- Rs 3,000/-

Matshyajibi Basagraha Yojana: This is also a State Scheme. Under the scheme poor active fishers are assisted to construct dwelling houses. The cost of each such dwelling house is Rs 90,000/- and out of the same, grant is Rs 75,000/- and beneficiary contribution is Rs 15,000/- Funds for implementation are placed with P.D, DRDA by the Director of Fisheries, Odisha annually.

Mo-kudia Scheme for fishermen: Active fishermen, who are genuinely poor but are included in the BPL list and having no pucca house are provided with house through Panchayatiraj Department. This is a State Scheme.

Progress of Mastyajibi Unnayan Yojana

In this sector generally fishers adjacent to rivers / canals are being benefitted and achievements are given under:

Items	No. of units provided	Subsidy provided (Rs)
Net & Boat Infrastructure	32	4,00,000/-
Cycle with Icebox	49	98,000/-
Moped with Icebox	04	30,000/-
Scholarship to children of fishers	146	6,73,000/-

Awareness for Popularization of Pisciculture

District Level Exhibition/ Awareness Camps/ Work Shops/ Skill up gradation Training:

These programmes are normally organized at District headquarters with participation of public, interested fish farmers, ZP members, PS members and Bankers etc to generate awareness on different programmes of fisheries department for implementation. Regarding Skill upgradation, training is imparted to fish farmers to upgrade their skills for better production of fish.

Buyers/ Sellers Meet:

This is a programme organized at the District headquarters with an intention to bring buyers and sellers together, i.e. all stakeholders to one platform to ensure an interaction between fish farmers and suppliers of different critical inputs required for pisciculture, which may contribute to increase fish production and popularize pisciculture in both rural and urban areas.

Present Fish Culture Practices & Area (ha)

Generally, in Pond fisheries three kinds of culture practices are carried out in the district viz. Traditional, Extensive, Semi- intensive and Intensive. In reservoirs, Cage Culture, Pen Culture Practices can be taken-up but are yet to be introduced due to early shallowness of water bodies before summer.

Although in some cases scientific culture is adopted, traditional culture practices are still prevalent in some public waterbodies due to community use and non- leasing.

i) Traditional:	121.61 ha
ii) Advanced Extensive:	2200.97 ha
iii) Semi-intensive & intensive:	1303.44 ha
Total	3626.02 ha

Present Demand of Seed (in Lakh)

Keeping in view the maintenance of seasonal ponds, farmers are advised to stock their waterbodies with advanced fingerlings or yearlings in order to yield more fish production in a short period. The present demand of seeds is shown below:

Demand		
i) Fry	-	40 lakhs
ii) Fingerlings/Yearlings	-	20 lakhs (Fry conversion: 40 lakhs)
Total		480 lakhs

Present Sources of Seed Production

In Balangir, considering the area brought under pisciculture the requirement of fry works out to 480 lakh. The sectorwise fish production and supply are given below:

Govt/ OPDC	80 lakhs
PVT producer/ Traders	400 lakhs
Total	480 lakhs

Due to seasonal nature of waterbodies, fish farmers of Balangir and particularly of Patnagarh produce fingerlings/yearlings with increased productivity. Similarly, 5 private farmers have raised fingerlings/yearlings and to supply the same within the district and adjacent district.

Sl. No.	Name	Capacity Hatchery Million	of in	Quantity of Spawn (in lakh) Produced.	Disposal (in lakh) Retained (Own stocking)	Sold out
1	Shri Bhikari Meher	100		650	50	600
2	Shri Pravakar Patra	100		400	350	50
3	Shri Kedar Meher	50		250	250	52
4	Zahid Ali	50		250	190	60
5	Shri Ranjan Meher	50		100	40	60

Apart from above 6 Govt. fish farms out of which only 3 farms viz. Loisingha, Patnagarhand Dhamandanga are available in the district, but are not functional due to shortage of manpower and funds. Now, the same have been leased out to private parties. Lease holders are also producing fry/fingerlings and sold them out within and outside the district.

Fish Production (in MT)

The present demand of fish keeping the population in mind (16.0 lakhs by 2011 census) comes to 10,000 MT per annum. By 2014-15, fish production from different sources has been estimated to be 7,714 MT with average production of 2,341 kg/ha and rest 2286 MT have been procured from other districts and other states. Annual per capita consumption of the district is 9.50 kg which is little higher than national average of 9.13 kg.

Although there is a lot of potential in Balangir District to enhance fish production to the demand level, all available and suitable water shortages could not be converted to scientific culture system on account of seasonal water bodies and financial depravity of farmers to carry out scientific pisciculture in case of private ponds and public ponds are also sub-optimally used on long terms basis. In this context long-term leasing of suitable public ponds need be carefully considered.

Moreover, Balangir has a good potential for improvement of capture fisheries by releasing fish seed for continuous period of three years so that fish population and production is enhanced.

Major Problems of Fish Farmers

Late stocking and late production of fish seed.

Palletized feeds are occasionally used due to high cost.

Early dry up of water bodies and failure of deep bore well installations.

Most farmers are not financially worthy to carry out fish culture in a continuous terms.

Bankers should come forward to render institutional credit to farmers on simplified way.

Awareness to be intensified through field functionaries of the District.

Lack of training in latest technologies.

Non-availability of sophisticated lab in the District for testing of water and soil of farmers ponds

Forests

Type of Forests

Total area of forest cover in Balangir district as per 2013 assessment is 6575 km. out of which very dense forest amounts to 69 Sq km, mixed dense forest 222 km and open forest 966 km. of various blocks in the district Tureikela, Khaprakhol, Muribahal and Saintala have higher reserve forest areas followed by Titilagarh, Balangir and Gudvela. The rest of the blocks have little reserved forest but have considerable area under forests of other categories.

It covers approximately 14.69 per cent of the total geographical area of the district. Forests have been classified into five categories, namely, Sal forests, low mixed forests, alluvial mixed forests, teak forests and bamboo forests. Forests provide protection against and reduces impact of natural calamities like droughts, floods and cyclones. It provide livelihood for weaker sections of the society and also provide a wide variety of products of commercial value such as timber, lac, resins, oilseeds, kendu leaves, and medicinal plants.

Economic importance

Forests play an important part in the economy of the district. People depend on it for supply of timber and bamboos for manufacture of agricultural and domestic implements and also for fuel. The actual timber requirements of the people consist of *Sal*, *Bija* and miscellaneous species and *Khair*. Other trees such as *Dhaura*, *Sahaj*, *Aijun* and Bamboos are in constant demand for basket making and for fencing purposes. Houses are invariably thatched with thatching grass although straw is used in Balangir and Salebhatta areas where thatching grass is not available. In Titilagarh and Patnagarh subdivisions, houses are mostly tiled. Rolling of Bidis from Kendu leaves has received great impetus and these leaves are collected in large quantities for export outside the district.

Requirements of people in respect of other minor produce are chiefly edible fruits, seeds, thorny shrubs for fencing and *Sal* leaves for leaf cups and plates. Leading shoots of *Sal* coppice are in great demand for use as tooth brushes and fibres of *Palas* and *Siali* and other species for ropes.

Greater part of local supplies of forest produce used to be drawn from outside reserve forests with. But the increasing population and larger demand for free grants, village forests are disappearing and so the pressure has now fallen on reserved forests.

Balangir district is one of the most important districts in terms of Government's revenue from minor forest produce. The district holds top place in Kendu leaves production both in terms of quantity and quality. It is also one of the top producers of Mahua flowers in the State. Kendu leaves and Mahua flowers constitute the first and second most important NTFPs of the district in terms of value of output. The district is the largest producer of Neem Seeds, 2nd largest producer of Char seeds and Babul seeds, 3rd largest producer of Bantulsi seeds and 5th largest producer of Chakunda seeds.

Employment in Forest Operations

Large number of local labourers, find employment in forest operations especially in kendu leaves collection. The Kendu leaf Divisions of Forest Department Balangir, Patnagarh and Titilagarh employ about 50,000 labourers annually in coppice plucking, storing, processing and export operations.

Forest Industry

Forest produce like Kendu leaf and bamboo are two principal raw materials to feed the *Bidi* and paper industries respectively. The *Bidi* industry which is solely run by man-power locally employed. Other industries, such as saw mills and furniture workshops etc. also operate in the district.

Minor Forest Produce

Bamboo

Since 1951, bamboos in some parts of Khaprakhol and Mohakhand Ranges were leased out to M/S. Bengal Paper Mills Limited. Bamboos from the rest of the Division are consumed locally. On an average, 60,000 bamboos are being supplied at concessional rate to tenants for their domestic use.

Large numbers of people earn their livelihood by making bamboo baskets, mats and other things. Use of bamboos in construction of houses particularly in rural areas is found considerable.

Following List depicts a picture of production of minor forest produce in the district. The table reflects approximate quantities of production of different minor forest produce.

NTFP Item	Approx. Quantity (qtl.)
1. Kendu Leaves	90,000
2. Mahua Flowers	2,00,000
3. Sal Seed	2,400
4. Neem Seeds	1,500
5. Babul Seeds	1,500
6. Genduli Gum	90
7. Char Seed	145
8. Bantulsi	2000
9. Chakunda Seeds	450
10. Harida	500
11. Hill Broom	100
12. Thorn Broom	450
13. Siali Leaves	145
14. Bahada	170

Kendu Leaves

Balangir district is the largest producer of Kendu Leaves in the state. The district produces roughly 15% of the state's total production. However, due to better quality of leaves in the district, Balangir's contribution to the total sale revenues of the State is roughly 25%. Three Kendu Leaf Divisions, Balangir, Patnagarh and Titilagarh cover the district.

Mahua Flowers

The Flowers of Mahua (*Madhuca indica*) are an important minor forest produce from the view point of tribal people. Mahuli is a dominant liquor locally brewed and consumed by tribals and other people. Balangir is an important producer of Mahua flowers in the State. The annual reported production of Mahua flowers in the district hovers around 150,000 quintals.

Mahua Seed

Mahua seed (or Tola) is also an important NTFP from the angle of consumption needs. Mahua oil is the primary cooking medium in most of the rural areas of the district. Most of Mahua seed production is used to supply oil at the household level.

Other Forest Produce are Khair (*Acacia catechu*), Lac, Myrbolan and Sabai Grass collected in small quantities.

Natural Calamities

Entire Balangir district is vulnerable to frequent droughts. Failure of crops is mainly attributed to insufficient or unevenly distributed rainfall and as a result, scarcity often overtakes the territory.

Almost fifty years back in the year 1965, the district was in the grip of a severe drought as there was inadequate rainfall singularly marked by its erratic and uneven distribution. There was only 863 mm of rain during the year as against the annual average of 1422 mm. Even this little rainfall was so erratic in nature that cultivation could hardly derive any benefit and as a result, towards the end of October 1965, paddy crop failed leaving behind withered stumps.

Major Past Calamities

From 1974 to 2014 a number of natural disasters have been reported affecting the lives and livelihood of about 13 lakh people of Balangir district. Droughts occurred in 1974, 1979, 1982, 1987, 1992, 1996, 1998, 2000, 2004, 2005 and 2011. This district was also affected by flood in 1982, 2006, 2007 and 2008. Unseasonal rains occurred in the month of December 2010 damaging crops in fields. There was pest attack on cotton in 2001.

Floods: Though Balangir is a drought prone district, heavy rains lead to flash floods in some river systems flowing throughout the district. However, over the period, due to increase in road connectivity to remote areas of the district, a major part of the district does not get affected due to flood. However, there are some pockets of the districts which are cut off during flood.

The details are given below.

Sl. No.	Block	Name of the G.P.	Name of the Inaccessible Villages
1	Agalpur	Budula	Dengjuri
2	Loisingha	Dunguripali	Magurbeda
3		Jamut	Tilkamal
4	Gudvela	Jamut	Tikripada
4		Jamut	Raxibhata

6		Jamut	Lattara
7		Ghuna	Tarsuguda
8		Ghuna	Bagbahal
9		Biramunda	Sandhisara
10		Biramunda	Demuhan
11		Kuturla	Hatisara
12	Deogaon	Bodobahal	Kendughat
13		Kultapada	Singatimal
14		Goudgoth	Ratakhandi
15	Muribahal	Chalki	Bankel
16		Siskela	Siskela
17	Saintala	Ghunsar	Babulba
18		Kansar	Kansar
19		Belgaon	Belgaon

Drought: Drought has become a perennial and recurring phenomenon in this region and the major cause of concern is that the frequency of drought is increasing rapidly. The District has faced drought during 1996, 1998, 2000, 2002, and 2009. Almost 80% area of the district is prone to drought. During 2003, Gudvela block has received more than 300 mm of rainfall in a single day. Due to the global climate change the occurrence of natural hazards will be more frequent thereby making poor community more vulnerable and the resultant impact more devastating. The whole district is coming under earthquake zone –II (Low damage risk zone). The district is also coming under wind and cyclone moderate damage risk zone. During last 15 years (2001-2015) maximum human casualty occurred due to lightning followed by sunstroke. Human casualty has also occurred in flood and cyclone.

Annexure

Source-wise Irrigation Potential in Different Blocks of Balangir District

(Area in Hectare)

Sl. No.	Year / Block/ ULB	Major / Medium Irrigation Project		Minor Irrigation Project				Other Sources		Total	
		Kharif	Rabi	Flow		Lift		Khari	Rabi	Kharif	Rabi
				Kharif	Rabi	Kharif	Rabi				
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
		539					14				16
1	Agalpur	1	201	560	2	1480	80	1699	0	9130	83
	Bangomunda						94				95
2		0	0	1039	16	940	0	2398	0	4377	6
					50		39				11
3	Belpara	787	240	3027	6	392	2	1163	0	5369	36
					11		72				83
4	Balangir	0	0	1838	0	722	2	1766	0	4326	2
							13				14
5	Deogaon	0	0	1308	68	1397	97	2380	0	5085	65
							15				15
6	Gudvella	0	0	193	0	1519	19	1713	0	3425	25
					25		13				15
7	Khaprakhol	558	266	1988	5	1306	06	2345	0	5927	57
							96				10
8	Loisingha	58	0	1665	80	962	2	1517	0	4202	42
					10		38				48
9	Muribahal	0	0	1004	0	380	0	963	0	2347	0
							11				12
10	Patnagarh	0	0	2469	97	1188	88	1741	0	5398	85
							53				58
11	Puintala	0	0	1550	45	536	6	2124	0	4210	1
							12				12
12	Saintala	0	0	754	4	1232	32	471	0	2457	36
					50		16				21
13	Titilagarh	540	0	1572	1	1644	44	1549	0	5306	45
							23				25
14	Tureikela	0	0	1258	20	236	6	2534	0	4028	6

Annexure II

Season-wise Estimated Area, Yield-rate and Production of Paddy in different Blocks and Urban area of Balangir District

[Area in Hectares, Yield rate in Qtls / Hect and Production in Qtls

Sl. No.	Year / Blocks / ULB	Autumn			Winter			Summer			Total		
		Area	Yield rate	Production	Area	Yield rate	Production	Area	Yield rate	Production	Area	Yield rate	Production
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1	Agalpur	36	11.	4090	989	30.	3002	39	30.	1215	139	25.	3533
		95	07	4	2	36	86	7	61	3	84	27	43
2	Bangomunda	64	23.	1540	679	40.	2722	65	26.	1711	133	32.	4280
		44	91	71	3	08	79		32		02	18	61
3	Belpara	61	16.	1034	114	32.	3721	91	35.	3211	176	27.	4788
		72	76	31	11	62	80		29		74	09	22
4	Balangir	42	15.	6652	105	42.	4482	12	27.	336	148	34.	5151
		67	59	3	89	34	98		96		68	65	57
5	Deogaon	39	15.	6161	102	47.	4872	26	44.	1155	144	38.	5604
		54	58	7	41	58	60	0	43	1	55	77	28
6	Khaprakhol	37	10.	3885	103	34.	3581	9	51.	463	140	28.	3974
		08	48	1	20	7	15		44		37	31	29
7	Loisingha	32	12.	4125	103	29.	3029	61	51.	3126	136	25.	3473
		83	57	5	21	35	63		24		65	42	44
8	Muribahal	76	17.	1324	804	43.	3474	29	24.	719	157	30.	4805
		58	29	19	9	17	53		8		36	54	91
9	Patnagarh	67	12.	8560	134	36.	4964	56	38.	2144	202	28.	5841
		67	65	9	37	94	06		28		60	83	59
10	Puintala	45	21.	9986	136	33.	4509	50	26.	1311	182	30.	5521
		43	98	3	37	07	81		22		30	29	55
11	Saintala	75	12.	9492	110	29.	3279	27	47.	1315	187	23.	4359
		11	64	9	06	79	03	9	15	5	96	2	87
12	Gudvella	31	14.	4364	474	38.	1822	84	44.	3736	869	30.	2633
		00	08	6	6	41	95	7	11	0	3	29	01
13	Titilagarh	72	12.	8818	961	27.	2605	10	28.	2906	179	21.	3778
		67	14	9	4	1	56	20	5	7	01	11	12
14	Tureikela	48	16.	8102	493	28.	1388	94	19.	1804	989	22.	2216
		63	66	8	7	13	61		19		4	41	93
		41	13.			34.	2632				117	27.	3209
	ULB	7	83	5766	755	87	6	--	--	--	2	36	2

CHAPTER V

INDUSTRIES

History and Evolution of Industries in the District

Cottage industries were flourishing in the district as it is evident from the use of iron by way of smelting of iron ore. Skilled persons were engaged in those days for making of agricultural implements like plough shares, sickles, axe and weapons of ancient warfare like swords, daggers, arrows, and shields. Although it is not possible to say when this cottage industry started, it continued right up to modern times and stopped only when scrap iron became available from different sources. Even today village blacksmiths make ploughshares, sickles and arrow heads in their smithies out of scrap.

The existence of mediaeval temples from 10th to 14th centuries shows that there must have been large number of skilled workmen employed in carving and engraving on stone and these workmen were not confined to any particular area. Brick structures in ruins at Ranipur Jharial, Titilagarh and Tusra could only have been made by brick layers molding clay and burning raw bricks.

The district is famous today for hand-woven textiles. Spinning and weaving of high quality materials must have been existed in mediaeval times as is evident from apparel shown on stone figures in mediaeval temples. The textiles were made not merely of cotton, but probably also of tussar silk. The weaving of tussar silk today is of an equal standard of excellence with that of cotton fabrics.

Images of deities made of brass and bell metal are found in old temples and they are brought to remote village markets (hats) for sale. The braziers excelled in brass and bell metal casting in mediaeval times.

Other industries which existed in early times were making bamboo mats and baskets, making ropes from thatching grass and sabai grass, clay pottery and extraction of oil from oil seeds, etc.

Present Day Village Industries

A village industry of outstanding excellence is weaving, of both cotton and silk fabrics. Coarse clothes even with attractive design are woven by scheduled caste communities, Gandas and Panas and finer variety is generally woven by Bhulias. Other communities in the trade such as Kulis and others are also involved in making coarse materials like gamuchha and sarees. Silk sarees are also made by few Bhulia caste people in the district. Other materials commonly woven by above castes are door screens, bed sheets, etc.

Power Sector in the District

Electricity was first made available to Balangir town in 1911 from a thermal station. The initial installed capacity of the power house was then 12 K. W. only. Electric power was supplied to the town of Titilagarh from 15th March 1957 from a power house installed with 4 A. C. generating sets. It had an installed capacity of 619 K.W. Electricity from Hydro-electric project was made available at Balangir on the 2nd May 1964 and at Titilagarh on the 9th April 1965. The towns and villages connected to the 33/11 K.V. line in Balangir substation are Balangir, Chudapali, Bhainsa, Rampur, Patnagarh, Tarbha, Saragaj, Bhainsar, Sibtoala and Sonepur. The following places are connected to the 33/11 K.V. sub-station: Titilagarh 11, Bangomunda, Gohirapadar and Kantabanji.

A list of division-wise consumption of electricity in Balangir district for the year 2010-11 is furnished in Annexure I at the end of the chapter.

Power supply to domestic and industrial purpose is managed by WESCO (Western Electricity Supply Company of Odisha limited). WESCO is a public limited company to carry out the distribution and retail supply business of electricity in the entire region of Odisha. Before 1997, Odisha State Electricity Board was overseeing the aspect of distribution and supply of electricity in the district.

Name of Electrical Subdivisions and Sections under BED, Balangir								
Name of Division	Sub-division name	Section name	Section Office Location	Large Industry >110Kva	Medium Industry <110Kva	Small Industry	Other category of consumers	Total
		1. Section-I Balangir	Power House Balangir	0	1	12	44724485	
		2. Section-II Balangir	Palace Line Balangir	3	8	24	6577	6609
	1	3. Section-III Balangir	Laltikra Balangir	0	1	7	3866	3874
		4. Section-IV Balangir	Sudpada Balangir	0	5	15	3952	3972
		1. REC Puintala	Puintala	3	9	35	5602	5649
BED	Balangir	2. Chudapali	Chudapali	0	8	33	3330	3371
Balangir	2	3. Chhatamakhana	Chhatamakhana	5	13	42	4209	4269
		1. Loisinga	Loisinga	2	5	26	4493	4526
		2. Salevata	Salevata	0	1	15	4945	4961
		3. Agalpur	Agalpur	0	0	13	4522	4537
		1. Tusra	Tusra	7	13	29	5731	5780
		2. Deogaon	Deogaon	2	7	24	3771	3804
		49 Villages of Subarnapur District	Tarva	3	3	8		2508
SED	Puintala Block coming under Sonepur Division							
Subarnapur								

Name of Electrical Subdivision and Sections under TED, Titilagarh

Name of Division	Sub-division name	Section name	Section Office Location	Large Industry >110Kva	Medium Industry <110Kva	Small Industry	Other category of consumers	Total
		1.Titilagarh No-I	Titilagarh	2	9	31	5872	5914
	Titilagarh	2.Titilagarh No-II	Titilagarh	4	16	38	9591	9649
		3.Sindhekela	Sindhekela	1	3	43	5423	5470
	Saintala	1.Saintala	Saintala	1	4	38	7453	7496
		2.Belgaon	Belgaon	7	4	32	9520	9563
		1.Kantabanji	Kantabanji	8	17	46	3963	4034
TED Titilagarh	Kantabanji	2.Tureikela	Kantabanji	0	4	33	11548	11585
		3.Muribahal	Muribahal	1	2	22	8306	8331
		1.Patnagarh No-I	Patnagarh	1	7	30	5529	5567
		2.Patnagarh No-II	Patnagarh	1	4	27	7234	7266
	Patnagarh	3.Patnagarh No-III	Patnagarh	0	1	16	7700	7717
		4.Belpada	Belpada	10	8	31	13151	13200
		5.Khaparakhol	Khaparakhol	1	2	34	12865	12902
		District Total		62	155	704	163625	167039

Status of Village Electrification

Sl. No.	Name of Block	No. of G.P.	No. of Villages	No. of village Electrified (Partially)	No. of UE Villages
1	Agalpur	18	102	102	
2	Loisinga	18	107	107	
3	Balangir	23	123	123	
4	Puintala	24	134	134	
5	Deogaon	23	126	126	
6	Gudvela	12	92	90	2
7	Saintala	20	137	137	
8	Patnagarh	26	164	164	
9	Khaparakhhol	18	132	132	
10	Belpada	22	119	119	
11	Titilagarh	22	130	130	
12	Muribahal	18	157	157	
13	Turekela	19	108	108	
14	Bangomunda	22	133	133	
	Total	285	1764	1762	2

Solar power

This district has four units of solar plants at Balangir (2), Deogaon and Patnagarh generating around 36 MW of electricity which are distributed by WESCO.

Mining

History of Mining in the district

Mining activities of the district started 100 years back. A prospecting license for graphite was given in the year 1917 which lasted for 6 years. A mining lease was granted in the year 1923 but no operation was carried out. In 1937-38, graphite was found in isolated pockets of 14 villages. Graphite occurs mostly in the form of disseminations, thin bands in pockets in the highly siliceous, gneissic rocks in several locations in the district. Some of the important occurrences are listed below.

1. Barghat
2. Bankiamunda
3. Gambharimal
4. Jamjuri
5. lakshanpur
6. Dudukamal
7. Uchhabpali
8. Haravanga
9. Daamaipali
10. Patharmunda
11. Sikachida
12. Ganjaudar
13. Tentelkhunti
14. Gaindimal.

Graphite was exported in the form of plumbago, graphite lumps and powder for pencil and paint industries but presently the use of graphite extends to gun powder industries, railways and steel plants. The main consumers were Tata Iron and Steel Company, Indian Iron and Steel Company and Steel Authority of India Limited and Bhilai. In 1954 permission was granted to raise graphite in 16 villages covering an area of 139,74 acres. In the year 2014-15 mining lease for graphite was given to 47 villages covering an area of 29,423,182 ha. Total royalty from graphite in the year 2014 was estimated Rs. 11,23,323/-.

Manganese had also been found in some places and mined in a small scale. In 1940, 377 tons were exported. In 1941, there was a mineral survey of Balangir district and neighbouring areas. Manganese was found in more than 70 villages. In 1954, a prospecting license for manganese was given covering an area of 1,23,735 acres producing a licensing fee of Rs. 1,300. A mining lease was executed in the year 1997 but was suspended due to want of statutory clearances.

In the year 2001 and 1997 mining permission was granted for Gem stone in favor of M/s S.S.G. Pvt. Limited in village Kendumundi covering an area of 12.076 ha and Galena in favor of Sri B.L. Pansari in village Badipada respectively.

In 2015-16, 58 Mining Licenses have been granted . Out of them, 47 for graphite, 8 for quartz, and 1 for gemstone cover total area of 29,663.757 ha. In addition, 17 decorative stone mining licenses are granted in the district.

Graphite, Manganese, Quartz ore are the only minerals that are mined in the district. Most of the graphite produced in the district is utilized in plants set up by Agrawal Graphite Industries, G.R. Graphite Industries, Indusmin Graphite Industries, Mishra Graphite Industries and National Carbon Product. Figures of production for the last three years are as follows.

Mineral	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Manganese	Nil	Nil	Nil
Graphite	Nil	Nil	912.618
Quartz	Nil	Nil	Nil

The Mining Revenue of the District collected for the period from 2010-11 to 2014-15 for both major and minor mineral is given below.

Year	Revenue collected in Rs.
2010-11	148,639,537
2011-12	151,008,993
2012-13	210,241,530

2013-14	198,282,413
2014-15	239,338,860

District Industries Centers have been set up in each district of the State with effect from 1st July 1978. Consequent upon establishment of District Industries Centers, the Offices of the District Industries Officers, Project Officers, Rural Industries Projects and Zonal Deputy Director have been abolished. The District Industries Centre will be the only agency to deal with all services and support required for promotion, establishment and follow up action in respect of small and village Industries. This organization has been equipped with techno managerial staff, marketing experts and economists to locate and assist entrepreneurs belonging to small and village sectors. The range of functions of a District Industries Centre cover economic investigation of a district's raw materials, credit facilities, effective marketing assistance with common facilities for quality control and establish close linkage with development departments, financing agencies etc.

From 1978, 7 Industrial Policy resolutions have been formulated by the Government. The one which is now in force is IPR of 2007. Beside this 2009 MSME development policy is also in force where the following type of incentives and other facilities have been provided to the entrepreneur.

1. Capital investment subsidy
2. Interest subsidy
3. Entry tax exemption
4. Entertainment tax exemption
6. Exemption on payment of premium of land conversion
7. Electricity duty exemption
8. Providing of IDCO land in concessional rate
9. Marketing support

Existing Status of Industrial Estates/Areas/Growth Centres in the District of Balangir

Sl. No.	Name of Industry Estate/Area	Total Land (in Acres)	Land Allotted(In Acres)	Prevailing Land Rate Per Acre/Rs. In lakh	Total Sheds	Sheds Allotted/used	No of vacant sheds	No of units in operation
1	Balangir Zone A	13.460	8.513	7.00	18	17	1	10
2.	Balangir Zone-B	89.580	43.162	5.50	-	-	-	03
3.	Balangir NID (Phase I)	168.130	72.866	4.50	-	-	-	04
4.	Balangir NID (Phase II)	395.890	131.310	3.50	-	-	-	03
5.	Kantabanji	9.470	8.523	10.00	06	06	-	05
6.	Titilagarh	17.460	9.093	10.00	15	11	4	11
7.	Patnagarh	10.291	0.000	10.00	-	-	-	-
	otal	704.281	273.467	-	39	34	5	36

Industrial Scenario of Balangir District (2010-11)

Sl. No	Head	Unit	Particulars
1.	Registered Industrial Unit	Nos	1270
2.	Total Industrial Unit	Nos	4557
3.	Registered Medium and Large Unit	Nos	5
4.	Estimated. No. of Daily Worker Employed in Small Scale Industries	Nos	29635
5.	Employment in Large and Medium Industries	Nos	3652
6.	No. of Industrial Area	Nos	7
7.	Investment of Small Scale Industries	In Lacs	14444.84
8.	Turnover of Medium and Large Scale Industries	In Lacs	NA

Details of Existing Micro and Small Enterprises and Artisan Units in the District (As on 2011-12)

Nic Code No.	Type of Industry	Number of Units	Investment (Lakh Rs.)	Employment
20 and 22	Agro based	1344	5361.62	6334
23, 24, 25 and 26	Textile based	473	1324.63	5886
27.	Wood/wooden based furniture	221	195	1286
28	Paper and Paper products	95	227.15	622
29	Leather based	25	57.59	223
31	Chemical/Chemical based	108	367.38	808
30	Rubber, Plastic and petro based	65	694.48	419
32	Mineral based (GandC)	229	2435.5	5136
33 and 35	Metal based (Steel Fab.) and Engineering units	400	1386.09	2817
36	Electrical machinery and electronics	15	41.26	93
97	Repairing and servicing	1581	3223.86	5907
01	Others	216	868.5	1174

Large Scale Industries / Public Sector Undertakings

Sl. No	Name and address of the unit	Investment (Rs. in lakh)	Employment (Nos)	Item of production
1.	Ordnance Factory, Badamal, Saintala, Balangir	54400	2400	Defense Production (ammunition)
2	GKW Piomex Steels Ltd., Turla, Titilagarh, Balangir	8724	551	Alloyed Steel
3	Rashabh Mining Pvt. Ltd., Titilagarh, Balangir	808	51	Granite Slab/Tiles

Medium Scale Enterprises

Sl. No	Name and address of the unit	Investment (Rs. in lakh)	Employment	Item of production
1.	M/s. Vijayananda Cooperative Sugar Mills Ltd., Sagarpali, Deogaon, Balangir	5488	500	Sugar and Spirit
2	M/s. Spa Straw Board Industries (P) Ltd., Charmora, Titilagarh, Balangir	773	150	Writing/Printing/ Kra Paper

Service Enterprises

Positive growth is noticed with respect to service enterprises like transport and repairing services. There is also every scope for service enterprises with respect to handloom and handicraft sector. As handloom and textile industries are prominent activities of the district, there is scope for services like silk twisting, dying, sizing, knitting, and jari works in the district for master weaver and enterprises.

A detailed list of activities of small scale, handicrafts and cottage and handloom industries in Balangir district is appended as Annexure II at the end of the chapter.

Potential Areas for Service Industry

Activities under service and business sectors generally require less capital and intensive labour. It is widely feasible in the district because of the growing need for these services. The following servicing units are identified in the districts.

- 1) Modern Automobile Workshop/Body Building
- 2) Two wheeler/Auto Rickshaw Repairing unit
- 3) Agro Servicing Centres

- 4) Retreading of tyres
- 5) Reconditioning of Battery
- 6) Electrical repairing shop/Motor Winding/Transformer Repairing
- 7) Beauty parlor
- 8) Cyber café/Computer Data Processing/Hardware Repairing
- 9) Colour Photo Laboratory
- 10) Digital Photo studio
- 11) Dry Cleaning
- 12) Audio and video shooting/editing and servicing centre
- 13) Silk Twisting/Handloom Dyeing/Sizing/Knitting
- 14) Restaurant /Hotel
- 15) Mobile Repairing
- 16) Xeroxing
- 17) Electrical
- 18) Tailoring and Jari Works

Potential for new MSME (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises)

Taking into consideration the availability of raw materials and local demand, following resource oriented demand based MSMEs are suggested.

1. Plantation and extraction of herbal Ayurvedic medicines and cosmetics.
2. Rice Mill
3. Chuda Mill
4. Cold storage/rural godown/Dehydrated Onion
5. Leaf cup and plates
6. Jam, Jelly and Squash
7. Tomato Product, Ketchup, Chutney
8. Pickle
9. Kendu Leaf Product/Bidi
10. Oil Mill
11. Dal Mill
12. Spices Grinding
13. Cattle/Poultry Feed
14. Bread/Bakery/Biscuit
15. Food Mixture
17. Voltage Stabilizer
18. Readymade Garment
19. Agriculture implements
20. Cement products
21. Leather Bag Manufacturing/Shoe
22. Aluminium Utensil/Furniture
23. Fabrication/steel furniture
24. Agarbati/Candle
25. Granite Cutting/Polishing

26. Printing Press/Exercise Book
27. Packaged Drinking Water
28. Galvanised Product
29. Fly ash Brick
30. Cotton Ginning
31. Art Textile
32. Disposable Plastic Syringe/Needle
33. Rice Bran Oil
34. Neem Based Product
35. Mushroom Processing
36. Graphite Based Units
37. Handloom Fabrics
38. Terracotta
39. Jute and Hemp Rope
40. Brass Metal
41. Durry and Carpet Weaving
42. Terracotta
43. Dairy Product

Existing Clusters of Micro and Small Enterprise

Details of Major Clusters

Manufacturing Sector

1. Rice Mill Cluster at Balangir
2. Granite Cluster at Balangi

Handicraft Sector

1. Terracotta Cluster at i) Puintala, ii) Bagapalli and Manhiva, iii) Silatapada and Kutumdala, iv) Saintala, v) Titilagarh
2. Durry, Carpet Cluster at i) Chandanbhati, ii) Raximunda, iii) Tallijuni
3. Soft Toys at Balangir
4. Punja Dari at i) Khaprakhol, ii) Muribahal.
5. Wood Carving Talapadipada
6. Bamboo Craft at Bhutilalbahal
7. Applique at Loisinga

PMEGP

Prime Ministers Employment Generation programme (PMEGP) has been announced by the Government of India on 15th August, 2008 and implemented from 2008-09 by 3 departments i.e., D.I.C, KVIB and KVIC. The following nos of entrepreneurs have been benefited by the scheme. The year wise position is mentioned below.

Sl. no	Year	DIC No	DIC		Emp.(No)	KVIB No	KVIB		Emp.(No)
			Inv (Rs. in lakh)				Inv (Rs. in lakh)		
1	2008-09	21	32.97		122	35	46.74		105
2	2009-10	36	85.40		262	28	71.08		64
3	2010-11	41	85.31		242	27	73.64		101
4	2011-12	28	57.80		128	13	44.42		53
5	2012-13	24	49.72		85	20	36.26		80
6	2013-14	26	59.42		15	23	64.62		70
7	2014-15	24	77.09		4	16	35.72		106

Source:

Handicraft Sector

In Balangir district handicraft like terracotta, paddy craft, brass and bell metal, Applique, tie and dye, durry weaving, dhokra casting and art textiles are functioning. Out of the above terracotta is a most vibrant craft in the district where 405 artisans have been covered. Paddy craft is a languishing craft of the district. For its development Government provides training to beneficiaries and artisans for this trade. At present, there are 60 persons have been trained in this trade. Besides, the above boost up has been given to appliqué trade in the district by training 205 artisans mostly schedule tribe ladies. The following schemes have been provided by the Director, Handicrafts and Cottage Industries for implementation in the district.

Craft Village Scheme

Director, Handicraft and Cottage Industries, Odisha, Bhubaneswar developed handicraft training programme under RLTA (State Window) on cluster basis for the year 2004-05 and 2005-06 for development of different trades are mentioned below. Likewise, during the year 2006-07 and 2007-08, Collector, Balangir provided funds for implementation of handicraft cluster development programme under RLTA (District Window). Under the state window, 34 SHGs and under district window 14 SHGs have been covered and trained. Out of the above, 24 SHGs from state window and 10 SHGs under the district window have been provided bank linkages.

Labour Laws and Relations, Protection of Labour, Trade Unionism and Labour Welfare

The following labour laws are relevant to the district:

1. Minimum Wages Act, 1948
2. Payment of Wages Act, 1936
3. Factories Act, 1948
4. Child labour(Prohibition and Regulation Act), 1986
5. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947
6. Payment of bonus Act, 1965

7. Trade union Act, 1926
8. Gratuity Act, 1972
9. Employee's Compensation Act, 1923
10. Odisha Industrial Establishment (National and festival holidays)Act, 1969.
11. Inter-State Migrant Women Act, 1979.

A District Labour Officer has been posted in the district to oversee the welfare of industrial workers. He is responsible for the implementation of various labour laws enacted for welfare of workers. He is responsible for verification of trade unions and conducts conciliation under the Industrial Dispute Act., 1947. District Labour Officer inspects implementation of various laws relating to the Minimum Wages Act, 1948.

The Assistant Labour Commissioner's office also functions in the district. It looks after the workmen compensation and payment of gratuity.

Hotel and Hospitality Industries

There are 16 hotels constructed in Balangir district. In Commercial centers of Balngir, Kantabanji and Titilagarh, hotels have been set up. Though no star hotels are there, still hotels provide good services and facilities to tourists and other visitors to the district. Few of these hotels have restaurants and Bar facilities.

Some of the hotels of Balangir district may be mentioned here.

1. Raj Mahal Hotel (P) Limited, Balangir,
2. Hotel Blue Lagoon, Balangir
3. Hotel Classic, Balangir,
4. Hotel Sam, Titilagarh,
5. Hotel Swayam, Balangir
- ,6. Hotel Bhamar, Balangir,
7. Hotel Alishan, Kantabanji.

Annexure I

Division-Wise Consumption of Electricity in Balangir District, 2010-11

Sl. No.	Category of Consumers / Division	(In Million Units)		
		Balangir	Titilagarh	
1	2	3	4	
1	Domestic	a) Urban	30.565	16.359
		b) Rural	23.067	29.273
2	Kutir Jyoti		0.014	0.755
3	Commercial	a) Urban	5.030	2.305
		b) Rural	1.400	1.265
4	Commercial (Over 10 KW)		7.093	6.067
5	Small Industries		2.552	3.003
6	Medium Industries		3.313	3.889
7	Irrigation	a) OLIC	2.539	1.152
		b) Private	2.885	2.540
8	Public Lighting		0.268	1.089
9	Public Water Works (Below 100 KW)		1.120	1.547
10	Public Institution (below 100 KW)		1.128	0.913
	L.T. (Total)		80.974	70.157
1	Large Industries (below 132 KV)		5.153	8.591
2	Mini Steel Plant		0.000	0.000
3	General Purpose		1.354	2.540
4	Bulk-Supply domestic		0.000	0.000
5	Public Water Works (above 100 KW)		6.700	0.869
6	Public Institution (above 100 KW)		0.248	0.000
	H.T. (Total)		13.455	12.000
1	Heavy Industries		0.000	0.000
2	Power Intensive Industries		0.000	7.722
3	Railway traction		0.000	0.000
4	Large Industries (at 132 KV)		0.000	14.376
	E.H.T. (Total)		0.000	22.098
	GRAND TOTAL		94.429	104.255

Annexure II

5 Small Scale, Handicrafts and Cottage and Handloom Industries in Balangir District

Sl. No.	Name	Magnitude		
		2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
A. Small Scale Industries				
1	No. Of S.S.I. Units Established	187.00	191.00	191.00
2	Total capital investment (Rs. in lakhs)	1049.38	875.69	1611.00
3	Employment Generated (In numbers)	1339.00	1131.00	898.00
B. Cottage Industries				
1	No. Of S.S.I. Units Established	172.00	5795.00	578.00
2	Total capital investment (Rs. in lakhs)	713.35	483.74	190.50
3	Employment Generated (In numbers)	1144.00	12371.00	1156.00
C. Handloom Industries				
	No. Of Looms	1051.00	736.00	796.00
	Total Capital Investment (Rs. in lakhs)	755.62	839.32	1015.91
	Production (in lakh Sq.Mt.)	4.55	4.39	4.70
	Employment generated (in Numbers)	2102.00	1472.00	1592.00

CHAPTER VI

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

Economic History

Balangir district was formed on 1st November 1948. However, quite before that the economy of Balangir district was opened to the outside world after the construction of Raipur-Vizianagaram Railway line in the year 1934. With the opening of Railway line, business persons from places like Bombay, Nagpur and other commercial centres started coming to Balangir to have trade and commercial activities which posed a serious settling threat. Initially, they settled at the Railway head-centres like Titilagarh, Kantabanji and Lathor. Slowly they spread their commercial activities and settled at other centres with rural markets (hats) like Balangir, Loisingha, Tusra, Bangomunda, Belpada, Sindhekela etc.

In the year 1964 the Railway line from Jharsuguda to Titilagarh was opened for traffic. Thereafter market around Balangir, Loisingha and Saintala also came up. The businesspersons were mostly engaged in the procurement of agricultural commodities like paddy, oilseeds, kendu leaf, bamboo, timber and other minor forests products and cereals.

The Railway Heads/Stations helped in handling the import and export activities in the District. The main exportable commodities were paddy, rice, mung, biri, kulthi, gurji, ragi, til, onion, gram, neem seed, kendu leaf, timber, mahua, broom, graphite etc. Main imports at that time happened to be yarn, cotton, salt, wheat, sugar, edible oils, kerosene, cement, potato, dry fish, molasses, fancy goods, hardware etc. They exported them to different commercial centres outside the district.

The trading communities also engaged themselves in paying poor farmers in advance and obtaining their crops at a cheap rate during the harvest season and in the process functioned as money lenders to producers and petty traders.

From the settlement report of 1937 of Patna ex-State, it is also revealed that the Bhulia Mehers of Patnagarh and Titilagarh subdivisions, the Agharias of Balangir subdivision and some rich land-owning Brahmins were operating as village money lenders. These money lenders were also rich land-owning agriculturists and almost all of them were lending paddy to the poor villagers in need. The sundhis in Titilagarh (who were deriving great profit from liquor shops and distilleries), Gujaratis and Marwaris (who settled at market places of Balangir, Patnagarh, Titilagarh, Kantabanji, Tusra and Loisingha) were also operating as money lenders among Adibashis by

engaging agents to go round the villages for purchasing the products from these people and advancing petty sums to be repaid in kind at harvesting time. Paddy lending was also practiced by many Agharias and Bhulias which were being repaid after the harvest at even 25% rate of interest.

Before opening of the Raipur-Vizianagaram Railway line, trade was being conducted in the form of exchange. The tribal people of this District were carrying their marketable goods and agricultural products to the markets of Tusra, Dhandamunda, Bangomunda, Loisingha, Binka, and Tarbha. To these markets traders were regularly visiting with foreign goods including goods of their area. There was exchange of goods among themselves. These markets along with others subsequently flourished with the opening of new roads and availability of vehicular traffics. Hundreds of carts and even a few trucks were seen to have deployed in the market day in rural markets which were previously accessible to pack bullocks and pack ponies of traders.

With advancements of the area, the markets were seen selling and purchasing many foreign made fancy goods and articles of daily use. Traders also started coming from neighbouring areas of Sambalpur, Raipur, Vizinagaram, Waltair, Ankapali, Kakinada, Nagpur, and Bilaspur. Opening of new railway line from Sambalpur to Titilagarh increased the importance of market of Balangir district.

The Wazib-ul-Urz of the settlement of 1937 reveals that businessmen and moneylenders were keeping landed properties as mortgage (security). They were also lending against mortgage/pledge of gold/silver ornaments, utensils, implements, household goods, furniture, and some time house-sites. Usually they were charging high rate of interest but when debtors had no assets to be given as security they were deliberately charging very prohibitive/exorbitant rates (from 150% to 300%).

Evolution of Banking as an Institution

In the year 1934 a Co-operative Bank was established in the district and in 1956 it was amalgamated with the Co-operative bank at Sonepur and was named as Balangir District Central Co-operative Bank (BDCC).

No bank existed in the District till 1943. The people were too poor to afford for any savings. The money lenders though were meeting the requirements for short term credits, their numbers were negligible. Further, the cooperative structure could not meet the volume of credit requirements. Thus it paved the way for Banks to appear as institutions to meet both the savings as well as the credit requirements which prompted the State Bank of India (SBI) to open its branch at Balangir in July 1957 and in May 1959 at Titilagarh. Between the sixties and seventies SBI and other Nationalized Banks opened branches at different important /strategic business centres.

In the year 1975 Government of India felt that both the Co-operatives including the commercial banks as outlets for credit failed to meet the requirements of the rural populace and as such created Regional Rural Bank as an alternate structure to cater to the need of the people. Accordingly, Balangir Anchalik Gramya Bank (BAGB) was established in October 1975 with its Head Office at Balangir. With the passage of time and the subsequent amalgamation processes BAGB was renamed as Utkal Grameen Bank (UGB).

In the later part of the nineties, it was further observed that the credit requirement of the poorest of the poor could not be met even with the creation of RRBs in the banking sector. As a result, the concept of SHG emerged and became functional to cater to the micro credit needs of the rural poor particularly of the women folk. Not only the Bankers but also many micro finance institutes (MFIs) entered into the scenario and as such now 10934 nos. of SHGs are functional in the district and playing a vital role for the socio-economic development of the district.

From 2000 onwards there has been a sea change in the Banking arena of Balangir district. There was technological improvisation like computerization and subsequently the introduction of CBS platform in all the banks by which a customer is considered as a customer of the Bank and not of a particular branch of the Bank.

Further new Banking outlets like ATMs, KIOSKS, B.Cs, CSPs, POS, Internet Banking, Mobile Banking etc. have been provided for easy access to Banking transaction on 24x7 basis for the customers.

Gradually a considerable number of other Banking players both from public sector and private sector have opened branches not only at Balangir town but also at Blocks and at GP level.

The details of the number of branches (bankwise) including other banking outlets of Balangir district are furnished here:

Banking Outlets in the District as on 31.03.2015

Sl.No.	Name of Bank	Branches	Rural	Semi-urban	ATMs	BC/CSP/Kiosk
01	State Bank of India(Lead Bank)	23	12	11	69	120
02	Allahabad Bank	04	02	02	2	1
03	Andhra Bank	07	04	03	4	4
04	Bank of Baroda	05	02	03	2	10
05	Bank of India	03	0	03	2	2
06	Central Bank of India	04	02	02	4	2
07	Indian Overseas Bank	02	0	02	5	4
08	ICICI Bank	01	0	01	5	-
09	Punjab National Bank	05	01	04	3	2
10	UCO Bank	02	0	02	2	3
11	United Bank of India	03	0	03	5	9

12	Axis Bank	03	0	03	11	-
13	Canara Bank	02	0	02	2	-
14	Union Bank of India	01	0	01	1	-
15	Syndicate Bank	03	01	02	3	2
16.	IDBI Bank	02	0	01	2	-
17.	HDFC	02	0	02	3	-
18	Indian Bank	02	01	01	2	-
19	Oriental Bank of Commerce	01	0	01	1	-
20	DCB Bank	02	0	02	1	-
21	Federal Bank	01	0	01	1	-
	Total Commercial Bank	78	26	51	130	159
20	Utkal Grameen Bank	45	39	6	-	63
21	Balangir DCCB	14	08	06	-	-
	TOTAL	137	73	63	130	222

State Bank of India is having the lead responsibility in banking sector in Balangir district.

S U M M A R Y

RRBs :-	45
DCCB :-	14
S B I :-	23
Public Sector Banks :-	46
Private Sector Banks :-	09
T O T A L	137

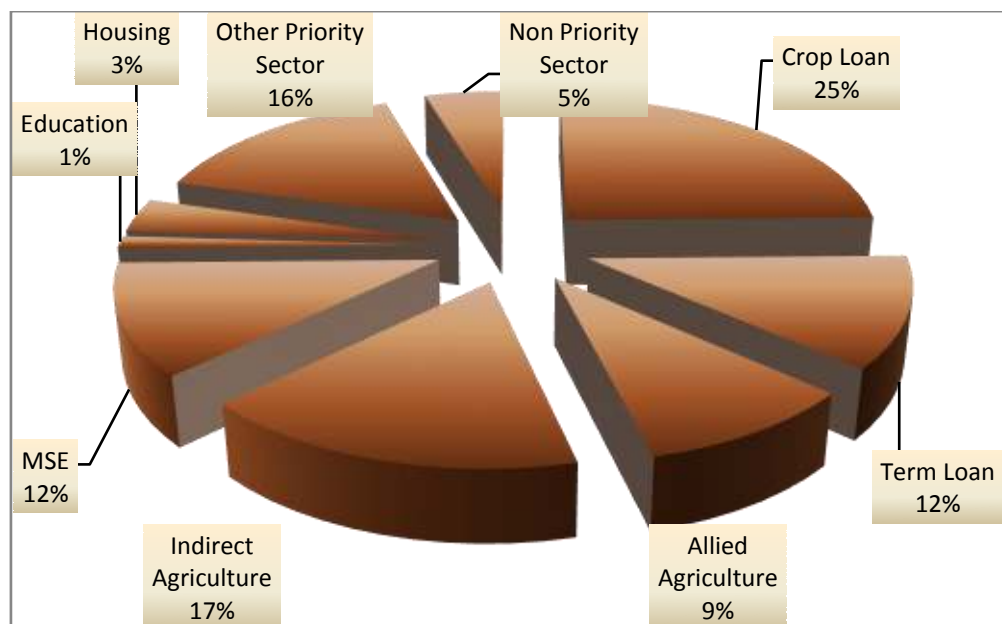
Changes in the Approach to Banking

The service area approach has been adopted to bring an orderly and planned development of specific villages earmarked as 'Service Area' for each banking branch, on the basis of local conditions. The approach also contemplates continuous monitoring of progress in the implementation of credit plan in their respective service area.

The Lead Bank scheme was formulated in Dec 69, under which each district had been assigned to different banks (Public/Private) to act as consortium leader to coordinate the efforts of all credit institutions in the allotted district particularly in the matters such as branch expansion and credit planning. The role of 'lead bank' in Balangir district has been given to State Bank of India.

The District Credit Plan is under lead bank System which aims at overall development of a district through the coordinated effort of banks acting in unison with the developmental organs of the State Government at the district level. It makes the credit institutions and the Government departments fully conscious of their respective role and responsibility in the formulation as well as implementation of the credit plan. The implementation of the credit plan is being reviewed at quarterly interval at Block level and DCC meeting.

The Credit Plan for Balangir district for 2015-16



(Rs. in Lakh)

Crop Loan	22965
Term Loan	11000
Allied Agriculture	8951
Indirect Agriculture	15519
MSE	11003
Education	1157
Housing	3371
Other Priority Sector	14603
Non Priority Sector	4392
Total Plan	92960

A list of non-agricultural credit co-operative societies in different blocks and urban areas in Balangir district is furnished in Annexure I at the end of this chapter.

It was observed that banking facility is enjoyed by a small group of people having sound means. To cover all and to extend banking facility for all, different schemes were launched under 'Financial Inclusion' which includes meeting the credit needs of the people belonging to the low income group, giving access to the payment system and providing remittance facility to them. In order to ensure that these people do not encounter difficulties in

opening bank accounts the 'Know your Customer' or KYC procedure has been simplified.

Government is taking steps to open at least one brick and mortar branch in each bankless Gram Panchayat (2014-2019). In Balangir district, out of 285 G.Ps, 222 G.Ps. are unbanked.

Further, to expand the availability of banking service in rural areas with the objective of ensuring greater financial inclusion and increasing the outreach of the banking sector, RBI in public interest permitted banks to use the services of Non-governmental organizations/Self help groups/, Microfinance institutions and other civil society organizations as intermediaries in providing financial and Banking service through **Business Correspondent (BC) and Business facilitators (BF) model**. This facilitates banks to open S.B. accounts and to do cash in/cash out transactions (Up to Rs 10000/-) at a location much closure to the rural habitation through the BCs /BFs.

In order to educate the people of rural and urban areas with regard to various financial products and services available from the financial sector and to make them aware of the advantages of being connected to that free 'Financial Literacy Counselling' has been taken up by the banks at the instance of RBI. Presently, one such centre is functioning at Balangir which is sponsored by State Bank of India.

In Balangir district, State Bank of India has undertaken the task of skill development for the rural youth preferably from families of below poverty line (BPL) category and to provide them hand holding support for assured credit linkage with banks. **The State Bank of India Rural Self Employment Training Institute (SBIRSETI)** at Balangir provides free training with residential accommodation with a capacity of 30 candidates at a time which covers different trades suitable to the area and demand.

Self Help Groups

The SHGs are considered to be the most effective and supplementary credit delivery system for linking the poorest of the poor with the banks. They play a major role for expansion of micro credit. They are promoted by ICDS, NGOs, Banks and other departments of Government. The approach was to strengthen the socio-economic status of Women of the district. Balangir district being a LWE (Left Wing Extremism) district, the scheme for promotion of Women SHGs is being implemented through Anchor NGOs like RIHAI, Sanjog, and Deb Dutta club. They are serving as facilitator in the formation of SHG, tracking, monitoring of the groups and are being responsible for loan repayments. This programme aims to reduce poverty by enabling the poor households to access gainful self employment.

SHG Position as on 31.03.2015

SL NO.	Particulars	As on 31.03.2015
1	No. of SHGs formed	10934
2	No. of SHGs credit linked as on 31 March 2015	9561
3	Percentage of Women SHGs	99
4	Average Loan per SHG(Rs.)	110000
5	No. of WSHGs formed and savings linked through Anchor NGO	1235

Financing through Joint Liability Group (JLG)

JLG is an informal group comprising of 4-10 individuals coming together for the purpose of availing bank loan either individually or through the group mechanism against mutual guarantee. The JLG mode of financing serves as collateral substitute for loans provided to the small, marginal, tenant farmers, oral leases, sharecroppers etc. It also enables the banks to reach farmers through group approach and cluster approach.

Differential Rate of Interest Scheme

Under the DRI scheme, banks provide individual loans up to Rs 15000/- at a concessional rate of interest of 4 % to the weaker sections of the community for engaging in productive and gainful activities. However, for persons with disabilities (PWD) a sum of Rs 5000/- for purchase of aids , appliances and equipments can be granted apart from the loan amount of Rs 15000/- . In order to ensure that persons belonging to SC/STs also derive benefit under DRI scheme, banks have been advised to grant such advance to SC/STs to the extent of not less than 40% of total DRI advance. The target under DRI scheme continues to be 1% of the previous year's total advances.

Benchmark for Advances

The followings are some of the prescribed norms to be followed by the banks:

The credit deposit ratio of the banks should be 60%

The priority sector advances should be minimum 40% of the total advances.

The agriculture advances should be minimum 18% of the total advances.

The share of weaker section advances to be minimum 25% of total priority

sector advances.

DRI advances should be minimum 1% of previous year's gross bank credit.

Refinancing Institutions

Agricultural finance	NABARD
Industrial finance	SIDBI
SBF finance	MUDRA

Latest Development in the Role of Banking

Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana (PMJDY)

The PMJDY is executed in the mission mode which comprises the following six pillars which is to be achieved in two phases:

1. Universal access to banking facilities: Mapping of each district into Sub Service Area (SSA) catering to 1000-1500 households in a manner that every habitation has access to banking facilities within a reasonable distance of 5 kms.
2. Providing basic banking Accounts with overdraft facilities and Rupay card to all households
3. Financial literacy programme
4. Creation of credit guarantee fund.
5. Miro insurance.
6. Unorganised Pension scheme.

Under the mission, the first 3 pillars were given thrust in the first year. In the second phase of Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Jojana, three ambitious social security schemes pertaining to the Insurance and Pension sectors, namely Pradhan Mantri Jiban Jyoty Bima Jojana(PMJJB Y) for life insurance, Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Jojana (PMSBY) for accident insurance and Atal Pension Yojana(APY)- pension plan for unorganised sectors to move towards creating a Universal Social Security System which targeted especially the poor and the underprivileged were launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 9.5.2015.

Accordingly, Balangir district having 230 SSAs have opened 307848 nos. of PMJDY accounts by the banks. The details are furnished below.

Position as on 30.09.2015

S.No	Bank's Name	PMJDY	Rupay Card Issued	PMSBY	PMJJBY	APY
1	Allahbad bank	2307	-	335	282	
2	Andhra Bank	4517		3376	907	81
3	Axis	382	382	258	82	6
4	Bank of Baroda	9111		2666	713	29
5	Bank of India	1730		827	438	5
6	Canara Bank	970		370	37	
7	C B I	3889		2035	1491	28
8	D C C B					

9	HDFC			120	120	03
10	ICICI			10	60	
11	Indian bank	2607	1307	700	237	13
12	I O B			749	494	
13	I D B I	1370		645	1051	200
14	O B C	903		790	380	01
15	P N B	3450		3200	134	
16	Syndicate Bank	5178	3082	4003	572	31
17	UCO Bank	2016		272	104	02
18	U B I			810	180	11
19	Union Bank	3016		992	180	11
21	UGB	64675	64675	104403	14894	
23	D C B Bank					
24	SBI	201512		65614	12084	531
25	FEDERAL Bank	215	215	41	16	
26	Corporation Bank					
27	Post Office					
	TOTAL	307848	69661	192216	34456	750

Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency Limited (MUDRA)

Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency limited (MUDRA) was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 08.04.2015 as a new financial entity for developing financial institutions through refinance who are lending to micro enterprises engaged in manufacturing, trading, and service sector up to Rs. 10 lakhs. This is aimed to increase the access of small borrowers to credit from formal financial sectors. There are three categories of MUDRA loans :

Sishu : covering loans up to Rs.50000/-

Kishor: covering loans above Rs. 50000/- and up to Rs.5 lakhs

Tarun: covering loans above Rs.5 lakhs and up to Rs. 10 lakhs.

Presently MUDRA is functioning as an offshoot of SIDBI (Small Industrial Developmental Bank of India).

Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT)

As per extant policy of the Government, any financial assistance given by different schemes are to be deposited in the beneficiary bank accounts directly to eradicate the chance of misappropriation. Accordingly, as on 31.03.2015, banks have opened 93240 accounts through which government's financial help is directly credited to the beneficiaries' accounts. The department and scheme wise details are as given below.

SL NO.	Name of the Deptt.	Name of the scheme	No. of A/Cs
1	Dist.Welfare Office	Post matric-SC	19754
		Post matric-OBC	9141
		Post matric-ST	9881
		Prematric-SC	14256
		Prematric-ST	14274
2	Dist.Education Office	NMMS	202
		Incentive for Girl Child	6321
3	Health Deptt.	Janani Suraksha Yojana	17886
4	NCLP	Children under Child Labour Project	1525

TOTAL

93240

Banking Key Indicators (As on 31.03.2015)

SL.NO.	Name Of Financing Institutions.	No. of Branch	Rs. in lakhs.		
			Deposit	Advances	CD Ratio %
			7745.8		
1	Allahabad Bank	4	4	4811.22	62
2	Andhra Bank	7	8086.9	4336.12	54
			5859.4		
3	Bank of Baroda	5	9	3813.41	65
4	Bank of India	3	8375.8	2246.49	27
			5360.1		
5	Canara Bank	2	5	1055.35	20
6	Central Bank of India	4	4696.0	2120.00	45
			12846.		
7	IDBI Bank	2	00	847.11	7
8	Indian Bank	2	2420.8	178.87	7
			3803.0		
9	Indian Overseas Bank	2	0	951.00	25
10	Oriental Bank of Comm.	1	440.00	308.00	70
11	Punjab National Bank	5	5935.4	3663.21	62
			1		
12	State Bank of India	23	154300	89919.26	58
			.00		
13	Syndicate Bank	3	2438.3	879.02	36
			2		
14	UCO Bank	2	4144.4	3212.39	78
			5		
15	Union Bank Of India	1	3268.2	1120.54	34
			5		
16	United Bank Of India	3	3970.4	2821.51	71

				2	
				233690	
	Total Public Sector Bank	70	.95	122283.50	52
				11900.	
17	Axis Bank	3	25	2175.25	11
				3427.7	
18	HDFC Bank	2	0	3582.78	105
				4347.7	
19	ICICI Bank	1	4	1320.51	30
20	DCB Bank Ltd.	2	637.10	1004.89	158
21	Federal Bank	1	140.77	26.17	19
				20453.	
	Total of Private Sector Bank	9	56	8109.60	40
				45556.	
22	Utkal Grameen Bank	45	30	29932.13	66
				32541.	
23	Dist. Central Co-operative Bank	14	57	42896.95	132
				332242	
	Grand Total	137	.38	203222.18	61

Advance Position (As on 31.03.2015)

SL. No.	Name of Banks	Agl. Advances	DRI Loan.	Priority Sector Advances	Weaker Section Advances	SC/ST Advances	(Rs. In lakh)	
							Adv. To Minority	Advanc To Women
1	Allahabad Bank	2608.69	13.05	4408.0	2615.52	1135.7	520.3	842.2
				3		3	3	469.0
2	Andhra bank	2599.85	8.10	4215.0	1662.31	520.03	21.9	0
				5				220.8
3	Bank of Baroda	981.05	13.35	3268.0	599.00	289.85	0.32	9
				0				815.0
4	Bank of India	648.44	0.00	2199.4	482.36	241.55	0.00	0
				0				
5	Canara Bank	206.24	16.15	874.52	283.64	55.80	24.66	45.22
				1850.2				194.0
6	C.B.I	775.52	3.00	1	755.00	191.45	26.00	0
7	IDBI	370.64	0	592.19	0.00	28.80	1.80	67.20
8	Indian Bank	30.54	0.19	108.32	14.30	8.54	0.00	18.32
								287.6
9	I.O.B.	492.25	8.34	924.86	332.62	178.38	39.60	0
10	O.B.C.	135.18	0	265.84	81.64	16.94	1.41	27.01
				3457.5				289.6
11	P.N.B.	2170.20	2.65	1	1425.12	502.71	20.34	9
				59665.	20150.4	11854.	3420.	6375.
12	S.B.I.	20670.21	58.86	68	5	26	36	49
	Syndicate Bank	350.8	2.25	681.00	351.59	141.59	45.95	97.70
13								
14	UCO Bank	1556.11	2.68	3186.2	1121.89	462.50	3.26	836.4

				4				5
	Union			1081.7				121.0
15	Bank	462.8	2.70	5	225.15	105.00	0.00	5
				2771.7				180.0
16	U.B.I.	1201.90	2.60	8	1468.00	505.00	16.00	0
	Total Public Sector	35260.42	133.92	89550.38	31568.59	16238.13	4141.93	10886.82
17	AXIS	593.77	0	651.10	7.32	7.32	0.00	2.50
				1894.4				195.5
18	HDFC	1025.51	0	0	909.40	77.00	8.56	4
				1104.1				186.9
19	ICICI	742.76	0	4	314.77	40.83	34.24	0
20	DCB	356.99	0	989.77	208.46	0	3.07	52.57
	Federal							
21	Bank	20.36	0	20.37	3.66	0	0.00	0.30
	Total of Private Sector Bank	2739.39	0	4659.78	1443.61	125.15	45.87	1
22	U.G.B,	21481.33	0	27407.60	10152.00	12743.49	311.67	4489.82
23	BDCC	32390.90	0	34579.86	34317.56	1189.86	0.00	857.94
	GT	91872.04	133.92	156197.62	77481.76	30296.63	4499.47	16672.39

Cooperative Sector

The Balangir Cooperative Division started its functioning since the year 1979 with three circle offices namely Balangir, Titilagarh and Sonapur Circle. Prior to that it was under the Kalahandi Deputy Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Cooperative Division. Later on two new circles were created bifurcating Balangir Circle and Sonapur Circle. Now five circles namely Balangir, Patnagarh, Titilagarh, Sonapur, Birmaharajpur circle covering all Revenue Divisions of both Balangir and Sonapur District are functioning under this Division.

The Deputy Registrar of Coop. Societies, Balangir Division is the District Registering authority of all Central Cooperative Societies and Asst. Registrar of Cooperative Societies is the sub-divisional registering authority within their circle. They are the key for promotion and extension of cooperative movement in the district. They are assisted by SARCS, Inspectors and CEOs in their work.

This Division comprises of several central and primary Societies. The abstract of Cooperative societies (circle-wise) is furnished below:-

1) Balangir Circle: it covers six blocks namely,	Societies covered
i) Balangir	I) PACS-71 Nos.
ii) Puintala	II) CARD Bank-1 No.
iii) Loinsingha	III) SHBCS – 1 No.
iv) Agalpur	IV) RCMS-1 No.(under liquidation)
v) Deogaon	V) Non-Agril CS- 14 Nos.
vi) Gudvella	VI) Central CS – 1 No.
2) Titilagarh Circle- it covers five blocks namely,	Societies covered
i) Titilagarh	I) PACS-55 Nos.
ii) Muribahal	II) CARD Bank-1 No.
iii) Bangomunda	III) SHBCS – 1 No.
iv) Turekela	IV) RCMS-1 No.(under liquidation)
v) Saintala	V) Non-Agril CS- 5 Nos.
	VI) MPCS – 3 Nos.
3) Patnagarh Circle: it covers 3 blocks namely,	Societies covered
i) Patnagarh	I) PACS-32 Nos.
ii) Belpada	II) CARD Bank-1 No.
iii) Khapra	III) SHBCS – 1 No.
	IV) Non-Agril CS- 2 Nos.
	V) MPCS – 1 Nos.

Functioning of Societies:-

1) Paddy Procurement: The State Govt. has entrusted the responsibility of procurement of paddy in the State to the Cooperative Department. Being the agent of Odisha State Civil Supply Corporation the primary societies under this division have participated in the operation of paddy procurement since 2009-10 and continuing as such till date. During the year 2009-10 only 93 Nos. selected PACS in Balangir District introduced P-PAS system under pilot project. During 2014-15 all the PACS in Balangir participated in Paddy procurement operation with P-PAS system in four blocks of Balangir District i.e. Balangir, Puintala, Patnagarh and Deogaon block.

The procurement position of PACS in Balangir District for the last two years is given below:

Sl. No.	Name of district	KMS 2013-14		KMS2014-15	
		Paddy procured		Paddy procured	
		No. of farmers	Qntl. Of paddy	No. of farmers	Qntl. Of paddy
1	Balangir	44570	2331531.07	46432	232644.678

A list of Primary Agricultural Co-operative Societies in different blocks of Balangir district is appended as Annexure II at the end of this chapter.

Insurance: Odisha is prone to natural calamities like flood, cyclone and draught. The crop insurance has been proved to be a ray of hope for the farmers. Comprehensive crop insurance scheme (CCIS) was introduced in 1985-86 and National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) has been implemented in our state since 1999-2000 Rabi season. The Cooperatives have been playing vital role in rendering service to the loanee member as well as non-loanee members through the scheme. Besides, the weather based agricultural insurance scheme implemented on a pilot basis from Khariff-2008 season only for paddy crops. The weather based agricultural insurance scheme is applicable where the non-loanee farmers can choose between NACS and WBCIS only in paddy crop covering under the scheme. For non-loanee farmers the cut off date for deposit of insurance premium is 31 July of every year.

Investment on loan: 158 Nos. of PACS covering all 381 Nos. of GPs of Balangir and Sonepur District functioning under this Division are affiliated to District Central Cooperative Bank Ltd. Balangir. They are providing short term seasonal loan to their member farmers during both Khariff and Rabi season at a very marginal interest. They achievement they realized in this regard during 2014-15 is furnished below:-

Khariff-2014			Rabi-2015		
No. of PACS	No. of Farmer	Amount invested (in lakh)	No. of PACS	No. of Farmer	Amount inverted (in lakh)
158	32602	11783.28	158	16327	6628.68

Sale of seeds: The primary Agriculture Cooperative Societies under this Division have started selling of paddy seeds to the farmers within their area of operation at MRP rate. 58 Nos. of PACS have participated during the year 2014-15. They buy paddy seeds from Odisha State Seeds Corporation and sell it to the farmers without transportation charge.

Sale of Fertilizer: All the Primary Cooperative Societies under this division are affiliated to OSCMF. All the PACS are lifting chemical fertilizer from OSCMF and providing those to their members on loan.

Role of District Central Cooperative Bank

The Balangir District Central Coop. Bank is the only financing bank to whom all the PACS of both the Districts are affiliated. The area of operation the Bank is confined to the whole area of both Balangir and Sonepur District. Dr. M. Muthukumar, IAS Collector and District Magistrate, Balangir was the management in-charge of the Bank up to 30.04.2015 and Sri Laxman Ku. Meher after Cooperative Election of DCCB Ltd., Balangir took over the charge of the President of the Bank on Dt.01.05.2015. The bank has following 21 Nos. of branches:

- | | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1. DCCB, Balangir Branch | 2. DCCB Patnagarh Branch |
| 3. DCCB, SADAR Branch | 4. DCCB Titilagarh Branch |
| 5. DCCB Loisingha Branch | 6. DCCB Saintala Branch |
| 7. DCCB Duduka Branch | 8. DCCB Belpada Branch |
| 9. DCCB Tusra Branch | 10. DCCB Lathore Branch |
| 11. DCCB Deogaon Branch | 12. DCCB Kantabanji Branch |
| 13. DCCB Jarasingha Branch | 14. DCCB Sonepur Branch |
| 15. DCCB Mahila Branch, Balangir | 16. DCCB Tarva Branch |
| 17. DCCB Dunguripai | 18. DCCB Binika Branch |
| 19. DCCB Ullunda Branch | 20. DCCB Birmaharajpur |
| 21. DCCB Sonepur Mahila Branch | |

The Bank is providing short term, medium term and long term loans to the members through their respective Societies. The CBS system of transaction has been recently introduced in all the above branches.

The financial position of Balangir District Central Coop. Bank Ltd. is furnished in Annexure III.

REGULATED MARKETS

Regulated Market Committee, Patnagarh

Performance for the Year 2014-15

The regulated market committee, Patnagarh has been established by the State Govt. vide notification no 2501/Coop Dt. 24/2/2005 of Government of Odisha Cooperation Department. Accordingly, the RMC, Patnagarh started functioning with effect from 23/02/2009 after the bifurcation of the Kantabanji RMC.

Constitution of Market Committee

The first Market Committee was constituted of 17 (Seventeen) Members, out of whom 8(eight) members are from agriculturists. 4(Four) members are from traders, 2(Two) members from local representatives and

remaining 3(Three) are nominated by the State Government vide Notification No.18922 Dt.01.11.2007 of the Government of Odisha Cooperation Department. The Sub-Collector, Patnagarh is the Chairman of the Market Committee.

Area of Operation

It covers the entire area of Patnagarh Revenue Sub-division in the District of Balangir.

Aims and Operation

The aims and objectives of the establishment of RMC, Patnagarh is to provide better regulation of buying & selling of Notified Agricultural Produce by way of establishing Market Yards and ensure remunerative price to the producers and sellers.

Notified Commodity

The following commodities have been notified vide Notification No.2501 Dt.24.02.2005 of the Government of Odisha Cooperation Department.

Existing Market Yard

A) Jogimunda Market Yard — AC. 4.95 has been purchased by the RMC, Kantabanji.

B) Mandal Market Yard — AC. 2.82 has been purchased by RMC, Kantabanji.

Grading Equipment Available

1. Weigh Bridge 30 MT capacity— 1No.(Jogimunda M. Yard)
2. Weigh Bridge 50 MT capacity— 1No. (Mandal M. Mandal M.Yard)
3. Electronic Weighing Machine — 68 Nos.
4. Moisture Meter - 50 Nos.
5. Analysis Kit - 39 Nos.
6. Set of Seives — 35 Nos.
7. Mini Grader - 34 Nos.
8. Tarpaulin - 270 Nos.
9. Polythine - 225 Nos.
10. Boma - 40 Nos.
11. Anamal Plate - 70 Nos.

The above Grading equipment supplied to PACs (32 No.) for quality analysis of paddy. Also a team of RMC Personnel move all PACs with a hired vehicle for quality determination of paddy as and when required.

Regulated Market Committee, Kantabanji

The Regulated market Committee, Kantabanji has been established on 30th June 1959 vide notification No. 20614 of Government of Odisha under section 3 of OAPM Act 1956 covering whole revenue Sub-Division of Titilagarh including Titilagarh & Kantabanji municipality. Now it has 5 nos. of own market yards having large infrastructure facilities being available in every market yards are as follows.

Titilagarh Sub-Market Yard

1. Office cum Godown-1 nos.
2. Covered Cattle shed-2 nos.
3. Pindy- 5 nos.
4. Covered shed-4 nos.
5. Weigh bridge electronic 40 MT-1 no.
6. Sundry shop- 3 nos.
7. Farmer and trader rest shed
8. Internal Concrete road
9. Compound wall
10. Open well
11. Mast light

Grading equipment

Mini grader, Moisture meter, analysis kit, Weighing scale, Tarpaulin

Muribahal Sub-Market Yard

1. Godown 500 MT
2. Covered shed
3. Open pucca Plat form-4 nos.
4. Weigh bridge 40 Mt
5. Farmer information centre
6. Concrete road
7. Tube well

Grading equipment

Mini grader, Moisture meter, analysis kit

Weighingscale, Tarpaulin.

Bangomunda Market Yard

1. Godown 500 MT
2. Covered shed
3. Open pucca Platform-4 nos.
4. Weigh bridge 40 Mt
5. Farmer information centre
6. Concrete road J. Boundary wall
8. Tube well
9. Grading equipment - Mini grader, Moisture meter, Weighing scale, Tarpaulin.

Sindhkela Market Yard

1. Godown 500 MT
2. Covered shed
3. Open pucca Plat form-4 nos.
4. Weigh bridge 40 Mt
5. Farmer information centre
6. Concrete road
7. Boundary wall
8. Tube well-2 nos.
9. Grading equipment - Mini grader , Moisture meter, Weighing scale, Tarpaulin.

The Main aims and objectives of this RMC are to improve the efficiency in the marketing system as follows-

- a. To prevent the exploitation of farmers by overcoming the handicaps in the marketing of their products.
- b. To make the marketing system most effective and efficient so that farmers may get better prices for their produce, and to ensure that the goods are made available to consumers at reasonable prices.
- c. To provide incentive prices to farmers for inducing them to increase the production both in terms of quantity and quality.
- d. To promote an orderly marketing of agricultural produce by improving the infrastructural facilities.

The RMC is collecting market fees on different notified agricultural commodity notified by the Govt. for the RMC.

Now, it has developed some of its own markets namely, Cattle market of Titilagarh and Kantabanji setting up every Saturday and Wednesday of the week respectively in these yards. Besides, there is a weekly vegetable market held every wednesday at Sindhekela yard and Onion markets at Kantabanji yards functioning during the month from March to July on every Saturday as well as cotton and paddy procurement continue to be held during the KMS in every year in all its yards.

Now, it has a saving of about 14 crore of rupees as its own funds in different banks under its jurisdiction. The whole income of RMC is exempted from income tax vide Order No. 102(FN0275/64/70-ITJ) dated 16th June 1970 of government of India.

Recently, this RMC has proposed establishment of a new market yard in the uncovered block at Bibina of Saintala Block for which 10 Acres. of Government land has been selected by Saintla Tehasil on final stage of its approval.

Regulated Market Committee Balangir

The Regulated market Committee, Balangir has been established by the Govt. vide Notification No. 2642/CF dt.13.2.1965 under provision of section 3(1) of the OAPM Act 1956. The market Committee started functioning w.e.f 31.3.1965.

Area of Operation

The Market area of the Committee is covered to Revenue Sub-Division Balangir of Balangir District and Tarva police station area of Sonapur District vide notificationNo.17160/AC(C)dt.24.9.1987. After creation of Subarnapur District the Tarva Police Station area was merged with Dunguripali R.M.C.

Market Yards

At present the Committee is having 6 nos of market yards including the main market yard at Balangir.

Name of the market yard

Area

1. Balangir main market yard	Ac.1.843
2. Tusra market yard	Ac.3.28
3. Bhutiarbahal market yard	Ac.6.48
4. Chudapali market yard	Ac.0.90
5. Bhaliamunda market yard	Ac.2.90
6. Bijakhman market yard	Ac.5.00

In the above market yard, the R.M.C. Balangir has provided infrastructure for farmers as well as traders. So far the R.M.C. has spent about Rs 2,74,98,070.00 for providing infrastructure in the above market yards.

Rural Market

4 nos of rural markets are being managed by the Market Committee as follows.

- | | |
|--|--------|
| 1. Chudapali vegetable market | weekly |
| 2. Bhutiarbahal vegetable market | -do- |
| 3. Tusra Vegetable & Cattle market | -do- |
| 4. Bhaliamunda vegetable & cattle market | -do- |

Marketing Co-Operative Societies in Different Blocks and Urban Area in Balangir District

Sl. No	Year / Block	No. Of societies	Membership (No)	Share Capital by Govt.	(Rs. in L lakh)		
					Working Capital	Business turnover	Profit (+) or Loss (-)
1	Agalpur	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Bangomunda	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Belpara	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Balangir	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Deogaon	1	333	0.00	16.16	1.89	0.13(-)
6	Gudvella	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Khaprakhol	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
8	Loisingha	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Muribahal	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
10	Patnagarh	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
11	Puintala	1	287	0.00	22.24	4.19	0.23(-)
12	Saintala	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	Titilagarh	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
14	Tureikela	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
ULB							
1	Balangir (M)	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
2	Kantabanji (NAC)	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Patnagarh (NAC)	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
4	Titilagarh (NAC)	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Weights & Measures

Historical Background

Before the introduction of metric system the history of Indian system of measurement can be divided in to mainly three periods- the pre-Akabar period, the period of Akabar and the British colonial period.

During pre-Akabar periods weights & measures system varied from region to region, commodity to commodity and rural to urban. Indigenous weights and measures of India varied according to

- i) Commodity or thing to be measured (grain, gold, silver, liquids length and area).
- ii) Locality (the same term may mean different thing in different parts of the country).
- iii) Period (the meaning of the same terms changes over time)
- iv) Peculiarities of a purely local context

Grains and liquid, for example, are weighed and measured by a unit system as follow:

5 tola = 1 chhatank, 16 chhatank = 1 ser, 40 ser =1 maund and 20 Maund = 1 khandi

For precious metal: 5 masha= 1 gunja, 16 masha= 1 tola.

For distance and area: such as angula, vitasti, hasta, vamsh (length of bamboo rod) and kosha is about 2 miles

During pre-Akbar periods the weight of various seeds especially rice, wheat and Ratika and Gunja are considered as unit and length of arms and width of finger are considered as unit of measurement.

It is interesting to note that during Akabar period barley corn was used as unit of weight.

British accepted barely corn a unit for weighing gold. They minted coins using wheat barry as the standard. They also introduced their own system of weighing gold (troy ounce) commodities in pound/ cwt/ ton and roads in furlong and miles.

In 1939 govt. of India passed the standards of weights & measures Act that came to effect in 1942. This allows tola / seer / mound system coexist with pound / cwt / ton system.

In 1941 the Punjab weights & measures Act provided a sense of uniformity to the metric system. In 1956 the government of India passed the standards of weights & measures system to introduce metric system based on Punjab Act. The metric system began in Oct-1958, making metric weight mandatory by Oct-1960 and metric measure mandatory by April 1962. In 1956 metric conversion, the Government of India defined the standards of weights & measures Act (No 89 of 1956) amended in 1960 as follows :

<u>Indian system</u>	<u>British system</u>	<u>metric system</u>
1 tola	0.375 toz	11.66375g
1 ser (80 tola)	2.5 t lb = 2.057lb	0.93310 kg
1 maund (40 ser)	100 troy lb	37.324 kg

The current definition as per UN is

1 tola = 11.664g

1 ser (80 tola) = 933.10 g

1 mound (40 ser) = 37.324g

In 1950, miles and furlongs were common markers on road in India.

1 inch was considered to be the unit of common length.

Conversion:

12 inch = 1 foot, 3 feet = 1 yard, 660 feet = 1 furlong

5280 feet = 1 mile = 8 Furlong, 22 yard = 1 chain, 1 acre = 1 chain x 1 furlong

Conversion:

1 inch = 2.54 cm, 1 foot = 30.48 cm

1 yard = 0.914 m, 1 mile = 1.61 km

Weights and Measures Organization in Balangir District

In exercising of powers conferred by sub sec (1) and (2) of sec-15 of O.W & M (Enf) Act, 1958 (Orissa Act 20 of 1958) the state government appointed Sri K.K Murty & Sri P.C. Patra as Inspector of weights & measures (metric) and posted at Balangir and Titilagarh respectively vide Notification dated 7th June, 1961 of Development (Marketing) Department, Bhubaneswar with effect from 15th June, 1961.

For more effective enforcement of weights & measures law and supervision of the inspectorial units the Government created Balangir Zone with headquarter at Balangir, the area of operation comprising Balangir district and Kalahandi district vide order No 30120 dt.17.07.1980 of Food and Civil Supplies department. Prior to that Balangir district was under Sambalpur Zone and Sri P. K Mohaparta, Asst Controller was in-charge of Balangir Zone and Sri Simanchal Das was the 1st Asst. Controller of the newly created Balangir Zone. Kalahandi district was separated from Balangir Zone vide order No 28014 dt.25.09.84. The nomenclature weights & measures was substituted by the nomenclature legal Metrology with effect

from 18th March, 1993. Subarnapur district is separated from Balangir Zone w. e. f. 11.05.2015 and Sri B.K. Dash, is the first Assistant Controller (Legal Metrology) of Balangir district. The Assistant Controller's office is situated at the district headquarters. Apart from that, there are two Inspectorial units at Balangir and Titilagarh. The office of the Assistant Controller of Legal Metrology, Balangir and Balangir Inspectorial Unit is functioning in a rented building situated at Masjid chowk, Balangir. The office of the Sr. Inspector of Legal Metrology, Titilagarh is functioning in a rented building situated at Jagannathpara, Titilagarh. The area of operation of Balangir unit covers Balangir Sub-division and the area of operation of Titilagarh unit covers Titilagarh sub-division and Patnagarh subdivision.

The traders produce their weights & measures and weighing and measuring instrument at the office of the Inspectorial unit, where there is a working standard laboratory. As it is not feasible for the distance traders to produce their weights & measures for re-verification, stamping camps were organized at different places of the district for re-verification and stamping of the same. Camps in the following places are organized for Balangir and Titilagarh Inspectorial units. They are Mahimunda, Bileisarda, Bandhapada, Chandanbhati, Kusanga, Gudvela, Tusra, Deogaon, Chudapali, Agalpur, Salebhata, Loisinga, Bairasar for Balangir and Jogimunda, Belpada, Lathor, Muribahal, Patnagarh, Turekela, Kantabanji, Dhandamunda, Bangamunda, Sindhekela and Saintala for Titilagarh.

Staff Position of Legal Metrology, Balangir

Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength	Men in position	Name of the present employees	Vacancy position
Assistant Controller	1	1	Sri Binaya Kumar Dash	--
Senior Inspector	2	1	Sri B.B.N Dash	1
Inspector	1	1	Sri R.R. Duria	--
Senior Clerk	1	1	Sri S. Ch. Bhoi	--
Junior Clerk	1	1	Sri R. K. Sahu	--
Peon	1	---	--	1
Manual Assistant	3	2	Sri B. Munda Sri N. Behera	1
Chowkidar	1	--	--	1
Total	11	7	--	4

Indian Laws on Weights & Measures and their Enforcement

- 1) Standards of weights & measures Act, 1956

Uniform standards of weights and measures based on the metric system were established in the country, for the first time, by a parliamentary Act—the standards of weights and measures Act, 1956. The act envisaged change over to the metric system in all the sectors of the economy within a period of ten years. The standards established by the 1956 Act were enforced in accordance with the provision of the laws adopted by the states for the purpose. Accordingly, the state of Orissa in the Ninth year of the Republic of India passed the Orissa Act 20 of 1958 and got the approval of the Governor on the 8th July 1958, first published in the extraordinary issue of the Orissa Gazette dated the 14th July 1958 which is called the Orissa weights & measures (Enforcement) Act, 1958 and in exercise of the powers conferred by sec 44 of the O.W & M (Enf) Act, 1958 the state government implemented a rule namely Orissa weights and measures (Enforcement) Rules 1960 vide Notification dated 25th July 1960 by the Government of Orissa, Development (Marketing) Department, Bhubaneswar.

2) Standards of weights and measures Act,1976

In order to establish the international system of units, the modern and revised form of the metric system and to align our laws with the international practices as well as to remove certain deficiencies a comprehensive legislation, namely, the standards of weights and measures Act, 1976 was enacted by parliament. The Act which has since replaced the 1956 Act provides for:

1. Establishment of the international system of units (S.I), the modern and refined form of metric system.
2. Formulation of specification of weights and measures and weighing/measuring instrument as regards their metrological and technical characteristics.
3. Approval (before manufactures) of model of weighing and measuring instrument
4. Establishment of an institute to provide training in Legal Metrology and for carrying out researches in legal metrology and other allied branches of knowledge.
5. Regulation of packaged commodities sold or intended to be sold in the course of inter-state trade or commerce.
6. Creation of a national hierarchy of local standards.
7. Regulation of the procedure for verification and stamping of weights and measures sent from one states to another
8. Control and regulation of export and import of weights and measures and packaged commodities.
9. Surveys and collection of statistics for facilitating planning and enforcement (which is called the standard Act)

3) Standards of weights and measures (Enforcement) Act, 1985:

In order to ensure uniformity in the enforcement procedure, the standards of weights and measures (Enforcement) Act 1985 was enacted by parliament. It could be possible to have a parliamentary legislation on the 'enforcement of weights and measures' as the subject was transferred from the state list to the concurrent by the 42 Amendment to constitution. The Act which is to replace the existing weights & measures (Enforcement) Acts of the states provides better protection to the consumer by ensuring metrological accuracy in commercial transactions, industrial measurement and measurement needed for ensuring public health and human safety.

The main features of the Act are as follows:

1. Extension of Legal control to cover commercial transaction, Industrial measurements and measurement involved in ensuring public health and human safety.
2. Creation of effective enforcement machinery in the states.
3. Registration of users of weights & measures which are subject to periodical verification
4. Regulation of manufacture. Repair and sale of weights and measures
5. Regulation of packaged commodities sold or distributed in the course of inter-state commerce.
6. Regulation of state of commodities sold by heaps.

The standards of weights and measures (Enforcement) Act 1985 came into force on 1st April, 1989 in Orissa.

In exercising the powers conferred by sub sec-(1) of sec-72 of the standards of weights and measures (Enf) Act, 1985, the state government in consultation with the central government, made a rule namely the Orissa Standards of Weights and Measures (Enforcement) Rule, 1993 which came into force on 6th July, 1993

4. The Legal Metrology Act, 2009

The objective of the act is to establish and enforce standards of weights and measures, regulate trade and commerce in weights and measures and other goods which are sold or distributed by weight, measure or number and for issues related with or incidental. It was enacted by parliament in the sixtieth year of the Republic of India which came into force on 1st April 2011 in Odisha.

5. Orissa Legal Metrology Enforcement Rule, 2011

In exercising powers conferred by sub sec (1) of sec 53 of the Legal Metrology Act, 2009 and after consultation with the central government the state government has formulated the rule known as Orissa Legal Metrology (Enforcement) Rule, 2011 which come into force on 1st April 2011.

Weights & Measures Used in Balangir District

Prior to metric system, the weights and measures used in Balangir district were as follows:

i. For food grains- Dry measures made of tin are used in this series: Budi, Gidha, Sola, Adda, Khandi/ Khande, Puduga / Puda & Postma.

2 Budi = one Gidha,

2 Gidha = one Sola

2 Sola = one Adda,

4 Adda = one Mana

20 Adda = one Khandi/ Khande

8 Khandi = one Puduga / Puda

Also 8 Adda = one Kuta

8 Kuta = one Postana

Adda = 16 chatank

ii. Grocery Items: Round Iron Beam scale having two pans were found to be used weights of Ser series – $\frac{1}{4}$ ser, $\frac{1}{2}$ ser, one ser

Ser = 80 tolas = 16 chatank

Paw = 4 chhatank = $\frac{1}{4}$ ser

iii. Utensil items were weighed by Bisa made of either wood / Iron / Aluminium having one pan balance. On the body of the bisa there were marking of $\frac{1}{4}$ ser, $\frac{1}{2}$ ser, ser, 2 ser etc. and the pan suspended with a strong thread. The panwere either made of tin or bamboo wood.

iv. Gold & Silver: were weighed with the help of metallic round beam scale (small size) having two pans and the weights used were Rati, Massa, Tola/ Vari. Rati is a small red seed with black spot at one end

8 Rati = one Massa

12 Massa = one Tola

Conversion:

8 Rati = 1 Massa + 0.9071856 gm

12 massa = 1 Tola = 10.886 gm

80 Tola = 1 ser = 870.89 gm

1 Rati = 0.1133 gm

v. Liquid like oil and milk: were measured with dry measure made of tin in the series Budi, Gidha, Sola, Adda.

vi. Linear Measure: the term like Angula, Hata, Gira, Gaja, Inch and foot were found to be used. For cloth trade Gaja badi was used and for weaving Length was measured by hand. For distance terms like furlongs, miles and kosha were used.

vii. For area measurement, terms like Bian (full stretch of both hand),

Khandi (chain), Acres and decimil were found to be used. 100 decimil = one Acre

viii. For water the word like gallon and cubic foot and for petroleum units such as Barrel were used.

1 cubic foot = 0.028316846592 cubic metre

1 gallon = 0.004546087 cubic metre

1 Barrel = 0.158987294928 cubic metre

Exchange of Agriculture commodities and forest produce were common in the trade transaction (Heap measurement)

Weights/Measures Instruments Used after the Introduction of Metric System at Balangir District:-

1 a) Bullion weights of the series:

1 kg, 500 gm, 200gm, 100 gm, 50 gm, 20 gm, 10 gm, 5 gm, 2 gm & 1 gm, 500 mg, 200 mg, 100 mg, 50 mg & 20 mg.

b) Cylindrical knob type weights of the series 200 gm, 100 gm, 50 gm, 20 gm, 10 gm, 5 gm, 2 gm, 1 gm.

(c) Hexagonal Iron weights of the series: 50 kg, 20 kg, 10 kg, 5 kg, 2 kg, 1 kg, 500 gm, 200 gm, 100 gm & 50 gm

2. Capacity Measures:-

Conical capacity measures : 20 l, 10 l, 5l, 2l, 1l, 500ml, 200ml, 100ml

Dipping type: 1ltr, 500 ml, 200 ml, 100 ml, 50 ml, 20 ml

Pouring type -do-

3. Length measure:

Non flexible of the series

1m and 0.5 m

4. Beam scale class 'B' of 500gm, 200gm, 100gm

5. Beam scales class 'C' and 'D'

Denomination- 300 kg, 200 kg, 100 kg, 50 kg, 20 kg, 10kg, 5kg, 2kg, 1kgm, 500gm

200 gm, 100 gm

6. Non automatic weighing instrument (mechanical) Class-III – 500 kg, 300 kg,

100 kg, 50 kg

7. Non Automatic weighing instrument (Electronic) –Class-III

100t, 80t, 60t, 50t, 30t, 2t, 1t, 200 kg, 150 kg, 100 kg, 60 kg, 30 kg, 20 kg, 10 kg

8. Non Automatic weighing instrument electronics Class-I and II

60kg, 30kg, 1kg, 600gm, 300gm

9. Automatic weighing instrument of capacity -120t

10. Land Measurement: On registration record the word like Square Foot and Acre are still noticed to be used instead of metre

But in pata terms such as acre and decimil are also used however it is converted to hectare which is generally used in pata.

According to Survey of India:

1 Square Foot = 0.092903 Square metre

1 Acre = 4046.8561 Square metre = 0.40468561 hectare

In the rural area the weights, measures, weighing and measuring instrument of mechanical type are commonly used. In urban area 7 to 8 per cent traders were found using electronics weighing instrument

Jewellery Items

The show rooms are dominated by electronic weighing instruments.

The workshops are dominated by mechanical type of weighing instruments.

For bulk weighment (for truck) there are 60 nos of Road Weigh Bridges at Balangir district.

For weighment of goods transported by Railways there is an Automatic Railway Weigh Bridge at Titilagarh.

In recent decades the off take of pre packed goods has gained popularity on account of the ease and convenience with which they can be transported and marketed, weighing and measuring in the presence of the purchaser are now tending to be gradually reduced to a few selected items.

Aims and Objective of Legal Metrology

- i. To eradicate use of non standard weights and measures etc and to introduce standard weights & measures in their place.
- ii. To enforce the prescribed standards of weights & measures.
- iii. To detect violation of provisions of law by defaulters and initiate legal action against them.
- iv. In the process of above to collect revenue in shape of stamping fees, compounding fees etc. to augment resources of the state.

Year wise Achievement of Legal Metrology Balangir District

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Target	21,50,000/-	21,50,000/-	25,18,000/-	30,20,000/-	30,00,000/- (Up to July-15) 5,39,000/-
Total achievement	24,92,379/-	20,81,100/-	28,33,409/-	24,98,720/-	5,28,295/-
No of traders weight & measure verified	16502	9909	15311	12298	2335
	171	165	169	193	53

Annexure I

Non-Agricultural Credit Co-Operative Societies in Different Blocks and Urban Areas in Balangir District

(Rs. in Lakh)

Sl. No	Year / Block	No. of societies	Membership (No)	Working Capital	Loans advanced	Loans overdue	Loans outstanding
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
1	Agalpur	1	56	4.60	0.00	0.43	0.46
2	Bangomunda	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Belpara	1	55	5.30	0.00	4.17	5.12
4	Balangir	22	1208	213.08	59.37	83.48	139.40
5	Deogaon	1	62	4.79	0.00	2.11	3.12
6	Gudvella	2	120	10.71	0.00	2.13	2.39
7	Khaprakhol	1	53	7.25	0.00	4.91	6.78
8	Loisingha	1	71	4.21	0.00	0.10	2.37
9	Muribahal	3	192	17.42	0.00	14.94	19.43
10	Patnagarh	1	58	6.72	0.00	2.47	7.76
11	Puintala	2	191	25.76	0.00	0.92	20.70
12	Saintala	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
13	Titilagarh	5	447	80.30	0.00	1.04	52.79
14	Tureikela	0	0	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

CHAPTER VII

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATION

Old Time Communication Systems and Trade Routes

The work of construction and maintenance of the communication system in the Patna state rested with the rulers. Few important roads of urgent necessity were being maintained by the rulers such as Balangir to Patnagarh, Balangir to Salebhata, Balangir to Bairasar road and the road linking to Kalahandi via Belgaon. These roads were murramed and bridged roads. By 1933, the Public Works Department was started in Patna State. The normal staff of this Department comprised few employees, namely the State Engineer, one Supervisor and two Overseers and the rest being in the estimating and clerical branch. The Department was keen to maintain all buildings, roads, bridges and culverts in the State.

After 1943 post-war reconstruction programmes were taken up by the Ex-rulers. A long-range programme formulated in this connection included metalling and widening of the main roads from Balangir to Salebhata, Titilagarh, Kantabanji and Bairasar. The improvement of the road from Balangir to Kantabanji via Patnagarh was then considered to be one of the urgent necessities. It was further decided to include in the programme construction of bridges on streams, rivulets and nalas found on any of the above roads.

The following roads within the ex-State of Patna were receiving due attention in matters of repair and construction of bridges:

1. Balangir-Salebhata Road.
2. Balangir-Bairasar Road.
3. Balangir-Titilagarh Road.
4. Balangir-Kantabanji Road.

Even after independence, above mentioned roads assumed utmost importance due to road network connecting other neighbouring districts and state capital Bhubaneswar as well as other important cities and towns such as Cuttack, Berhampur, Sambalpur, Roukela, and Jharsuguda. During last forty years, road network of the district improved gradually linking to Block and Tehasil headquarters, important places like Harishankar, Ranipur-Jharial and other important villages. Apart from being managed by the Roads and Buildings Department, roads and bridges are also maintained by National Highway division, and Rural works division. Rural works department constructs the road under Pradhan Mantri Gram Sadak Yojna connecting villages with towns. The quality of the roads has also been improved significantly in terms of strengthening and widening with block topped and concrete.

Road Transport

There are 3 numbers of National Highways passing through the district. They are (1) NH-26 which passes from Salebhata to Belgaon of the District (31/0 to 127 km). (2) NH-57 which covers the distance from Balangir to Bairasar of the district and extend beyond up to Sonepur (0/0 to 50 km) and (3) NH-59 which starts from Bangomunda and touches Belgaon. These roads are under the control and management of National Highway Department, Balangir.

Balangir district has two (R&B) divisions under Works department. One is located at Balangir & another is at Kantabanji.

Balangir (R&B) Division

Balangir (R&B) Division is under the Works department of government of Odisha, The Executive Engineer being the head of the administrative unit of this division. There are 3 sub-divisions and 10 nos of sections are under the control of this division, who are working at field.

Organisational Set up:-

The Balangir (R&B) Division has been constituted with the following sub-divisions & sections as follows-

Sub-Division :-

Balangir (R&B) Sub-Division No-I

Balangir (R&B) Sub-Division –II

Tusra (R&B) Sub-Division

Function of the Division :-

A. Road Sector: The Total length of road till date is 334.83 Km out of which state highway (SH) comprises 25.00 Km & Other District Road (ODR) comprises 309.83. Km out of which 218.45 Km has been developed under NABARD, K.B.K (RLTAP), SARCA, ACA, STATE PLAN and non-plan scheme during last 5 years, and single lane of road comprises 225.68 Km. Intermediate lane covers 107.40 Km & double lane covers 1.75 Km. 3 major bridges and 2 minor bridge works have been completed during last 5 years.

A detailed List of SH and ODR of Balangir Division is furnished in Annexure

Kantabanji (R&B) Division

It has 100.10 km of road under state highway as Chudapali-Patanagarh-Kantabanji-Chandotatora road of Balangir-Kantabanji-Chandotatora state highway. Other roads come under MDR & ODR category. Following is the total length of roads and nos of bridges under Kantabanji division.

Length of State Highway - 109.00 Km

Length of MDR - 126 Km

Length of ODR - 299.925 Km

Total road length - 534.925 Km

Minors bridges - 37 nos , Major bridges - 25 nos



The roads under National Highway are all two lane roads and are well maintained by the Department. Bangomunda to Belgaon portion which is under National highway 59 is under the process of renovation in terms of widening and strengthening. The roads under the road and buildings division of Works department are also very well maintained. Construction for strengthening and widening of state Highway from Balangir to Patanagarh has been taken up by the concerned division of Road and Building Division of Works department.

Roads under Rural Works Division

Rural Works Division was established in 1st January 1975 as Project Division, Balangir for the maintenance of all rural roads & building works of Balangir District. Subsequently, it was renamed as Rural Works Division, Balangir during the year 2000 to look after all types of works of rural areas of Balangir District. In the month of July 2006, Titilagarh Division was separated with jurisdiction of 4 nos of blocks such as (i) Titilagarh, (ii) Muribahal, (iii) Bangomunda and (iv) Tureikella. From 1st January of 2015, one more division namely, Rural Works Division, Patnagarh was created. These three divisions of rural works are each headed by an Executive Engineer. This department is responsible for construction and repair of roads in rural sector linking to Panchayats and block headquarters. Pradhanmantri Gramya SadakYojna is taken up by the department since 2000-01 to give coverage in rural networks in villages. The department is also taking up big and high level bridges for rural road network. All the roads that are taken up by rural works department have black-topping.

Considering the above description, the district has overall good road network in the entire locality. Transport service has been facilitated to a considerable extent keeping pace with the increase in the number of vehicles ranging from motor cycles to four wheelers. Even the most interior villages have been well connected. Roads to nearby districts namely Kalahandi, Nuapada and Bargarh have been renovated and tourists flock to Harishankar and Ranipur jharial throughout the year in large numbers.

Inspection Bungalows have been constructed along the road side at Balangir, Deogaon, Saintala, Belgan, Burda and Salebhata. Some of these Inspection Bungalows were constructed before independence.

Bairasar-Balangir--Kantabanji-Chandutara Road

This road was constructed during the period of Durbar Administration. It passes through, Bairasar Balangir, Patnagarh, Belpara, Kantabanji, Bangomunda, Sindhekela and Chandutara. At Chandutara it connects Khariar-Bhawanipatna Road.

There are Inspection Bungalows at Bairasar, Patnagarh, Kantabanji and Balangir, all of which were constructed during the Durbar period.

Patnagarh-Padmapur Road

The road starts from Patnagarh and covers a length of 20.8 kilometers through this district and enters into Bargarh district. The road was constructed during Durbar administration. Due to good road facilitates tourists from Chhatisgarh state visit Harishankar in large numbers.

Patnagarh-Harisankar-Khaprakhol-Lathor Road

The length of the road is 48 kilometer and this was constructed during the Durbar Administration with murrum surfaced. Renovation and Improvements have been made to raise it to M. D. R. standard.

Titilagarh-Saintala Road

The road starts from National Highway No. 26 at Saintala and meets National Highway No.57 at Titilagarh. The road comprises 33 km of distance. The road was constructed during Durbar Administration. This road is also a link to Indian Ordnance factory at Badmal from Balangir and Titilagarh. There is an Inspection Bungalow located at Titilagarh.

Titilagarh-Sindhekela Road

This is also a well maintained road linking to Sindhekela. This road touches the Kantabanji-Chadutara road at Sindhekela.

Public Transport

Prior to 1945, the management of the motor transport services in the State was vested with private operators. It was in June 1945 that the Patna Durbar Administration took over its management. In 1948, the Government of Orissa introduced the State Transport Services in the district. The routes from the town of Balangir to Cuttack, Sambalpur, Jharsuguda, Titilagarh, Patnagarh, Kantabanji, Khariar, Lathor, Sonapur, Tarbha, Agalpur, Bhawanipatna, Tusra, Baudh and Belpara were nationalised.

Present mode of transport in the district can be visualized from the table below with different kinds of vehicles registered in the regional transport office. Both urban and rural population are preferring two wheelers for timely travel. Private cars and other four wheelers are on the rise in urban and rural area. Private contract carriages also ply in the district as well as to the outside routes of the district. Buses under Odisha state transport corporation ply through the various routes of the district and important towns of Bhubaneswar, Cuttack, Berhampur, Phulbani, Bhawanipatna, Jeypore, and Damanjodi.

Motor Vehicles Registered and Motor Vehicles plying in Balangir District

Sl. No.	Vehicles	(in number)					
		Number Registered			Motor vehicle on road		
		2008-09	During 2009-10	2010-11	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11
					5265	6455	7346
1	Motor cycles, scooters & Mopeds Three wheelers & Auto	6530	7664	8915	5	3	8
2	Rickshaws	2	0	6	365	98	104
3	Jeeps and Station Wagons	2	4	4	619	1211	1215
4	Private Cars	228	317	455	881	2111	2566
5	Taxies	91	113	0	1437	922	922
6	Buses (Contract Carriages & Stage Carriages)	4	8	16	175	634	650
7	Truck and Lorries	148	211	109	1431	2333	2587
8	Tractors and Trailors	361	335	429	2157	4539	4968
9	Miscellaneous Vehicles.	23	11	259	1056	496	612
				1019	6077	7689	8709
	Total	7389	8663	3	6	9	2
	Private Buses and Night Express OSRTC (9 routes)				117		
					14		

Bus Routes:

There are 19 Private Bus routes and 9 Nos of Govt. Bus routes in this district as follows.

Private Bus Routes:

1. Balangir to Bargarh
2. Balangir to Kantabanji
3. Balangir to Titilagarh
4. Balangir to Sonapur
5. Balangir to Nuapada
6. Balangir to Padampur
7. Balangir to Binka
8. Balangir to Agalpur
9. Balangir to Bhubaneswar
10. Balangir to Charbhata
11. Balangir to Harishankar
12. Balangir to Khariar
13. Balangir to Tusra
14. Balangir to Kalahandi
15. Balangir to Mukhiguda
16. Balangir to Kesinga

17. Balangir to Lathor
18. Balangir to Boudh
19. Balangir to Baliguda via Madanpur Rampur, Tumudibandh

Govt. Bus Rutes:

1. Balangir to Berehmpur- 02
2. Balangir to Phulbani - 01
3. Balangir to Khariarroad- 01
4. Balangir to Kalahandi- 02
5. Balangir to Damanjodi- 02
6. Balangir to Padampur- 01

Railways

This district has rail network of 168 kilometers. The first railway line was constructed in the year 1932 linking this district to Visakhapatnam and Raipur. Important places of Titilagr, Kantabanji, Harishankar road (Lathore) were connected. The second rail route was made operational in the year 1964 from Sambalpur to Titilagarh, which passes through Khaliapali, loisingha, Balangir, Deogaon, Saintala, Badmal and Siker stations of the district. Titilagarh railway station was developed into a junction. At present passengers and goods trains are running on the line. Several Expresses and Superfast trains run on two routes connecting important major cities like Kolkota, Delhi, Mumbai, Chennai, Tiruanantapuram, Bangalore, Hyderabad, Siridi, Azmir, Nagpur, Bhubaneswar, Bhopal and Ahemadabad.

The rail route of Sambalpur to Titilagarh passing through the district which used to be a single track is now in the process of doubling. It is an important rail link connecting industrial town of Damanjodi, Angul, Jharsuguda and Rourkela. It is also establishes a link to the port city of Visakhapatanam in Andhra Pradesh. Goods transport in this route has increased significantly in recent years.

Construction of railway line from Balangir to Khorda, however, is progressing at a slower pace. This railway line on completion will connect Subarnapur, Boudh, Nayagarh and Khorda district. Though from Khorda side, rail started rolling up to Rajsunakhala in Nayagarh district, no initiative yet has been taken up by Railway Authorities to begin the construction of railway line from Balangir end.

Travel and Tourist Facilities

Tourist places like Harishankar, Ranipur-Jharial are well connected with different transport facilities like bus and private vehicles on hire are available from Balangir and other places of the district like Titilagarh, Kanatabanji, and Patnagarh. Hotels are available in all above mentioned places for accomodation of tourists. In Harishankar, Forest Inspection Bunglow,

Revenue Bungalow, Yatrivas under the control of B.D.O khaprakhol are available. Apart from this, a Panthivas of Odisha Tourism Development corporation will also be available to tourists in near future. Building of Panthivas has already been completed.

There are inspection bungalows scattered all over important roadside places. Many of these bungalows were constructed by the then Rulers during Durbar Administration and some have been constructed by the Public Works Department of the Government of Orissa. For convenience of the State Government employees on duty a number of rest-sheds had also been constructed which are being maintained by the Revenue Department. There are also rest-sheds maintained by Forest Department in the district. A list of Inspection Bungalows and rest-sheds has been given at the end of the Chapter. A tourist office is functioning in district headquarters with District Tourist Officer as head. However, presently District Tourist officer, Subarnapur is in charge of the tourism of this district.

Posts

Postal service was introduced by ex-Patna state in 1908. There was a daily service available between Balangir and Sambalpur and between Sambalpur and Sonepur. Besides the Post Office at headquarters, there were letter boxes at School houses of all important villages in ex-Patna State. During durbar administration motor mail service from Balangir to Titilagarh and from Balangir to Bargarh was functioning. A motor mail service between Balangir and Patnagarh was also introduced with effect from 1st November, 1939.

Balangir Postal Division consists of two revenue Districts namely, Balangir and Subarnapur. The Headquarter of the Postal Administration is located at Balangir.

Now in Balangir, Postal facilities are available for the public through its network of one Head Post office, 42 Sub Post offices, 244 Branch Post offices and 30 Panchayat Sanchar Seva Kendras.

Head post Office

Balangir Head Post Office is under the charge of a Postmaster in Higher Selection Grade-I (HSG-I) who is assisted by one Dy. Postmaster (HSG-I) and four Assistant Postmasters. This office is fully computerized and works from 0930 hours to 1730 hours.

Balangir Head Post Office was selected under Pilot Project Post Office 'Project Arrow Phase-II' for improvement of service quality and ambience in which service is provided to general public. Under the scheme, action on two streams i.e. getting core right and to modernize the infrastructure of the Post Office; was taken up and was completed by 1st week of January 2009.

Subsequently, Balangir HO was inaugurated as Project Arrow Post Office Phase-II w.e.f. 22.01.09. As a part of the programme the service quality, mail delivery, office service, remittances and savings bank have been upgraded to meet the customer satisfaction. Similarly, Civil and Electrical maintenance work have been completed and the counters are modernized to provide quality service to the people.

All amenities like writing table, dust bin, kiosk information machine, drinking water etc. have also been provided for the members of public. Four acrylic boards showing the citizen charter, hours of business, advertisements and information boards have been installed in the public hall for the benefit of customers.

Twelve Postmen manage the delivery work of the office. One postman is exclusively engaged for delivery of speed post articles throughout the town. Most of the postal services offered by India Post are available in the Head Post Office. A philatelic counter also functions for the benefit of the philatelists.

Various Postal Facilities

1. Sale of Postal Stamps/Stationeries including Meghdoot Post Card, Revenue Stamps, Central Recruitment Fee Stamps
2. Registration, Parcel, VP, Insured, Speed Post, Express Parcel Post
3. Money Order, Indian Postal Order
4. Savings Bank, Saving Certificates
5. Postal Life Insurance and Rural Postal Life Insurance
6. Telephone Revenue Collection
7. Sale of Mutual Funds and Oriental Insurance Policies
8. Instant Money Order (iMO)
9. Electronic Money Order (eMO)
10. International Money Transfer Service) IMTS
11. e-Post
12. e-Payment
13. Speed Post Passport Service
14. Sale of UPSC application Forms
15. Delivery of Postal articles (Only by Delivery Post Offices)
16. New Pension Scheme (NPS)

Telecommunication

During 1933-34, installation of telephone system between Balangir and Kantabanji, a distance of about 50 miles, was taken up. It was during 1935-38 that the telephone line from Patnagarh was extended up to Kantabanji. By 1940, there were established one combined Post and Telegraph Sub-Office at Balangir, one Sub-Post Office at Titilagarh and ten Branch Post Offices.

There were telephone exchanges at Balangir, Kantabanji, Titilagarh and Tarbha. Balangir exchange was opened on the 25th February 1957. The exchange at Titilagarh was opened on the 28th February 1960. Now Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) is one of the leading service providers in Balangir District. Balangir Telecom is headed by one Telecom District Manager (TDM) with headquarters at Balangir town. It provides different services like land line connection, mobile connectivity, Internet broadband etc.

Radio Station and Doordarshan

One radio station with FM band under the control of All India Radio is functioning in Balangir from 1993. This radio station covers the whole of the district and nearby districts like Sonapur and Bargarh and Nuapada. Doordarshan (television transmitters centres) has also been set up in Balangir, Titilagarh, Patnagarh, Kanatabanji and in Tusra town of the district.

Air-Strip

In 1967, an air-strip having a runway of 1371.6/92 meter, has been constructed by the State Government at a cost of Rs. 4,19,000 near Sargada on the Deogaon—Tusra Road. A plan for expansion of the air-strip is expected very soon.

List of Circuit Houses and Inspection Bungalows

1. Circuit House, at Balangir
2. Inspection Bungalow, Balangir, P.O. Balangir,
3. I. B., Burda, P.O. Loisinga
4. I. B., Salebhata, P.O. Salebhata
5. I. B., Deogaon, P.O. Deogaon
6. I. B., Saintala, P.O. Saintala
7. I. B., Belgan, P.O. Belgan
8. I. B., Titilagarh, P.O. Titilagarh
9. I. B., Kantabanji, P.O. Kantabanji
10. I. B., Bairasar

Forest Rest Sheds

1. Rest-Shed, Lathor, P.O. Harisankar
2. Rest-Shed, Harisankar
3. Rest-Shed, Mahakhand, P.O. Kantabanji
4. Rest-Shed, Muribahal, P.O. Kantabanji

Annexure I

SI No.	Name of the Road	Category	4 lane length	2 lane length	Intermediate lane length	Total Length
1	2	3	4	5	6	8
1	Balangir-Kantabanji-Bangomunda-Chandotora road	S.H.-42			6.00	6.00
						6.00
2	Balangir-Arjunpur-Tusura-Deogaon road	O.D.R.		1.00	35.80	50.00
3	Tusura-Gudvella road	O.D.R.			10.40	12.00
4	Deogaon-Tikirapara road (25.00 km.+ 12.00 km.)	O.D.R.			33.00	37.00
5	Loisingha-Bharsuja road	O.D.R.			3.00	25.00
6	Approach road to Circuit House at Balangir	O.D.R.			2.20	2.20
7	Approach road to P.W.D. Coloney at Balangir	O.D.R.				2.00
8	Approach road to P.W.D. Store & Office at Balangir	O.D.R.				2.00
9	Approach road to Rajendra College at Balangir	O.D.R.			2.00	2.00
10	P.R.High School to Railway Station road	O.D.R.		0.75	1.48	2.23
11	Chuinbandh-Lokapara road	O.D.R.			1.50	22.00
12	Patharchepa-Bhainsa via Sibtala road	O.D.R.			9.00	32.00
13	Barapudugia-Bhutiabahal road	O.D.R.				20.00
14	Atagaon to Deogaon RD road via Uparjhar-Mahalai&Jarasingha road.	ODR				22.80
15	Deogaon to Desandh R.D. Road via Sarasbahal, Kuturla, Mursingh, Bilaspur-Gambharimal road.	ODR				35.00

16	From N.H.-201 Chowk to Helipad Manaharapur, Balangir.	ODR	0.830	0.830
17	From Rajendra Club Tulsinagar to Circuit House, Balangir.	ODR	0.500	0.500
18	From District Judge residence to Sagarpara Shiv Mandir.	ODR	0.450	0.450
19	From P.P. Academy Chowk to Damodar Mishra, Telighotpara.	ODR		0.460
20	From RajaniBhoiChowk to Malpara Rabi Sahu.	ODR		1.170
21	From MetakaniMandirChowk to Athagaon road Malpara.	ODR	0.540	0.540
22	From Athagaon road MasizidChowk via M.B. DharmasalaKhadalpara to BhagabatMandir.	ODR	0.383	0.383
23	From Gandhi Statue Chowk to Govt. Hospital.	ODR	0.315	0.315
24	From Thikadarpada Durgamandap Chowk to Talpalipara road.	ODR		0.840
25	From Patnagarh road to Sambaleswari Hospital Talpalipara.	ODR		0.450
1	Circuit House to Baba Matha (Khujenpali)	ODR	2.00	
2	PWD Road to Sadeipali	ODR		2.20
3	P.P. Academy Chowk to Patna Hotel Chowk- Patna Hotel Chowk to Samalai Temple Chowk and HariharNarsingh Home towards N.H. Road, Sonepur Via-MangalaMandir, Balangir	ODR		1.38
	Total	0	1.75	283.75

CHAPTER VIII

ECONOMIC TRENDS

District Domestic Product: Trends and Composition

The district of Balangir which extends over an area of 6575 sq. km is ranked tenth among the thirty districts of the State in area and population. The density of population of the district is 251 persons per square kilometre while the State average is 270. Its *per capita* income was Rs.25,000 in 2013-14 as compared to the State and all-India averages of Rs. 25,891 and Rs. 39,904, respectively. Structurally, its economy is predominantly dependent on agriculture. The district has no perennial irrigation system. Hirakud Command area covers only four villages in Agalpur Block. All the Irrigation Projects existing in the district irrigate after attaining a good monsoon shower. The district has only 18.8 % and 4.96 % of total cultivated area with flow irrigation system during Kharif and Rabi respectively which is also very negligible to the state average. The irrigation potential created in Balangir District is 30.8 % during Kharif & 12.2% during Rabi with an area of 106372 ha. & 42132 ha respectively which includes the life saving irrigation systems like Dug wells, Katas, Nalas and WHS. This district has not yet benefitted from the bigger irrigation projects like Lower Suktel Project. It is expected that substantial portion of the district will be covered under irrigation of these projects in coming years. A good numbers of minor irrigation projects have been completed in last few decades in the district. Paddy, Maize, Cotton, Kulthi, Arhar, Biri, Groundnut & Sugarcane crops are the potential crops in the district. The district, despite its acute water scarcity has earned a good name in the state so far as vegetable production is concerned. The district is the one of the highest onion producing districts in the whole state producing almost 25% of the total production of onion in the state. Apart from onion, chilly is also widely grown in the district. The average yield rate of paddy is about 49 quintal per hectare in the district. After 1990 poultry farming in the district has increased. Many private Entrepreneurs have come up with their Poultry Projects to boost the egg and meat production through Layer and Broiler poultry farming. Balangir is 2nd in the state in the production of eggs after Ganjam. Consumption of chemical fertilizers and introduction of farm mechanization in large scale has improved the production of crops and vegetables. The district is very rarely affected by flood but in some years drought poses a major problem for the people due to insufficient or uneven distribution of rains.

About 78 per cent of the population derive their means of livelihood from agriculture whereas about 60 per cent of the total income is derived

from agriculture. The land on the southern parts of Balangir is strewn with undulating patches of forests generally unsuitable for cultivation. Yet here and there considerable patches of fertile lands and prosperous villages are met with.

The district is not endowed with rich minerals like iron and coal. Few deposits of inferior manganese and graphite of Patnagarh subdivision have been utilized in recent years. But these mineral resources are too inadequate to provide a base for the development of large-scale industries. There is rich deposit of minerals on the Gandhamardan range. The range is rich in flora and fauna. Because of inaccessibility of the area, difficult transport and high cost of extraction, the hidden treasures of the land remain unexplored. The Government have likewise not taken any move in this direction. Thus the area, rich in natural resources, remains unexplored and neglected.

In recent years 37 numbers of rice mills have been established in the district.

As regards mineral based industry, there are 41 nos of industries established in the district, those industries are mainly based on graphite, Stone crushing and Granite cutting and polishing.

There are 16 Hotel industries have been established in the district. These Hotels have been registered with the DIC. The impact of development is gradually perceptible.

General Level of Prices

Economy of the district is based on agriculture. Paddy is chief crop of the district. Other agricultural products of the district are Maize, greengram, blackgram, Groundnut, Mustard, Potato and onion. Apart from these other consumable commodities and non consumable commodities are imported. Good Monsoon brings better harvesting of agricultural products .Though people living below poverty line are provided with subsidized rice by Government with sufficient quantity for consumption by the family members, they have to depend on other commodities like Dal, oil, vegetables mostly potato and onion . Prices of these products are high in comparison to rice. Paddy produced by farmers is hardly consumed by the people of the district except the farming class. Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India decides and fixes the minimum support prices for paddy to be procured by Government Agencies and subsequently provided to Rice-millers for production of rice. Following table shows the minimum support prices for paddy during last five years.

Year	Commodity	Variety	Minimum support prices (per quintal)
2011-12	Paddy	Common	Rs1080
		Grade-A	Rs 1110
2010-11		Common	Rs 1000
		Grade-A	Rs1030
2012-13		Common	Rs 1250
		Grade-A	Rs 1280
2013-14		Common	Rs 1310
		Grade-A	Rs 1345
2015-16		Common	Rs1410
		Grade-A	Rs 1450
2014-15	Common	Rs1360	
	Grade-A	Rs 1400	

Price of rice in open market however differs. Coarse variety of rice sells at Rs 20 to 30 rupees. Other varieties of rice are sold at higher price. Coarse rice is preferred in the district among common people. Rice is never cheaper during or after harvest as it was found twenty to thirty years ago throughout the district when the producer was obliged to sell in order to procure the means to pay the rent and to liquidate his debt. Wheat is available in the open market and also available in fair price shops for consumption of common people.

After Paddy, Cotton cultivation is one of the major commercial crops which have improved the economic condition of farmers of the district. Farmers of drought-affected parts of Patnagarh and Titilagarh Subdivision adopt cotton farming. Its minimum support price is also determined by the Government and collected by agencies appointed by the Government.

Broadly speaking, general price level is the average price of goods and services available in the economy. A change in general price level over a general period of a time is known as inflation. For most common consumer goods, prices are determined by producers and distribution channel. Prices and quantities of all goods and services determined the overall price level.

Over the years, the prices of commodities like Dal, onion and edible oil have increased abnormally and consumers have been heavily affected by it. This is found to be the result of low yield. Usually in a season there is fluctuation of prices after large scale yield of products. But in spite of that prices remain high and continue for longer period due to the illicit hoarding by unscrupulous businesspersons and overall inflationary pressures.

Wage Payment System and Wage Rate for Different Categories of Workers

Agriculture is the predominant source of livelihood for the people of the district, whether they work as cultivators of their own land or provide wage labour for others. Out of total population of 16.49 lakhs (2011 census), the working population is 720601. Among them cultivators are 166565 and agriculture labourers are 326416, and 28650 workers are employed in household industry. Four out of five of these main workers are either own cultivators or agricultural labourers. The remaining categories for main workers include construction work, trade and commerce, livestock, forestry, fishing and allied activities, mining and quarrying, manufacturing and processing, servicing and repairing in the household and non household industry, construction, and transport, storage and communication. In busy seasons of farm operations labourers are in great demand and during those few months they get ample work. But during the rest of the year employment facilities are very much irregular and uncertain. The conditions of the agricultural farm labourers more than a half century ago were quite different from present system of engagement of labourers in the district. Field labourers were called Guti or Halia and were being engaged on annual contract. They used to get wages in shape of paddy and clothes and were also supplied with food. Now, this system of Guti or Halia is nonexistent.

It is a well-known fact that agricultural labourer constitutes the lowest income group in the community. Moreover, for a considerable part of the year the rural labourer does not find any employment. As such, the daily wage which he earns is not a proper indication of his total earnings. Labourers are also employed for particular work on contractual basis i.e. construction works. Mostly skilled or semi-skilled labourers prefer to be employed in contractual basis. Some labourers work under a particular employer day after day during certain season, there is no claim to such work and even there is no agreement or understanding of any kind for any employment beyond particular period of employment for which they are engaged. A few of them work as domestic servants or are employed in some other work assigned to them by their employer.

Payment of wages

In farm operation male agricultural labourers are paid Rs 120 to 150 per day in the district. Female labourers are paid little less than their male counterpart. Payment on minimum wage scale fixed by Government is hardly followed. Similar is the situation for other casual labourers in the district. Skilled and semi skilled labourers get more than the casual labourers.

There are 4 nos of stages of employment, followed in farm operation in the district with regard to payment of wages for the agricultural labour. The first category of labour utilized for tilling or ploughing the land, normally engaged from 6 A.M. to 12 Noon and 3 P.M. to 5 P.M. for 8 hours in a day for which they are paid Rs.150/- with one time fooding, payment is normally paid to them at the end of every week during the season.

Secondly, both male and female labourers are engaged during planting of paddy saplings in the field. The male agriculture labourers are used for carrying sapling and the female labourers plant them. Male labours are paid Rs 150/ for 5 hours of work i.e. 8 A.M. to 1 P.M. and the female labourers are being paid Rs.100 to 120 with one time food for reaping work. This structure however varies from place to place in the district and wages vary according to the volume of work. Next stage is the weeding stage when labourers are engaged for removing the weeds and other undesirable grasses that grow in the field with paddy. Here also the labourers are paid Rs. 100 to Rs. 150.

Harvesting of paddy is an important part of the operation. It normally begins from the month of November to January depending upon the duration of the paddy in the Kharif season. Generally male agricultural labourers are engaged in the work and are being paid Rs.150/- for 7 hours of working starting from i.e. in 7 A.M. to 12 Noon and 3 P.M. to 5 P.M.

Sometimes the labourers work on contractual basis and the rates of wages usually fixed is Rs.1700/- to1800/- per an acre of land for harvesting.

Minimum wages system

Labour department of Government of Odisha fixes the minimum rates of wages payable to the Unskilled, Skilled, Highly skilled categories of employees employed in 88 employments as mentioned in the schedule of notification published on 24th July 2015. As per the notification the wage rate for unskilled, semi-skilled, skilled and highly skilled is Rs. 200, Rs. 220, Rs. 240 and Rs. 260 respectively. Payment of wages according to notification of Government is usually followed in industrial units, Kendu leaf collection, manufacturing units, construction works, projects, roads, private and public road transport etc. Above wage rate is also followed in employment programme like MGNREGA of Panachayat Raj Department executed in Blocks and Panchayats.

Standard of Living

Standard of living refers to way of living of people of certain geographical area. It depends on agricultural production, industries in the

area, cottage industries and employment situation and other socio-economic factors. The standard of living includes factors such as income, quality and availability of employment, class disparity, poverty rate, quality and affordability of housing, hours of work required to purchase necessities, gross domestic product, inflation rate, access to quality healthcare, quality and availability of education, life expectancy, incidence of disease, cost of goods and services, infrastructure, national economic growth, economic and political stability, political and religious freedom, environmental quality, climate and safety. The standard of living is closely related to quality of life.

Agriculture is the predominant source of livelihood for the people of the district, whether they are cultivators of their own land or provide wage labour for others. Out of total population of 16.49 lakhs (2011 census), the working population is 720601. Among them cultivators are 166565 and agriculture labourers are 326416, and further 28650 nos of workers are employed in household industry. Four out of five of these main workers were either cultivators of their own lands or agricultural labourers. The remaining categories of main workers involve construction work, trade and commerce, livestock, forestry, fishing and allied activities, mining and quarrying, manufacturing and processing, servicing and repairing in the household and non household industry, construction, and transport, storage and communication. The percentage of Scheduled caste and Scheduled tribe population is 17.88% and 21.05% respectively. Most of these people are either landless or having marginal holdings. The district presents mostly a picture of single crop agricultural economy where paddy is the principal crop. The major non paddy crops cultivated in the district as Kharif crops are cotton, maize, Moong and Biri. The major rabi crops are cereals, pulses, oil seeds, vegetables.

It is a good trend to observe that rural pockets of Balangir district in recent years witnessed a positive transformations such as development of roads, transport and communication networks. Infrastructure development and performance of the agriculture can be focused here while discussing standard of living of Balangir district.

Rural household is improving slowly by adapting to changes in life style in terms of use of consumer goods and fancy articles. In last forty to fifty years many changes are noticeable in rural pockets. The most important are the ways the rate of literacy has increased and villages have been provided with electricity. Road communication with transport facility has improved a lot even to remote corner of the district facilitating mobility and transport of goods. Cell phone connectivity has improved in last ten to fifteen tears. Awareness is being generated through media and other agencies. Gradually rural masses begin to prefer constructing building with bricks and concrete, although substantial portion of rural mass still adopt old method of house

construction with materials easily available nearby. Local-made nuria tiles are preferred with brick wall where there is a considerable increase in the use of cement and rod in rural housing.

In spite of this unstable condition it can be said that the standard of living of the people of this district is improving due to adoption of improved agricultural techniques, execution of irrigation projects, use of improved seeds and manures and above all, production of rice which has been doubled with the adoption of many high yield varieties. More important thrust has been given for crop diversification. In the drought prone area of Patanagarh and Titilagarh Sub-division, cotton is being cultivated by farmers which boost the economy of district. The Pulses, maize, and oil-seeds are grown in the district in plenty. Different kinds of vegetables such as Potatoes, Onions, brinjals, pumpkins, radish, and tomatoes are grown more or less throughout the district. Cauliflowers, cabbages and other winter vegetables are also grown and cultivation of these crops is becoming increasingly popular. Collection of milk has also increased to 31,000 its daily. In poultry sector, the district is one of the leading producers in Odisha and is ranked 2nd in the production of eggs after Ganjam district. Consumption of meat, fish, milk and egg and other nutrient rich food has increased in the urban households. In the rural pockets of the district, consumption of meat has also increased significantly.

In recent years, the influence of urban life through the modern means of communication has been noticed to some extent on the food habits and luxuries even in the remotest corners of the district. Beverages like tea, coffee and soft drink are becoming quite common in villages along with motor cycles and fancy shops, stationery and ready-made cloth shops and medicine stores.

Consumption of cereals claims 60 per cent of in the rural area as against 38 per cent in the urban area. Rice is being provided at subsidized price through public distribution out lets in every panchayat of the district. In recent years consumption of wheat supplied through PDS has increased in rural area. As regards other non-food items of consumption, the urban people spend a greater proportion of their total income than the rural people in general. Urban people make more consumption on fuel for vehicles, entertainment through television media, gadgets, home cooking by use of LPG cylinder, electricity charges, cell phone,

Another area of consumption which has increased significantly over the years is energy by both urban and rural consumer. Consumption of energy used for heating, lighting and household appliances has increased in different ways both in urban and rural area. Nearly 71% households in urban areas and over 21% in rural areas reported consumption of LPG for

households. Electricity is consumed by 96% households in urban areas and 74% in rural areas. However, the percentage of households reported using firewood still remains high in both urban and rural area. Now more consumption has been reported in use of petrol, education, medical care, telephone and cable TV subscription in both rural and urban households. It can be deduced that rural people depend on the home grown products for their food items rather on market. Urban consumers are totally dependent on market for both food and non-food items and other household materials. But gradually, it is noticed that the rural folk are also attracted to consumerism developed by urban people on non-food items.

Employment and Unemployment Situation in the District

Census data 2011 indicates the status of the workers in the district. It classifies workers as main and marginal workers. Main workers are those who participated in any economically productive activity for not less than six months and marginal workers are those participated in any economically productive activity less than six months. The cultivators and agricultural workers are among main workers. We have already discussed previously that in Balangir district, out of total population of 16.49 lakhs (2011 census), the working population is 720601. Among them cultivators are 166565 and agriculture labourers are 326416, and further 28650 workers are in household industry. Typically, economic activities have been grouped into three broad sectors such as primary, secondary, and tertiary. The primary sector includes agriculture and allied sectors like animal husbandry and fisheries, mining and quarrying. The secondary sector consists of manufacturing, electricity and construction subsectors. The tertiary sector involves various services including public administration. The economy of the district is primarily dependant on agriculture. The total labour force of the district is the sum of those working or engaged in economic activity and those who are seeking employment. The unemployment situation arises when there is scarcity of work for the workers. Non-availability of adequate employment opportunities in the organized and unorganized sector has posed serious challenges. Apart from agricultural activities, other areas of employment are few. Migration of labour from different blocks of the district namely Belpada, Patnagarh, Khaparakhhol, Bangomunda, Muribahal, Tureikela, and Saintala, is also a challenge for the district administration despite execution of wage employment programme. In last fifty years, the district experienced many drought-like situations due to uncertainty and uneven distribution of monsoon. Employment in the farm sector is badly hit during drought conditions in the district. The daily wage earners in farm sector having no alternative employment migrate to other states like Andhra Pradesh, Tamilnadu and Karnataka etc. in search employment.

Government initiated food for work scheme and other measures long back to provide earning to labour class people for a small period of time till the condition for agriculture improved. Government has taken several steps to provide employment to labour force in the past. In the year 1980 Government introduced National Rural Employment (NREP) in order to provide additional gainful employment. RLEGP was introduced from 15th August, 1983 with the objective of improving and expanding employment opportunities for the rural landless with a view to provide guarantee of employment to at least one member of every landless household up to 100 days in a year and creating durable assets for strengthening the infrastructure so as to meet the growing requirements of the rural economy. By merging the two above wage employment programme – National Rural Employment programme (NREP) and Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP), the Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) was started with effect from April 1, 1989 on 80:20 cost sharing basis between the centre and the States. The main objective of the yojana was additional gainful employment for the unemployed and under-employed persons in rural areas. One of the significant efforts was the enactment of the Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Act 2005, an important step towards realization of the right to work and to ensure livelihood security for the households in the rural areas of the district. This scheme provides at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in each financial year to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual labour. This scheme has also been implemented in Balangir district. Employment under MGNREGA has not been visible except in few cases in the blocks of Muribahal, Belpada, Tureikela and Bangomunda where migration of people from landless, small and marginal families still continues to occur.

Employment Potential

Employment Exchange: One Employment office or Employment Exchange under the Department of labour and Employment is functioning at Balangir for the entire district. It undertakes registration of eligible unemployed persons with an aim to provide them possible placements in public sector establishments. It also renders employment assistance to the jobseekers and assists the employer in meeting their man power requirements. In order to assist the District Employment Exchange to serve job-seekers more effectively, there are two more Employment Sub-offices located at Patnagarh and Titilagarh.

Employment Mission Society was launched in the year 2005. Since then the following programmes are being conducted by the State Employment Mission through the district Employment Exchange.

Placement Linked Training Programme: Placement Linked Training Programmes are being conducted by Employment Mission through the PIAs in different trades as per the MES syllabus. The training programme is free of cost. After completion of training, the successful trainees are provided with NCVT certificates as well as placement assistance by the PIAs. The following PIAs are operating in Balangir district for providing Placement Linked Training Programme.

Sl. No.	Name of the PIA	Address of the Training Center	Name of the trade	Duration of training	Educational Qualification required.
1	AIISECT	Tikrapara,Balangir	Tally	500	HSC
2	AISECT	Raghunathpara, Titilagarh	Tally	500	HSC
3	IIIM	Babajipara, Patnagarh	BPO	500	HSC

Skill Development Training Centre: To provide logistic support to the PIAs and encourage them for opening of training centres at District Level a Skill Development Training Centre is established at Durgapali. The centre will be leased out to the PIAs for running PLTP training programmes of Odisha State Employment Mission.

Block Level Counselling Camp: Block Level Counselling Camps are being organized in every block for identification of candidates for Placement Linked Training Programme, Job Fair and Pre-Recruitment Training Camp. In this camp all the PIAs operating in the District as well as the other PIAs signed MOU with Government of Odisha for participating and conducting counselling of the participants.

Job Fair: Job Fairs are being organized at District Level. The employees from the organized sectors from and outside the state are invited to participate in the event and select the unemployed interested youths of the district as per their requirement. Odisha State Employment Mission provides all logistic support to the employees during the fair. The candidates were selected through the Block Level Counselling camps; the Block Development Officers see to their participation in the job fair. A list of the nos of job offered year-wise Trade or Sector is furnished at the end of the chapter as Annexure I.

Pre-Recruitment Training Camp: Pre-Recruitment Training Camps are organized for the candidates who are interested to join the Military and Para-Military Forces. The duration of the training programme is of 15 days for 50 trainees. The trainees are trained for both physical and written test by experts.

Registration of Candidates: Besides Employment Mission activities, registration of name of the un-employed youths is being carried out at the Employment Exchanges. For the purpose of registration of name, a candidate has to produce the following documents:-

- a. All original educational certificates and mark sheets
- b. Residential certificate issued within one year
- c. Caste certificate in case of SC/ST/OBC/SEBC

Other Employment Opportunities

The potential of the district in providing employment opportunities in the field of Agriculture and ISB sector and MSME is satisfactory. But such potential has never been exploited to a considerable extent.

In the following sectors potential for Employment can be explored because of the district's agro-climatic condition.

- Cultivation of cotton, maize, sunflower
- Undertaking Horticultural Plantations, mainly mango, banana, Papaya and drumsticks
- Allied activities of Goatery, Pisciculture,
- Handloom, Handicrafts, especially terracotta, Durry and Carpet weaving, Brass metal utensils making etc.
- Transport sector
- Small industries units of spices-making, coal briquette units

MSME Units

- For manufacture of medicines, paper cups and plate making
- Rice bran oil, spices, poultry food, cattle feed

Annexure I

No of job offered

Year Wise Trade or Sector	Inside State	Outside State
G4s Security Solution Chennai	0	123
Mayur Syntex	0	33
Shahi Export	0	71
Sri Rajasthan Syntax Ltd	0	49
2012-2013	0	276
Eureka Home Care	21	0
G4s Bhubaneswar	29	0
G4s Security Solution Chennai	0	73
K1 Security	167	0
Mayur Mill	0	26
Nahar Spinning Mill	0	46
Sri Rajasthan Syntax Ltd	0	16
Ziquita Health Care	21	0
2013-2014	238	161
Ably	30	0
Arundhuti Jewellers	16	0
CIPET Balasore	55	0
CVRC	57	0
Eureka Forbes	12	0
G4 Security	163	0
Gram Tarang	73	0
Minerva Motors	67	0
OSL Security	31	0
Paiyks Security	186	0
Planet Solution	50	0
RIHM	49	0
Rswm	0	51
SSEPL	101	0
Top Guarding Security	95	0
2014-2015	985	51
Grand Total	1223	488

CHAPTER IX

GENERAL AND REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

Historical Background

After the Third Maratha war, Patna and Sonapur along with Sambalpur and other neighbouring states came under the permanent possession of the British. Patna state was in central provinces like other states of Sonapur, Sambalpur, Kalahandi and Rairakhol since 1861. Patna state with other states of Sonapur, Kalahandi and Samabalpur was declared Feudatory states in 1863 and was vested with administrative power. The Feudatory Chief began to administer his own state with laws and regulation promulgated by him. In 1905, States of Patna, with other states of Sambalpur, Sonapur, Kalahandi and Raira-khol was taken from the central provinces and amalgamated with Odisha. The privileges and status of the Feudatory Chiefs of these States were clearly defined and recorded. Thus, the Feudal Chief of Patna became the supreme head of the State in all branches of administration and was also begun to be known as the Maharaja. State of Patna was divided into three sub-divisions called Balangir, Patnagarh and Titalagarh. The sub-divisions were under Sub-Divisional Officers who exercised both executive and Judiciary functions. In Patna state, village Panchayat system was introduced in the year 1939. A legislative assembly was also reported to have been established in the year 1943 and a cabinet in the year 1947 with four ministers.

After Independence, the Government of India took up the issue of merger of Odisha States and subsequently all the States except Mayurbhanj merged with Odisha on the 1st January 1948. On that day the district of Balangir-Patna was formed comprising the ex-States of Kalahandi, Patna and Sonapur. But as the district, later on was found unwieldy for purposes of administration the ex-States of Patna and Sonapur were separated on the 1st November, 1949 and the new district of Balangir was formed comprising these two ex-States. On 1st April, 1993, Sonapur and Birmaharajpur sub-divisions were separated from Balangir district and a new district Called Subarnapur was formed.

District Administration (Background of Revenue Administration in Patna Estate): General Overview

The general administration of the district is vested in the Collector who also functions as the Magistrate of the district. The District Officer, therefore, combines in him the responsibilities of carrying on the revenue administration as well as functions of the supreme magistrate of the district for maintenance of law and order. The Collector is assisted by an Additional District Magistrate who is also empowered under several laws to perform

duties and responsibilities of the ADM of the district. The Collector is responsible for revenue administration of the district including collection of land revenue and maintenance of revenue records. For the purposes of revenue administration, the district has been divided into three subdivisions viz. Balangir, Patnagarh and Titilagarh. Each Subdivision has been divided into Tehasils. Balangir subdivision has six tehasils namely Agalpur, Loisingha, Puintula, Balangir, Deogaon & Tusra. Patanagarh sub-division has three tehasils namely Patanagarh, Belpara & Khaparakhopl. Similarly, Titilagarh sub-division has 5 tehasils namely, Kanatabanji, Banagomunda, Muribahal, Titilagarh and Saintala. Tehsils have been formed in each Block headquarter and co-terminus with the boundary of Block. In Balangir district fourteen tehsils are functioning. The Tehsil is the basic unit of revenue administration in the field level and is placed under the charge of a Group – A Officer designated as Tehsildar who belongs to the cadre of the Orissa Administrative Service. In his absence an officer of Odisha Revenue Service is kept in charge of the Tehasil to perform duties and functions of the Tehasildar and Addl. Tehasildar. The Tehasildar and Addl. Tehasildar are responsible for collection of land revenue and maintenance of revenue records. Besides they are empowered through different statutes to hold Revenue Court for disposal of lease of Government lands, mutation, encroachment, certificate and other miscellaneous revenue cases. Each Tehsil is divided into revenue circles under the charge of a Revenue Inspector for the purpose of maintenance of tenant wise records, collection of land revenue, submit information regarding maintenance of Govt. land etc. in each village under their charge besides disposal of undisputed mutation cases. A revenue circle comprises several revenue villages. The Revenue Supervisors have been posted in each Tehasil to supervise the work of RI circles in the field as per the provisions of Manual of Tehasil Accounts. The Collector being the Chief Revenue Officer of the District is under the general control and superintendence of the Revenue Divisional Commissioner of Northern Division with headquarters at Sambalpur. The Collector has the appellate and revisional powers under different statute of Revenue Law in the matter of disposal of revenue cases by the Tehasildar, Sub-Collector and ADM. Similarly, the Sub-Collector and ADM are empowered to hold Revenue Court including the appellate court empowered by different statutes.

For co-ordination of various aspects of Revenue Administration as well as for effective control over the field officers, there is a Revenue Section in the Collectorate under the charge of an Officer of the Orissa Administrative Service or Subordinate Administrative Service assisted by other ministerial staffs. But as the Collector is generally engrossed with a multitude of issues and tasks relating to general and developmental administrations, the

Additional District Magistrate closely supervises all matters of the district administration and monitors all revenue matters in the district.

The Collector also functions as the seniormost Executive Magistrate of the district being appointed by the State under the provision of Section 20 of the Cr.PC. He is primarily responsible for the maintenance of law and order in the district. He exercises all powers under the provisions of the Code of Criminal Procedure for prevention of breach of peace as well as for maintenance of law and order. He has supervisory powers over the subordinate Executive Magistrates including administration of jails and lock-ups in the district. The Addl. District Magistrate, Sub-Divisional District Magistrate for the sub-division and Executive Magistrate are appointed under section 20 of the Cr.PC and perform duties and functions accordingly in their respective jurisdiction. In exigency, Special Executive Magistrates are also appointed by the Government under section 21 of Cr.PC for a particular area for performance of particular function.

The Collector also acts as Chief Development Officer and has also been made responsible for the implementation of all development schemes including the rural development and has been given full control over officers of various departments posted in the district. He is entrusted with the responsibility to monitor their work and ensure that their work is purposeful. He has power to co-ordinate the activities of various departmental district heads so as to facilitate an integrated and all-round development of the area. Also he makes an assessment of the work performed by the district heads of some of the departments at the end of the year. After 73rd amendment act of the Indian Constitution, strengthening of Panchayats are done in three-tier PRI system such as Grama Panchayat in the primary level, the Panchayat Samiti in the secondary level and the Zilla Parishad at the District level by enactment of state laws, i.e, Odisha Gram Panchayat Act / Rules, Odisha Panchayat Samiti Act/Rules and Odisha Zilla Parishad Act/Rules. The Collector is the Chief Executive Officer of Zilla Paraishad and Chairman of District Rural Development Agency which looks after Rural development schemes implemented through Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti and other departmental agencies. In the three-tier PRI system the Gram Panchayat at the village level plays a vital role to prepare plan and estimate for various poverty alleviation and development programme through Palli Sabha/Gram Sabha and submit it to the forum of Panchayat Samiti for their assent and onward transmission to Zilla Parishad for allocation of funds by the Govt. for their implementation. The Zilla Parishad represented by elected members take a vital role for supervision and implementation of different schemes in the village level.

The Collector assesses the performances of the executives of Zilla Parishad, Panchayat Samiti and Gram Panchayat at a regular interval to

ensure proper implementation of various development programmes of the Govt. including funds management. He supervises all works and takes steps to remove difficulties which the field functionaries experience during project implementation. The Project Director, District Rural Development Agency assisted by sub-ordinates closely supervises the implementation of various schemes at Gram Panchayat and Panchayat Samiti level under the administrative control and supervision of Collector. The PD, DRDA is appointed by the Govt. from amongst the cadre of the Odisha Administrative Service (S). The Block Development Officer appointed by the Government is generally from the Odisha Administrative Service cadre. He is the Executive Officer of the Panchayat Samiti assisted by other Extension Officers and Panchayat Executive Officers (PEO) who are appointed in each GP to perform duties of an Executive Officer of the Gram Panchayat. The Collector has a general control over the working of other Department's offices in the district. The working of Panchayati Raj Department, ST & SC Development, and Civil Supplies Departments are under the direct supervision of the Collector in view of their relative importance. One District Welfare Officer is posted in District office of the ST&SC Development Department to supervise and inspect the work of the field level officials such as Welfare Extension officer (WEO) in Block and Asst. District Welfare Officer (ADWO) in the Sub-division office. Assistant District Welfare Officers have been posted in the sub-division office to inspect various welfare programmes subject to the control of Sub-Collector. An ex-Cadre Officer designated as the District Information and Public Relations Officer is in charge of the Publicity Wing of the Collectorate. An Officer of the Supply Department known as the Civil Supplies Officer works under the immediate control of the Collector. Similarly, Grama Panchayat matters are dealt with in a section of the Collectorate known as Grama Panchayat Section under the charge of an Officer known as the District Panchayat Officer. The Excise Administration of the district is directly under the charge of the Superintendent of Excise but the Collector functions as the head of the Excise Administration of the District. All these categories of works are the routine works of the District Magistrate. In addition to these works, he also functions as the District Election officer. He is assigned the responsibility to conduct and supervise all the election works and activities at the district level during Parliament and Assembly elections under the direct supervision of CEO & ECI. He also performs the duty of the returning officer in the elections to the Lok Sabha.

There is a District Treasury at Balangir under the charge of an Officer of the Orissa Finance Service (Senior Branch) and there are Sub-Treasuries functioning at Patnagarh, Titilagarh, loisingha, Kantabanji, Tusra. The District Magistrate looks into the affairs of the District Treasury and the Sub-Treasuries. In the Subdivisions, the Sub-divisional Officers are in over-all

charge of the Sub-Treasuries whose monthly accounts are verified by them. The Additional District Magistrate is the *ex-officio* District Registrar. He is assisted by a District Sub-Registrar with headquarters at Balangir. There are local offices of the Sub-Registrar in the subdivisions.

The office of the Collector is known as the Collectorate. It is the nerve centre of the district administration. It consists of several sections, each under the charge of a Deputy or Assistant Collector. At times, an Officer is also kept in charge of more than one section. Depending upon the vacancies in the Collectorate, some of the sections are under the charge of the Additional District Magistrate while others which are directly under the control of the Collector are the policy matter and over-all control and supervision of the system. The Government have sanctioned duty posts of six Deputy Collectors and two Assistant Collectors in the District Office but this number varies from time to time. Some of the important sections of the Collectorate are Revenue, General, Judicial, Development, Emergency (Disaster Management), Election, Census, Record Room, Library, Forms and Stationery, Nizarat, Land acquisition, Welfare, Publicity, Grama Panchayat and Land Records. Each section is kept under the charge of a senior assistant and there is a post of Office Superintendent for the Collectorate whose duty is to co-ordinate and control the activities of various sections in the District Office. The Office Superintendent is the head ministerial officer of the Collectorate. The Additional District Magistrate generally looks after the internal administrative affairs of the Collectorate which is subject to the general control of the Collector. The routine matters are disposed of by the Additional District Magistrate who refers important matters to the Collector for his decision.

Sub-Divisional Level Administration

For administrative convenience, the district has been divided into three sub-divisions under the charge of a Sub-Collector in each Sub-Division who belongs to the cadre of the Orissa Administrative Service (SB). At times, Junior Officers of the Indian Administrative Service are also kept in charge of the subdivisions. The Sub-Divisional Magistrate also holds Criminal court under preventive sections of the Criminal Procedure Code. They are responsible for the maintenance of law and order in their respective jurisdiction. At Sub-divisional level, Sub-collectors are assisted by one to two officers of Odisha Administrative services or Odisha Revenue services for disposal of criminal, revenue and certificate cases.

There are fourteen Development Blocks in Balangir. Each Block is kept under the charge of a Gazetted Officer known as Block Development Officer. The office of the Sub-divisional Officer is a miniature Collectorate, having all the similar sections as function in the Collectorate. The Sub-collector is the

Sub-divisional head and has general control over the Sub-divisional staffs of the other departments. Under the supervision and control of Sub-Collector, the PDS and Social Security are provided to beneficiaries through respective Panchayat Samitis. The Sub-Collector discharges all duties and responsibilities in respect of all matters under his jurisdiction concerning all sectors like Collectorate subject to control and supervision of Collector. He is directly responsible for the smooth implementation of the programmes of the Panchayat Samitis and proper land revenue administration by the Tehsildar. The Sub-Collectors of the district of Balangir have the powers under the provisions of Odisha Land Reforms Act 1960 to enquire into every petition filed by a member of any Scheduled Tribe and Schedule caste praying for permission to transfer whole or part of his holding to a Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste person. He is the competent authority under this law either to permit the transfer or reject the application. He may also, on its own motion or on the application filed by the successors of any previous transferor, enquire into the matter to establish validity of such transfer and pass order to restore it back to the person he considers entitled to possess it. In respect of his sub-division, he has powers for supervision over the Police Administration. The Sub-Collector is the appellate authority who is empowered in the various statute like Odisha Misc. Certificate Rules, Odisha Mutation Manual, Odisha Prevention of Land Encroachment Act, Odisha Land Reforms Act, Odisha Minor Minerals Concession Amendment Rules either to annul or uphold the orders passed by the Tehsildars in such matters within his jurisdiction. Similar to the ADM and Collector and ADC are vested with the powers of Appellate and Revisional Authority against the impugned orders passed by the authority down below, the Board of Revenue has the power to review every revenue matters as per statutory provisions.

There are several other offices of the Government of Odisha which function under the immediate control of their district level heads.

Other District Offices

The important Departments in the district are Public Works, Veterinary, Forest, Industry, Agriculture, Medical, Co-operative and Education department. The organisational set-up of each of these Departments in the district is presented below.

Works Department (Roads & Buildings)

This Department is responsible for construction and maintenance of roads, buildings and bridges. It executes all works relating to construction of buildings and roads required by all departments of Government except such works as are transferred to the administration of the departments concerned or entrusted for execution to a State Government. At times, works of non-government agencies are also taken up by it.

Balangir district has two divisions located at Balangir and Kantabanji. Each of the division is headed by an Executive Engineer. Each Division is again divided into Sub-Divisions and looked after by an Assistant Engineer. Executive Engineer is responsible to the Superintending Engineer.

Balangir is also the headquarters of Balangir circle headed by Superintending Engineer who looks after the affairs of 3 other districts including Balangir. These districts are Kalahandi, Nuapada and Subarnapur.

Electricity Department

Power supply to domestic and industrial purpose is managed by WESCO (Western Electricity Supply Company of Odisha limited). WESCO is a public limited company to carry out the distribution and retail supply business of electricity in the entire region of Odisha. Before 1997, Odisha State Electricity Board was looking the aspect of distribution and supply of electricity in the District.

Balangir district has two divisions under WESCO. Balangir is the headquarters of Balangir Electric Division and another is located at Titilagarh for Titilagarh Electric Division. Each division is headed by an Executive Engineer. Again, Balangir Electric Division has 4 Sub-Divisions namely Balangir-1, Balangir-2, Loisingha, and Tusra. Parts of Puintula Block are managed by Sonapur Electric subdivision at Tarva of Subarnapur district. Similarly, Titilagarh has four electric subdivisions placed at Titilagarh, Saintala, Kanatabanji and Patnagarh.

Rural Works Department

The district has three divisions of the Rural Works Department located at Balangir, Patnagarh and Titilagarh. Each division is headed by an Executive Engineer who is assisted by Assistant Engineers. Works related to road and buildings of rural area are looked after by this department.

Public Health Department

It is headed by one Executive Engineer with headquarters at Balangir. He is responsible for supply of drinking water in all urban areas of the district.

Rural Water Supply and Sanitation

This department looks after provision for supply of drinking water in rural areas. It is headed by an Executive Engineer with headquarter at Balangir. It is accountable for sanitation in rural areas.

Animal Resources Department (Veterinary)

Chief District Veterinary Officer is the apex supervising and monitoring authority in ARD sector of the district. His Office is situated at Balangir district headquarters. At Sub-divisional level Sub-divisional Veterinary Officer functions at each Sub-divisional head quarter to monitor and supervise the activities of Veterinary Institutions. There are 21 numbers of Veterinary dispensaries and hospitals in the district. These provide veterinary and animal husbandry services to the livestock farmers of the district at Block/GP levels. Apart from this there are 114 numbers of live stock aid centre and 135 numbers of mobile units have been engaged to oversee veterinary services in the district.

Forest Department

The Balangir Forest Division covers the entire district. The Divisional Forest Office is located at Balangir. The Divisional Forest Officer is the head of the division. There are three Assistant Conservators of Forests to assist the Divisional Forest Officer. The division consists of 11 ranges out of which three are in charge of Forest Rangers. The ranges are divided into sections in charge of Foresters who are assisted by a Forest Guard each.

Balangir Forest division comes under the Chief conservator of Forest, Bhawanipatna circle.

Industries Department

The District Industries Office was established at Balangir on 1st May 1957 to look after the industrial development of Balangir and Kalahandi districts and Baudh subdivision of Baudh-Khondmals district. The office represents the Directorate of Industries, Orissa, at district level. District Industries Centres have been set up in each district of the State with effect from 1st July 1978. Consequently on the introduction of District Industries Centres, the offices of the District Industries Officers, Project Officers, Rural Industries Projects and Zonal Deputy Director have been abolished. The District Industries Centre is only agency to deal with all services and support required for promotion, establishment and follow up action in respect of small and village Industries. This organization has been equipped with techno-managerial marketing experts and economists to locate and assist entrepreneurs belonging to small and village sectors. The range of functions of a District Industries Centre cover economic investigation of a district's raw materials, credit facilities, effective marketing assistance with common facilities for quality control and establish close linkage with development departments, financing agencies etc.

Agriculture Department

Dy. Director, Agriculture is the supervising authority of agricultural activities of the district. His office is located at Balangir. He is assisted by three District Agricultural officers of Patanagarh, Titilagarh and Balangir Sub-division.

Health Department

The Chief District Medical officer, having his headquarters at Balangir, has jurisdiction over the whole district regarding the medical institutions and the staff. He is the Superintendent of the hospital located at the district headquarter Balangir. He is also assisted by three numbers of Additional District Medical officers. At Sub-divisional level, Sub-divisional Hospitals at Patnagarh and Titilagarh are under the control of Sub-divisional Medical officers. There are 17 numbers of Community Health Centres and 42 numbers of Primary Heath Centres in the districts. Balangir District Hospital, three sub-divisional Hospitals and Hospital at Kantabanji have been declared as first referral units. There are 174 M.B.B.S and more qualified doctors employed in different hospitals of the district.

Co-operative Department

The Balangir Cooperative Division started its functioning since the year 1979 with three circle offices namely Balangir, Titilagarh and Sonepur Circle. Prior to that, it was under the Kalahandi Deputy Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Cooperative Division. Later on, two new circles were created bifurcating Balangir Circle and Sonepur Circle. Now three circles namely Balangir, Patnagarh and Titilagarh are functioning in the District.

The Deputy Registrar of Coop Societies, Balangir Division is the District Registering authority of all Central Coop. Societies and Asst. Registrar of Coop. Societies are the sub-divisional registering authority within their circle. They are the key for promotion and extension of cooperative movement and both the district. They are assisted by SARCS, Inspectors and CEOs in their work.

Education Department

Education in the district is looked after by the District Education Officer as a whole. Previously, Block Education Officer was known as Circle Inspector of schools. Presently, Block Education Officers have been posted in Block level to make the supervision prominent in the field level. District Education Officer exercises administrative control over secondary level in the district where as Block Education officer exercises control over primary level.

Sarva Sikshya Abhiyan

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is the comprehensive and integrated flagship programme of Government of India to attain universal elementary education. After the closure of DPEP on 30th June 2003, SSA Programme was launched in Balangir district. From 1st April 2010, the RCFCE Act (Right of the children to free and compulsory education Act) is being implemented along with SSA in the state.

One District Project Coordinator appointed by the Government supervises the affairs and management of Sarva Sikkshya Abhiyan in the district which is subject to the administrative control of the Collector.

Social Welfare Department

The Department has an elaborate field formation with the District Social Welfare Officer (DSWO) to assist the Collector in each District and a Sub-divisional Social Welfare Officer (SSWO) in every sub-division to oversee the affairs of the department. Besides, there are Social Educational Organizers (SEOs) and Lady Social Educational Organizers (LSEOs) at the Block level who assist the Block Administration in implementing the social welfare programmes. In the district, each ICDS project is headed by a Child Development Project Officer (CDPO), the project is further divided into 5-6 Sectors. Each sector is headed by a Supervisor, who oversees the work of 20-25 Anganwadi Centres (AWC) functioning at the village level. The Sub-Collector is the Chairman of all ICDS Project within his jurisdiction who controls and supervises the works of all CDPOs and AWWs and ensures smooth implementation of the programme. He has the power to act as the Chairman of the Selection Committee for engagement of AWWs as per guidelines of Govt. in W & CD Department. He is vested with the special power to remove AWW with due procedures in case of rural sectors. In case of urban sector, the ADM is invested with such powers.

W omen & Child Development

The department aims at the holistic development of women and children. Further, it renders a whole array of services meant for children up to 6 years of age, pregnant women and nursing mothers belonging to the poorest families. It is entrusted with the following responsibilities.

1. To provide food security, meeting the special nutritional needs of specific target group.
2. To provide safety for old, infirm and destitute.
3. To assist physically challenged and disabled.
4. To coordinate the effort of NGO/ Voluntary Organization and aid agencies working in the field of social development.
5. To coordinate the programme designed for social and economic improvement of women including "Mission Sakti".

Regional Transport Office

The office was opened in the year 1968 near the Collectorate Office, Balangir. The RTO Office, Balangir is functioning in its own building since 15/08/1988. Prior to this, the department was under the jurisdiction of the Superintendent of Police, Balangir.

The office is headed by the Regional Transport Officer. One Motor Vehicle Inspector, Enforcement staff and ministerial staff work under him. This office has many sections like Smart section and Permit Section, Cash counter etc. Learning license online test is being conducted in the office. There is provision for registration and VCR section. One record room is there to keep the old records in proper manner. The total building is under CCTV surveillance. The entire office building is equipped with 2 MBPS network connection and 24X 7 hours Internet Facility.

Public Health Department

A Public Health Division is working in Balangir district. The Executive Engineer is the authorised head of this division who looks after the water supply system in Urban Areas of Balangir & Titlagarh Municipalities, in NACs of Patnagarh, Kanatabanji and Tusra.

District Rural Development Agency

DRDA has traditionally been the principal organ at the district level to oversee the implementation of anti-poverty programmes of the Ministry of Rural Development. This agency was created originally to implement the Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP). Subsequently, the DRDAs were entrusted with a number of programmes of both state and central governments. From 1 April 1999 a separate DRDA Administration has been introduced to take care of the administrative costs. This aims at strengthening the DRDAs and to make them more professional in managing the anti-poverty programmes and hence establishes an effective link between the ministry and the district level.

DRDA, Balangir was previously functioning as SFDA since 03/01/1971. Subsequently, it has been renamed as DRDA in accordance with Agriculture and Co-operation Department resolution No. 3951/AC dated 30/01/1981. It is registered as DRDA, Balangir vide registration No.18931/14/84-85 dated 30.04.1984 covering all 20 blocks of the undivided Balangir district. After re-organisation of new district of Subarnapur, six blocks pertaining to Sonapur and Birmaharajpur Sub-division were separated with effect from 01/04/1993 from this Agency vide notification No.14210 / Rev dated 27/03/1993 of Government in Revenue & Excise Department. After bifurcation the jurisdiction of this Agency is comprised of 14 blocks and three sub-divisions having 6 tehasils. President of Zilla Parishad is the Chairman of the DRDA

Governing Body, Collector of Balangir works as the CEO of DRDA/ZP and Project Director, DRDA is the ex-officio Secretary of Zilla Parishad who acts as the chief implementing and monitoring authority for rural developments.

Rural development and poverty alleviation programmes are being implemented on a decentralized basis, keeping in view the large geographical areas, the administrative requirements and the need to involve grassroots-level officials and the community in the implementation of the programme. The Ministry of Rural Areas & Employment, at central level, has been implementing these programmes. The Ministry is responsible for the release of central share of funds, policy formulation, overall guidance, monitoring and evaluation of the programmes. At the State level Commissioner-cum-Secretary, Panchayati Raj Department and Director Spl. Projects and Addl. Secretary to Government, PR Department are responsible for the implementation of the rural development programmes. At the District level, the programmes are being implemented through the DRDAs (District Rural Development Agencies). The governing body of DRDA includes Members of Parliament (MPs), Members of Legislative Assemblies (MLAs), District level officials of Development Departments, Bankers, NGO's and representatives of weaker sections of the society. The Chairman, Zilla Parishad used to be the Chairman of the Governing Board. The Governing body at the district level provides guidance and directions to DRDA. The body in DRDA is responsible for actual implementation headed by Collector-cum-Chief Executive Officer of DRDA.

Many Schemes of the Central and State Governments are introduced from time to time. Several schemes are available providing support to different components of Rural Development. Schemes are also periodically modified to reflect the experience over the years. The task of DRDA is to identify the needs of the rural population and reach the appropriate schemes where they are needed. In implementing the schemes, the role of the DRDA has been technical, managerial and financial. Thus DRDA is not only a body to disburse the funds for the schemes but also provide appropriate managerial and technical support.

District Rural Development Agencies (DRDAs) are district level development execution and monitoring agencies created under the Indian Societies Registration Act. Substantial sums of rural development funds of government of India were transferred and routed through them under various Centrally Sponsored Schemes. Being purely a financial resource for rural development the DRDAs are extremely important institutions at the district level.

The nodal Agency is entrusted with the work of overseeing and implementing major poverty alleviation programme of central and state govt.

The major flagship programme which are being implemented the Rural Housing programme i.e. Indira Awaas Yojana and Biju Pakka Gruha Yojana under which Pucca houses are given to houseless poor people, Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) under which wage employment is given to rural job seekers for creation of permanent rural assets/ infrastructures like Water Harvesting Structures, Tanks, irrigation sources, drought proofing works, rural connectivity works, land development and other community works. Another flagship anti-poverty programme is NRLM (i.e. National Rural Livelihood Mission) under which livelihood support is extended to SHGs through revolving funds and credit linkage. Producers groups are also formed and developed into micro-economic enterprises by skill development under the scheme, DDUGKY and skill development training is imparted to unemployed educated youth.

Background of Revenue Administration in Patna Ex-state

In 1948, two former states of Patna and Sonapur were carved out of Eastern state Agency and by combining them, Balangir District was formed. The main Sub-Divisions of Patna ex-state were (1) Khalsa or directly administered country and two estates held by relations of Maharaja, one at Jarasingha and the other is at Agalpur. (2) 5 hereditary estates are in Atgaon, Loisingha, Pandarapani, Bahalbuka and in Mandal. (3) Binjhal estates at Remute, Nandupala, Bhanpur, Khaprakhol and Khuripani (4) clusters of villages called Garhtiahs and (5) nine Khond Mahals

During 19th century, land revenue administration of Patna State was being carried on by leasing out villages to the highest bidder who were later known as Gauntias. The lease given to Gauntias was for 4 years. There was no right of rayat over the land and he could be rejected at the will of Gauntias. Nazrana was being paid by the Gauntias. The village assessment of Malgajari was distributed on all rayati land including those held by the Gauntias as a rayat. The Gauntias enjoyed all the bhogra lands rent free in return for the Nazrana paid by them. This system of Revenue Administration in the Patna State continued up to 1871. The tenant was however ignorant of the rent he had to pay. The tenant was under the mercy of the Gountia, who was making a source of profit for the Gauntia. During this system, all sorts of levy were collected from villages for marriage in the ruler's family or for visits of important persons. Unpaid labour was imposed upon tenants.

In 1871, a new settlement was made under British Administration. In that year, after a summery enquiry, leases were given to Gauntias who in return had to sign Kabuliyats which was newly introduced at that time. This settlement was made for only 5 years. The demand of cess was collected from tenants with rent in this system. Charges were made in the grant of lease and in collection of demand to be collected in three instalments on the

full moon day of Ashadha, Kartika, and Phalguna. Gountia used to enjoy bhogra lands rent free and appropriating the rents of new tenants on new lands.

Though a fresh rent settlement was conducted in 1876 by Captain Bowie, the then Deputy Commissioner, Sambalpur, with not much changes, the Gountias and the tenants were left to themselves to apportion the increased demand and subsequently the demand of revenue increased.

The next Settlement was conducted in the year 1885 by Berry. During this settlement also a newly broken up land by the Gauntias was introduced and the land was being enjoyed by the Gauntia himself get under the cultivation by the tenant and enjoyed by them rent free for first 3 years and subsequently paying the rent to Gauntias and the abandoned land by tenants were being cultivated by Gauntias and leased to them at a very lenient price.

In the year 1895-96, a regular settlement was made under the supervision of Sri Sahani. Better cultivated lands were regularly surveyed by plain table. The other details of the settlement like preparation of maps, Khasra and Jamabandi were made. Soil was divided according to position into or high land, mal or high embanked land, berna or low land, bahal or lowest land where water supply was never deficient. Rent was calculated by means of soil factor and unit rates. In determining the rate of land, the condition of the village was taken. During this settlement, the remuneration of Gauntias was changed. The Gauntias were supposed to assign land to the village servants like Bhandas, Jhankar, Naria as their remuneration for the service offered by them to the village. Tribal heads such as Umrah received remuneration in cash.

The next settlement of the State was carried out under the supervision of Sri Kamal Lochan Pujhari, Settlement Officer in the year 1903. He completed the survey and settlement of Kandhan Pragana and Khalsa area of Balangir Sub-Division, Agalpur estate and also in Patnagarh Sub-Division. After Sri Pujhari, revision settlement of Kandhan Pragana, Kalsai area, Agalpur Estate and Patnagarh Sub-Division was taken up by Sri Daitari Mishra, Settlement Officer. He also made regular settlement of the Jamindaris of Bangomunda, Loisingha, Atgaon and Kharposdari of Jarasingha. This settlement was completed in the year in 1919. This type settlement was in accordance with the system followed in the central provinces.

The next survey and settlement operation commenced under the supervision of Sri Satish Chandra Benarjee in the year 1932 and were completed in the year 1937. It was a revisional one. This settlement was done according to Bihar and Odisha Survey and Settlement Technical

Rules. New classifications of land were adopted during this settlement, viz; Bahal, Berna and Malsama. Accordingly, bari land were also divided into Barimamuli, Bari Khari, Baripani, and Kharipani. In this settlement fruit orchards were recorded as Bagicha. The important part is that uncultivated land were also recorded as House, Roads, Gochar, Temple, Cremation grounds, Waste land and Jungle etc. Settlement of Waste lands was divided into two categories, viz (1) State Anabadi, and (2) Thekadar Anabadi Khata. The land in Thekadar Anabadi Khata can be used for the purpose of cultivation. Adopting these changes, there was an overall increase of revenue by 47 percent in comparison to previous settlement of 1919.

The following important records were prepared during 1932-37 settlement Khewat, Khatian, Irrigation Khata, Wajib-ul-arz, Thekadari Umrahi and Kabuliyat.

1. Khewat — It was the record of proprietary interest of the village and gave a description of status of those who were entitled to receive rent from the intermediate tenure holders. It also contained the revenue payable by each Khewatdar of the area covered by each Khewat. The Patna State Sarkar was recorded as the sole proprietor and the Kharposhdars, Zamindars, Umrahs, Gat ties and Maunders were recorded as intermediate tenure holders.
2. Khatian— It was the most important part of Record-of-Rights and contained a full description of the lands of the villages arranged holding-wise, particulars of Khatadars, status, area and rent payable on each holding.
3. Irrigation Khatian— It contained detailed description of the lands irrigated from the state water reservoir as well as description of such water reservoir. It did not contain the entire irrigated area of the village because the lands irrigated from the wells as well as private reservoirs were not entered in this record.
4. Wajib-ul-arz — It was a detailed embodiment of the right and liabilities of the rayats and the Thekadars of the village concerned. It defined the status of Thekadar, the extent of his interest in the village and the mutual relationship between the rayats and Thekadars.
5. Kabuliyats— Kabuliyats executed by Umrahs and Thekadar embodied the conditions on which they held Umrahi and Thekadari Tenures.

Three copies of the Record-of-Rights were prepared during 1932-37 settlement. The State copy was consigned to the District Record Room, the Malik copy was supplied to the Thekadars of the villages concerned and the rayati copy was supplied to the rayats concerned. The five big tenure holders i.e. Kharposhdar of Jarasingha and Agalpur and the Zamindars of

Bangomunda, Atgan and Loisinga were supplied with a copy of khewat and Teriz which gave them all necessary information in regard to the villages in their tenure. The Umrahs were supplied with a copy of Kabuliyat executed by them and also a demand list of the revenue and cess payable by the Thekadars under them. The whole-village-maufidars were supplied with a copy of the khewat.

Land Tenure System

Zamindars and Kharposhdars

There were five big tenure holders in Patna ex-State. Two of them were related to Raj family and they were granted the tenures for their maintenance so they were known as Kharposhdars. They were the Kharposhdars of Jarasingha and Agalpur. The Kharposhdari tenure of Jarasingha was created by Maharaja Ram Chandra Singh Deo (1765 to 1820) for the maintenance of his second son Jugaraja Singh. The Kharposhdari tenure of Agalpur was created in 1884 by Maharaja Bhupal Singh Deo for the maintenance of his six sons through his second wife. The zamindaris of Atgan, Bangomunda and Loisinga were created at different times for rewarding the fore-fathers of those Zamindar families who rendered valuable military services to the then Ruling Chiefs of Patna in subduing rebellions within the State and in resisting invasion from outside. The status of these tenures as well as the obligations, duties, rights and privileges were embodied in the Sanad granted by the Ruling Chiefs to the Kharposhdars and Zamindars. These tenures were impartible and resumable for breach of conditions laid down in the Sanad and liable to lapse in absence of direct heir in case of Kharposhdari and near-heir in case of Zamindari. Succession to these tenures was governed by the law of primogeniture subject to the approval of the Ruler. The Kharposhdars and zamindars have to attend the Ruler's Durbar and to perform such other duties as imposed on them from time to time and were held responsible for the proper management of their estates. They had the right to collect and appropriate land revenue and cesses, revenue from country liquor, pounds and ferries subject to their control. They had to pay to the ex-State Takoli and cesses fixed from time to time. A comparative statement of Takoli payment of the Kharposhdars and Zamindars is given below :—

Comparative Statement of Takoli Payments of the Kharposhdars and Zamindars

Name of Kharposhdars and Zamindars	Settlement 1903-1919			Settlement 1932-1937			Percentage of increase
	Total P. C. assets of the assess-Estate	P. C. of assess-ment	Amount of Takoli	Total P. C. assets of the assess-Estate	P. C. of assess-ment	Amount of Takoli	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Kharposhdar, Jarasingha.	37,179	8.7	3,230	52,676	26.1	13,750	326
Kharposhdar, Agalpur	20879	9.9	2060	31452	26	8177	297
Zamindar, Bangomunda	21743	2.6	5,585	44662	40	17855	220
Zamindar, Loisinga	18562	12.7	2,350	25087	25	6274	167
Zamindar, Atgan	19631	12.2	2400	25623	22.6	5800	142

Mc Gavin, once the Dewan of the ex-State writes in his note on the tenures:

what is of special interest is the incontestable proof that Loisingha, Atgaon and Bangomunda are not zamindaris, properly speaking at all, but jagir grants made by the Patna Chiefs on certain conditions and in return for certain services. It is true neither condition nor services are constant or well defined, and considering the times and circumstances in which they were granted, this is not to be wondered at.

Besides these big tenure-holders, there were also some petty tenure holders who were known as Umrahs and one of them, the tenure-holder of Sindhekala, was known as Gartia. There were 23 such petty tenure-holders direct under the state having 5 to 53 villages under them. There were also some Umrahs under the Zamindars and Kharposhdars.

The Zamindaris of Atgan and Bangomunda were resumed prior to merger. The Zamindari of Loisinga was vested in the State of Orissa as per Revenue Department notification No. 7007-29/52—R, dated the 27th November, 1952 and that of Agalpur and Jarasingha as per Revenue Department notifications No. 7008-E.A.-29/52-R. dated the 27th November 1952 and No. 7009-E.A.-29/5 dated the 27th November 1952, respectively. The Umrah tenures vested in the State of Orissa as per Revenue Department notifications No. 28430-E.A.-1/8-59-R. dated 1st July 1959.

Genesis of Gauntia System

The existence of headman in each village probably arose from the day jungles began to be cleared and villages settled by the early inhabitants. The earliest settler was naturally looked upon by the late settler with reverence and his word used to be given due weight. In course of time these village headmen were found to be men of responsibility, whom the Ruler made responsible for revenue of the village and as such, they were treated as Officers of the Ruler as time passed. The cultivators were expected to pay the revenue to him but from the point of view of the Rulers, it mattered little to them whether all the revenue had been collected or not. The Ruler on the other hand did not bother himself to know how the revenue was collected by the headmen. The headman was remunerated by land which was rent-free for his part in collection of revenue and maintenance of peace in the village.

Gaunti Tenures

The Gauntias or the village headmen had no proprietary right in their villages and though they claimed the right of hereditary succession to their respective villages to be governed by law of primogeniture their claim had never been recognised. They held on short-term lease and cases were not infrequent in which a Gauntia of long standing was ousted from his village to make room for a fresh one on consideration of Nazarana. Although no legal right of these Thekadars over their respective villages was recognised by the ex-State Government, they had, according to the notion of the people, a strong moral claim to remain in possession so long as they paid the revenue assessed on their tenures. Thekadars and Gauntias were in the beginning identical. But later Thekadars who were given protected status became Gauntias.

Till the Land Revenue Act, 1940 came into force in the Ex-State, the Thekadars were holding the tenures under a Kabuliyat executed by them the said Act defined them as persons who had accepted the assessments of the villages. The duties of Thekadars have been recorded in the Wazib-ul-Arz and Thekadari Kabuliyat. The Thekadars were appointed for 15 years or till the next settlement. These persons were authorised to collect rent from the tenants and pay the same to the authorities. They were held responsible for

the administration of village affairs. The remuneration paid to these tenure-holders was 20 per cent of the gross assets of their respective villages. But the bhogra lands in their possession were valued at ordinary rayati rates.

The tenures could be inherited only during the period of a settlement. The Thekadars had no right to transfer in any way their interest in the village in whole or in part. Only one person was eligible to inherit the Thika. Inheritance through female heir or even by an adoption was not banned. Co-sharers, as related in Wazib-ul-Arz (1937) had no right over village except bhogra lands. In the Land Revenue Act, 1940 this condition was replaced and provision were made to share bhogra by amicable settlement. Almost all Thekadars had their co-shares who by amicable arrangement with the Thekadars used to enjoy certain share of Bhogra lands till the existence of Thekadars. The ex-State Government did not recognise such amicable arrangements though Thekadar's right in sub-letting the lands was never disputed. But in such cases rayati rights did not accrue to the co-sharers in such lands on the strength of the lease, whatever the period of lease may be.

Under the Kabuliyat, the Thekadars were to continue for a period of 15 years or till the next settlement. The period of 15 years expired on 1st April, 1950. As per orders contained in Revenue Department letter No. 14340 dated 19th December 1949, the Thekadari system in the ex-Patna State was abolished with effect from 1st April 1950 and the bhogra lands were settled in rayati tenancy with the Thekadars and their co-sharers according to their possession as determined by Revenue Authorities. Bhogra conversion work in the Khalsa area was taken up in 1950 in the Umrahi area in 1951 and in the Kharposhdari and Zamindari area in 1953. The Gauntia as the villageheadman was primarily responsible for the efficient village management; but after the abolition of the Gauntia system this responsibility was partly entrusted to the newly created Grama Panchayats and the Revenue authorities directly took charge of the Dharsas (village roads), Deraghars (Rest Houses) and the tanks and Katas only in matters of regulating irrigation from such sources.

Umrahs

There were 22 Umrahi tenures in the Patna ex-State as ascertained during 1932-37 settlement. But such tenures were not constant as owing to default in payment or breach of conditions laid down in the Umrahi Kabuliyat as certain Umrahs were ejected and new Umrahs were not necessarily appointed in their places. And again the Chief could create Umrahi tenures if felt necessary. The Umrahs were middle-men between the State and Thekadars and more similar to Thekadars in holding their tenures on a Kabuliyat for the period of the settlement. The Umrah was a Thekadar of at least one village in his circle. The Thekadars used to pay land revenue to the Umrah who deposited the same in the treasury. In villages where there were

Sikimi Thekadars the land revenue was paid by the Sikimi Thekadar to the Ash Thekadar who in turn paid the same to the Umrah. The remuneration of Umrahs unlike that of Thekadars was not uniform but varied from 5 to 17 per cent of the total Thica Jama of the villages under them. In certain cases the Umrahs had lands recorded as bhogra villages (other than their Thekadar villages) under them. As per the terms of the Umrahi kabuliyat, the tenure could be transferred with the sanction of the State. The Umrah was responsible for the revenue of all the villages under him and had few duties to perform apart from payment of land revenue. The Umrah could not eject a Thekadar but could nominate one for a vacant post. In practice, the tenure could be surrendered although there is no such corresponding provision either in the kabuliyat or in the Land Revenue Act. The Umrahi tenures vested in the State of Orissa as per Revenue Department Notification No. 28430—E. A.-L-815-R., dated 1st July, 1959.

Maufi Tenures

Maufi tenures were held either rent-free or on payment of quit-rent and were created by the ex-State for secular or religious services, for maintenance or as remuneration to some continuing service. An entire village or groups of villages or even a portion of a village or even a few plots could be given as maufi. There were following types of maufis in the ex-State.

- (a) Debottar Maufi
- (b) Brahmottar Maufi
- (c) Babuan maufi
- (d) Khorakposhak maufi (Bharanposhan maufi)
- (e) Sindur Tika maufi
- (f) Ardha Jama maufi
- (g) Mrutaha Panchaka Dan Maufi

All these maufis have been abolished as per Revenue Departments Notification No. 58745, dated the 7th September, 1965.

Besides, Jagirs were granted for various purposes and they were as follows —

- (i) Chaukidar Jagir
- (iii) Jhankar Jagir
- (iii) Nariha Jagir
- (iv) Negi Jagir.
- (v) Kamar Jagir
- (vi) Kumbhar Jagir

- (vii) Dhoba Jagir

According to Home Department Notification No. 5703-P., dated the 27th February, 1965 Chaukidari and Jhankar systems have been abolished from Balangir subdivision, with effect from 1st May, 1965 and according to Home Department Notification No. 12418-P., dated 5th May, 1965 these systems have been abolished from Patnagarh and Titilagarh subdivisions with effect from 1st July, 1965. Jagirs mentioned against serial (iii) to (viii) have been abolished with effect from the 30th March, 1963 in accordance with the Revenue Department Notification No. 20547 dated the 30th March, 1963.

A Jhankar in Balangir district functions both as a watchman and the village priest. His office is, therefore, partly affected by the Orissa Offices of Village Police (Abolition) Act of 1964 so far as he functions as the village watchman. According to the provisions of the aforesaid Act 50 per cent of the jagir lands held by the Jhankars ought to be retained as such because of the duties performed by them as the village priests. But immediately after the abolition of the Chowkidari and Jhankar system in the district, the Revenue field staff prepared a land schedule for the entire jagir lands held by the Chowkidars and Jhankars upon which settlement proceedings were initiated. Such an action by the Revenue staff gave rise to protest by the Jhankars and the Tehasildars after field enquiry in each case settled the entire Jagir lands of the Chowkidar and only half of the jagir land held by the Jhankars reserving the remaining 50 per cent of jagir to be enjoyed by the Jhankars in consideration of worship performed by them. In case where the recorded Jhankaris are not performing the worship of the village deity either himself or through his legal heirs, usually another person of the same caste does the worship. So in such cases which are really very few, the district authorities have recorded the Jhankri lands in the name of the respective deity with a mention of the present priest in the remarks column of the Jamabandi.

Rayati Holdings

"Tenant" (Rayat), as described in Patna State Tenancy Act, 1944, "means primarily a person who holds land for the purpose of cultivating it by himself or by members of his family or by hired servants and is or but for a special contract would be liable to pay rent or cesses for such land and includes also the successors-in-interest of such persons but not a farmer or Thekadar." The Patna State Tenancy Act, 1944 classified the tenants (rayats) into six categories, namely

- (a) Occupancy Tenant.
- (b) Ordinary Tenant.
- (c) Under Tenant.
- (d) Village Service Tenant.

(e) Other Service Tenant.

(g) Maufi Tenant.

No tenant had previously any right to transfer his lands by sale, gift or otherwise but under transfer rules framed in 1935, transfers by sale gift or mortgage, could be effected with the previous sanction of the State. When permission for transfer was applied under these rules a fee of 25 per cent of the consideration was levied if the transfer was by sale or gift. In case of sale, the State used to put it to auction to derive maximum price. No fee was levied on mortgages. Conditions regarding transfer, surrender and sub-lease of rayati holdings were embodied in the Wazib-ul-Arz. The Land Revenue Act which came into force in 1940 did not prescribe the rights of the rayats though it mentioned the liabilities and penalties. The incidences of various tenures were precisely embodied in the Patna State Tenancy Act, 1944 and the conditions regarding transfer of holding were narrated in the Rules under the Patna State Tenancy Act. The Administration of Orissa States Order, 1948 which came into force in Patna ex-State on 1st January 1948 provided that an occupancy tenant would be entitled to transfer his holdings freely without any 'fee' out of the consideration money subject to the restriction that no transfer of a holding from a member of an aboriginal tribe to a member of non-aboriginal tribe should be valid unless such transfer was made with the prior permission of the administration of the State Government. The aboriginal tribe was defined in the said order to mean any tribe that may from time to time be notified as such by the provincial Government for the purpose of the order. Those provisions were repeated in section 7 of the Orissa Merged States Laws Act, 1950. Since aboriginal tribe for the purpose was defined in Revenue Department Notification No. 24507R dated 22.5.62, the restrictions regarding transfer of rayati holding by aboriginal tribes remained inoperative till 22nd May, 1962.

Although the term of 1932-37 settlement was fixed for 15 years, the next settlement operation which is the current one started in November, 1963. To begin with, Titilagarh subdivision was taken up under section 36 (i) (c) of the Orissa Survey and Settlement Act, 1958 (Act III of 1959) according to orders issued in Revenue Department Notification No. 56188.3-444-63/R. dated 26th September 1963 and operations are in progress. Settlement operations under section 36 (i) (c) of the O.S. & S. Act, 1958 (Act III of 1959) in Patnagarh subdivision were taken up from November, 1964 according to orders issued in Revenue Department Notification No. S-435/64-61600 R. dated 21st September 1964 and operations are in progress. Settlement operations are yet to commence in Balangir subdivision.

Collection of Rent and Cess

The rents were realised in three instalments. The kists were in July, November and March. But towards the later part of the Darbar Administration there were only two kists. During the settlement of 1871 all payments in kind were converted to cash.

Besides land revenue, school cess was paid at the rate of two annas per rupee of rental. Dispensary cess was paid at the rate of two annas per rupee of rental. There were also patwari cess at the rate of one aloha and rasad iama Cess at the rate of one anna per rupee of rental. All cesses have been consolidated at 25 percent of the rental except those which were levied as a tax or fee.

Arrears of land revenue were recovered by arrest and detention and by sale of movable or immovable property or by ejectment from the village, tenure or holdings.

History of the System of Assessment

Mr. R. K. Rarnadhyani describes about the origin of land revenues in Orissa and Chhatisgarh ex-States:

The petty rulers who hewed out kingdoms for themselves though they imported a higher civilisation into these backward areas, do not at first seem to have taken any steps to introduce any organised system of management, and it is very likely that the old tribe system of villages, managed almost entirely by village headmen, survived undisturbed for a considerable period. All that the early rulers were interested primarily was to obtain sufficient revenue for themselves and for the purpose of settling up defence against neighbouring monarchs, whose ambition could at any time result in an attempt at enlargement of their territories at the expense of neighbouring princes. Under the old Hindu system as devised and expounded by Manu, proprietary right in land of the persons who settled on that land and made it fit for cultivation was recognised by the king who claimed only a portion of the revenue; but it is doubtful if this principle was ever recognised in the Orissa states though most of the rulers claim Rajput origin. The question cannot in any case have been troublesome one in those days when the sword was the final arbiter-in most matters, and Almost certainly, the revenue system was simply that of making certain demands upon the village headmen who were left to distribute the burden of the demand upon the cultivators in their village in any manner they considered suitable, this being more or less on a par with the Takoli or quit-rent payable, by Zamindars or the tribute paid by the chief to the paramount power, in which a detailed consideration of how the amount was raised does not find place. Thus there was no system of assessment of revenue by the State. Each villager was called upon to pay as much as he would bear and agreed to pay, without, of

course any understanding that there would be no additional demand for special reason but probably the villager agreeing to original demands must have anticipated that this was not the only burden.

"As regards the distribution of the burden of a village among the cultivators", he continues, though a village might have constituted of cultivators as well as agriculturists and other artisans the burden would naturally be borne by agriculturists proper only. In those days there can have been extremely few agricultural labourers, and the artisans who formed a part of the village organisation were almost entirely maintained for their purposes by the cultivators of the village and consequently it was only the cultivators who could bear the burden of taxation. This, incidentally, seems to be the origin of the rent-free holdings enjoyed by such people as blacksmiths, braziers, carpenters and others.

There was no systematic distribution of the assessment among the individual agriculturists and areas where cultivation was more or less settled, the seed capacity of a field was the unit according to which assessment was made. After the conquest of Marathas in 1755 AD both the ex-States followed the Maratha system of land revenue assessment known as from 'aggregate to detail'. In this system the demand on a village was fixed according to the nature of season and the total demand was then distributed among the cultivators by the village headmen. Assessment by allotment of a factor to a holding or field as mentioned earlier was in vogue in Patna ex-State during this period. After the establishment of British rule, settlements in the line of Central Province system were conducted in both the ex-States and for assessment of land revenue, the soil factors and village units were taken into consideration. No report is available to give a detailed picture of the rent assessment in early settlements.

Relationship between Landlord and Tenants

During Durbar administration, the Rulers of both the ex-State were the supreme landlords of their respective territories and Zamindars Thekadars and Gauntias were intermediaries. Thekadars and Gauntias were regarded as headmen of their villages and in all important matters, their guidance by rayats were sought and followed. Once upon a time, these intermediaries were most powerful and corruptions like extracting more from the rayats, neglecting to issue proper rent receipts to them, utilising the services of rayats as bethi for their personal cause and putting them in trouble in many other ways were common in both the ex-States. Gradually the powers of these intermediaries were curtailed down by the Rulers and strict measures were taken to deal with the breaches when detected.

In States level also besides rent on land, the rayats were forced to pay in cash like different cesses and in kinds like magan, rasad etc. The rent and

cesses were subject to frequent change by the authorities. The bethi system was prevalent up to Forties in both the .ex-States; Custom duty was charged on necessary articles brought from outside the ex-States. It shows that there were always attempts to increase the income of the ex-States, no matter what happened to the peasantry.

Though in comparison to the ex-States of Sonapur, Patna gave some concessions, utilised some of its fund for public purpose and allowed more rights to be enjoyed by its peasants over land, there was discontentment among the rayats in both the ex-States till these were merged with the State of Orissa and the intermediary system abolished.

Agrarian Movement

Prajamandal movement had its influence in both the ex-States People and were organised at intervals to put forth before the Rulers their grievances, such as, abolition of bethi, magan, rasad, various unnecessary cesses, custom and export duties, remission of rent, non-interference of State authorities in the social matters, allowing of more rights on the land and trees and many others.

Patna was liberal in giving consideration to these grievances but oppression of the organisers on account of this was not infrequent in Sonapur.

Administrative set-up

Rulers of both the ex-States were the highest authorities in all revenue matters. Both had the powers to appoint or remove the village headmen. They had also the powers to hear appeals from the orders of their subordinate officers in revenue matters. They also exercised criminal and civil powers. The Ruler of Patna was assisted by a Revenue Minister, 3 Sub divisional Officers and the Tehasildar. The Ruler of Sonapur was assisted by one Dewan, 3 Sub divisional Officers and two Tehsildars. The Sub-divisional Officers and the Tehasildar in both the ex-States mostly looked after the collection of land revenue in addition to doing civil and criminal works.

After merger of Patna ex-State with the State of Orissa the three old, subdivisions of the ex-State, namely, Patnagarh, Balangir and Titilagarh, continue as three subdivisions in the district of Balangir. The tehsils of Balangir, Patnagarh and Titilagarh are coterminous with the respective Subdivisions.

The Tehsildars are the Chief Revenue Officers of the tehsils whereas the Subdivisional Officers are the Chief Revenue Officers of the subdivision. Tehsildars and the Sub-Divisional Officers are controlled by the Collector of the district. A statement showing annual demand and collection of land revenue of the district is given in separately at the end of the chapter.

Estate Abolition

The present district of Balangir had four estates i. e., Jarasingha, Loisinga, Agalpur, and Birakishore Babu's Wards Estate. Out of the estates mentioned above, the estates of Jarasingha, Agalpur and Loisinga have vested in the Government with effect from the 1st December, 1952. After abolition of these estates, they were first administered by Anchal and subsequently came under the regular pattern of revenue administration.

Bhoodan

An extent of 412.47 acres of land has been donated to the 'Orissa Bhoodan Jagyan Samiti' in the district. All the above lands have already been distributed to landless needy families. All the lands donated were individual gifts and there was no gramdan village in the district. The Bhoodan work is now at standstill.

Land Reforms

Consequent upon the progressive legislation relating to agrarian reforms and land tenures after gradual abolition of intermediary interest, the Odisha Land Reforms Act, 1960 came in to force w.e.f. 01.10.1965. Better rights on agriculturist have been conferred and increase of food products ensured. The provision of ceiling on holding of land by individual rayats has been introduced in the above act, according to which no person is allowed to hold more than 10 standard acres of land excluding homestead lands or tanks with their embankments or both, up to a maximum extent of 3 Acres in the aggregate provided that where the person is a family consisting of more than five members, the ceiling area in respect of such person shall be 10 (ten) standard acre increased by two standard acres for each member in excess of five, so however, that ceiling area shall not exceed eighteen standard acres. As a result Ac 9823.44 acres of land from Landlords and surplus land holders have been taken from them and vested with government. All the above acres vested lands were distributed among number of of landless families of the district.

Similarly, the prohibitory provision of the above enactment restricted transfer of lands held by scheduled caste people and people belonging to scheduled tribes to non SC & non ST people. Restoration provision was also provided in the above act for restoration of the lands of SC/ST people held by Non S.C./S.T. people without prior permission by Revenue Officers to that effect. As on the beginning of 2015, S.C./S.T. lands to the tune of Ac 5217.77 have been restored back to 3683 S.C./S.T. people as the same were found to be violative of the OLR Act.

Prohibitory provisions were also enacted to restrict conversion of agricultural land for non-agricultural purposes. Without prior permission from

competent authority and payment of specified premium, if any, conversion is made in violation of OLR Act then eviction of the raiyat from the land is prescribed with recording it in Govt. Khata.

Forest Land

For preservation of Forest of different Kissams, the Government of India has enacted forest conservation Act 1980. Use of Forest land for any non-forest use was strictly prohibited under enactment as above and encroachments prior to the enactments were allowed to be regularized according to eligibilities. 6579 cases of encroachment on forest land prior to the coming up forest conservation Act covering an area of 3304.322 (ha) have been detected.

Consequent upon enactment of ST & Others Traditional Forest Dwellers Act 2006 lands encroached by aboriginal Tribes were allowed to be settled with them. 1960 nos. of ST people who were found eligible have been issued with pattas.

REVENUE COLLECTION

The district is having the following demand on land revenue. The details have been mentioned in a categorized way. Year wise collection out of the demand is also tabled below against each for good reference of people of Balangir and others. Apart from land revenue , a type of revenue is also collected from fisheries, quarries (minor minerals like stone and sand), Morrums, other earthen materials, Hats and Fairs, Ferry Ghats, Government Orchards, Stray trees standing on Government Land are being classified as Sairat source. This is not a permanent source of revenue. So demand under sairat is fluctuated every year. Revenue is collected as long as the source is viable and potential. It depends upon the existence or extinction of stock of the minerals or materials. Further, Miscellaneous revenue like royalty, penalty & assessment, premium etc. are also collected. Water rate like CBWR (Compulsory Basic Water Rate) and RWR (Rabi Water Rate) in which RWR is fluctuating in nature while CBWR is permanent demand. The tenants are to pay it compulsorily.

Revenue Collection position of last five years of all sources of this district is tabled below.

Revenue Collection of The District (Year wise)						
		2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Sl.No	Item of Revenue	Demand				
1	Land Revenue	3342930.81	3324125.05	3339511	3427240.09	3579601.66
2	Sairat	7730396.00	10106779.00	12613748.4	18339767.5	21755976.0
3	Misc. Revenue	115005213.	122441852.	123546743.	145060544.	130114538.

		95	30	6	40	58
4	Water rate (CBWR)	2077219.20	1038431.20	2104823.05	2074633.80	2160669.70
5	(RWR)	428634.30	434636.80	461550.25	194481.45	201677.05
		2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Sl.No	Item of Revenue	Collection				
1	Land Revenue	1870407.28	2094942.54	2628098.21	3028263.8	3097877.16
2	Sairat	10756596.00	8755670.00	23031527	16713198.5	21897991.00
3	Misc. Revenue	121786985.75	116781512.03	141069404.03	152789276.5	187484723.01
4	Water rate (CBWR)	698585.35	514152.33	1093498.65	1312600.95	1229093.90
5	(RWR)	54658.00	28857.15	74302.05	107494.15	165195.25
6	Others			2378186.64	2833728.32	2607116.54

Sairat Sources in the District

Sl. No	Tehasil	Category of Sources	Total No. of Sources	No of sources transferred to GPs	Balance	No. of sources duly declared by competent authority as extinct	Balance	No. of sources detected	Total
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
		Fishery	2064	2063	1	0	1	0	1
		Orchard	30	30	0	0	0	0	0
	Balangir	Ferry ghat	4	4	0	0	0	0	0
1		Hats and Fairs	9	9	0	0	0	0	0
		Stone & sand	27	0	27	0	27	0	27
	Tehasil Total		2134	2106	28	0	28	0	28
	Puintala	Fishery	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
2		Stone & Sand	20	0	20	0	20	0	20

	Tehasil Total		21	0	21	0	21	0	21
	Agalpur	Fishery	12	0	12	0	12	0	12
3		Stone & Sand	18	0	18	0	18	0	18
	Tehasil Total		30	0	30	0	30	0	30
4	Loisingha	Stone & Sand	30	0	30	0	30	3	33
	Tusra	Fishery	10	7	3	0	3	0	3
		Orchard	12	12	0	0	0	0	0
		Ferry ghat	9	9	0	0	0	0	0
		Hat and Fair	11	11	0	0	0	0	0
5		Tank & Kata	594	594	0	0	0	0	0
		Stone & Sand	18	10	8	0	8	0	8
	Tehasil Total		654	643	11	0	11	0	11
	Deogaon	Fishery	5	0	5	0	5	0	5
6		Stone & sand	20	0	20	0	20	0	20
	Tehasil total		25	0	25	0	25	0	25
	Saintala	Fishery	3	0	3	0	3	0	3
7		Stone & sand	17	0	17	0	17	0	17
	Tehasil total		20	0	20	0	20	0	20
	Titilagarh	Fishery	608	607	1	0	1	0	1
8		Orchard	81	81	0	0	0	0	0
		Ferry ghat	15	15	0	0	0	0	0

		Market	29	29	0	0	0	0	0
		Cattle Pond	27	27	0	0	0	0	0
		Stone & sand	20	0	20	0	20	1	21
		Tank and kata	455	455	0	0	0	0	0
		Tehasil Total	1235	1214	21	0	21	1	22
9	Muribahal	Stone & sand	7	0	7	0	7	0	7
	Kantabanji	Fishery	1872	1872	0	0	0	0	0
		Orchard	9	9	0	0	0	0	0
		Ferry ghat	2	2	0	0	0	0	0
10		Cattle Pond	10	10	0	0	0	0	0
		Hat and Fair	15	15	0	0	0	0	0
		Stone & sand	17	0	17	0	17	0	17
		Tehasil total	1925	1908	17	0	17	0	17
11	Bangomunda	Stone & sand	22	0	22	0	22	3	25
	Patnagarh	Fishery	1164	1164	0	0	0	0	0
		orchard	15	15	0	0	0	0	0
		Ferry ghat	1	1	0	0	0	0	0
12		Pisci culture	1112	1112	0	0	0	0	0
		Others	33	33	0	0	0	0	0
		Stone & sand	14	0	14	0	14	0	14
		Tehasil	2339	2325	14	0	14	0	14

total									
13	Belpada	Stone & sand	14	0	14	0	14	1	15
14	Khaprakhol	Stone & sand	8	0	8	0	8	0	8
GRAND TOTAL			8464	8196	268	0	268	8	276

**Certification and Assessment of Compulsory Basic Water Rate of Balangir District
(Area in Ac.)**

Sl. no	Name of the Tehsil	Sources of irrigation	Area certified by Engg.Deptt.	Area assessed to Water Rate	Area reported as govt. land	Area not getting irrigation	Area yet to be assessed
1	Agalpur	MAJOR	1674.00	1394.31	13.00	266.69	0.00
Total			1674.00	1394.31	13.00	266.69	0.00
1	Agalpur	MEDIUM	9673.90	9312.38	0.00	361.52	0.00
2	Loisingha	MEDIUM	174.68	174.68	0.00	0.00	0.00
3	Tusra	MEDIUM	791.47	721.13	0.00	70.34	0.00
4	Titilagarh	MEDIUM	936.01	936.01	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Kantabanji	MEDIUM	556.22	556.22	0.00	0.00	0.00
6	Belpada	MEDIUM	1160.56	1117.19	0.00	43.37	0.00
7	Khaprakhol	MEDIUM	1355.25	1053.25	0.00	302.00	0.00
Total			14648.09	13870.86	0.00	777.23	0.00
1	Balangir	MINOR	1406.24	1356.68	0.00	49.56	0.00
2	Puintala	MINOR	1899.08	1810.38	46.00	42.70	0.00
3	Agalpur	MINOR	1399.80	1353.20	0.00	46.60	0.00

4	Loisingha	MINOR	1191.94	1191.94	0.00	0.00	0.00
5	Tusra	MINOR	2161.18	1150.77	238.75	771.66	0.00
6	Deogaon	MINOR	1918.59	1918.59	0.00	0.00	0.00
7	Titilagarh	MINOR	4596.72	4405.20	0.00	191.52	0.00
8	Saintala	MINOR	1822.57	1822.57	0.00	0.00	0.00
9	Muribahal	MINOR	1103.72	1003.72	0.00	100.00	0.00
10	Kantabanji	MINOR	217.15	201.34	0.00	15.81	0.00
11	Bangomunda	MINOR	875.48	787.81	0.00	87.67	0.00
12	Patnagarh	MINOR	4089.16	3958.01	0.00	0.00	131.15
13	Belpada	MINOR	5165.55	3512.97	703.62	948.96	0.00
14	Khaprakhol	MINOR	2870.12	2720.12	0.00	150.00	0.00
Total			30717.30	27193.30	988.37	2404.48	131.15
GRAND TOTAL			47039.39	42458.47	1001.37	3448.40	131.15

Excise Revenue:

Collection of Excise Revenue of Balangir District.

Year	Target fixed	Collection
2000-2001		4,47,22,979/-
2001-2002		4,98,39,680/-
2002-2003	6,15,96,000/-	4,74,18,179/-
2003-2004	6,15,96,000/-	7,70,43,385/-
2004-2005	5,64,52,000/-	5,46,73,109/-
2005-2006	9,07,48,000/-	6,28,96,036/-
2006-2007	9,10,00,000/-	6,68,93,189/-
2007-2008	9,80,00,000/-	7,84,70,513/-
2008-2009	9,65,00,000/-	9,65,20,532/-
2009-2010	11,50,00,000/-	10,24,45,539/-
2010-2011	13,50,00,000/-	11,64,79,666/-

2011-2012	13,50,00,000/-	12,07,61,185/-
2012-2013	14,50,00,000/-	13,94,00,870/-
2013-2014	17,,70,00,000/-	17,37,87,966/-
2014-2015	20,00,00,000/-	22,27,55,565/-
2015-16 up to July, 15	25,00,00,000/-	07,98,92,061/-

Balangir being a predominantly agrarian district like some other districts of Odisha, after independence relied on land reforms to remove the bottlenecks that inherited land system put on the development of agriculture, agrarian economy and the welfare of the large mass of peasantry. Under the prodding of the Planning Commission the Government of Odisha has adopted several land reform measures pertaining to the four main aspect of land reforms viz. abolition of intermediaries, tenancy reforms, ceiling on land holding and distribution of surplus, and consolidation of fragmented holdings through legislations as noted below. The four major types of reforms, that have been carried out in the said legislations have been for (1) abolition of intermediaries, (2) tenancy reform designed to fix maximum rents to improve security of tenure, (3) ceiling on land ownership and distribution of surplus, and (4) consolidation of fragmented holdings.

The first piece of legislation that was enacted in Odisha soon after independence in the field of tenancy reforms was the Orissa Tenants Protection Act, 1948. Following the country's independence and apprehending the abolition of the intermediaries, the landed proprietors and persons holding varying subordinate proprietary rights in land resorted to large scale eviction of tenants mostly the share croppers. To provide protection to these bhaga-chasis, the Orissa Tenants Protection Act was enacted. Under the Act, landholders owning 33 or more acres of land were debarred from evicting tenants from the land they cultivated. The Act prescribed the quantum of rent payable by different types of tenants for different areas of the State but the law was not full-proof against eviction. In the wake of the operation of the Act large-scale eviction of tenants from their lands was reported in various parts of the state. The Act was applicable to the coastal districts only and it provided for the protection of a special class of tenants i.e., the share-croppers. But the legislation was the first attempt in post-independence period to regulate the relations between the share-croppers and the landlords, which prior to the enactment of the law was governed by customary practices or by contract between a share-cropper and a landlord. However the Act which had exhibited certain defects in its working was replaced later by the Orissa Tenants Relief Act in 1955. The Act conferred additional rights on the tenants with regard to the quantum of rent and in the matter of eviction. It provided that no tenant in lawful cultivation of any land on the 1st day of July 1954 or at any time thereafter could be evicted from such land by the landlord. It reduced the prevailing rate of produce rent on the gross produce from 1/3rd to 1/6th for occupancy tenants and from 2/5th to 1/4th for non-occupancy tenants with 420 objects of

providing substantial relief to the tenants from the excessive levy of rent. But again the small cultivators, particularly in the coastal districts, could not take full advantage of the provisions of the Act as they had to prove their rights in the courts. Nevertheless, the Act had made the tenants conscious to a great extent about their rights especially in the district of Cuttack and Puri, as indicated by the number of cases instituted under the Act in these districts.

In the independent India, the first land settlement of the district was taken up in the seventies as per the provisions of the Odisha survey and settlement Act and rules thereof promulgated by the government of Odisha. Notifications for settlement of land have been issued on different dates for different Tehasil of the district. The settlement operation was completed in the year 1978 and the Record of Rights was finally published in the year 1978.

However, the measures undertaken in the district in the field of land reforms during the post independence period introduced certain reforms in favour of the cultivating classes. And the new legislations have succeeded to a great extent in eliminating the feudal elements in the countryside, in saving the poor tenants from the various types of exploitations to which they had been subjected to during the colonial rule, and most importantly, have released a substantial amount of land for distribution among the landless and land poor.

The various legislations that were promulgated by the governments and implemented in the district are as follows:-

The Odisha Survey and Settlement Act and Rules

The Odisha Consolidation of Holding and prevention of fragmentation Act and Rules

The Odisha Government land Settlement Act and Rules

Odisha Prevention of Land Encroachment Act and Rules

Odisha Hindu Religious Endowments Act and Rules

Odisha Mutation Manual

Odisha Estates Abolition Act and rules

Odisha Tenancy Act.

The Land Acquisition Act

The Forest Conservation Act

Odisha Public Demand Recovery Act

S.T. & O.T.F.D. Act. 2006. Registration Act

Survey & Settlement under Odisha Survey & Settlement Act, 1958.

The previous settlement of 1932-37 settlement was fixed for 15 years. The next settlement under Odisha Survey and Settlement Act, 1958 was taken up in Titilagarh Sub-Division in the year 1963 according to Order issued in Revenue Department Notification No.56188.S 444 – 63/R Dtd.26th

September, 1963. Then Patnagarh Sub-Division was taken up from November, 1964. After that, Balangir Sub-Division was taken up. Final ROR in the above settlement was published by 1976 in three Sub-Divisions of Balangir District.

Modernization of Land Records:

In the way of modernizing and bringing efficiency to the land revenue administration as well as to make it citizen-centric, technological intervention has been envisaged under the centrally sponsored Digital India Land Records Modernization Programme. Major focus of the Programme is on citizen services. Various components of the programme are underway in the district which in brief have been outlined below.

Under this programme, all textual data of records of rights are being updated and computerized. Data conversion of all textual records has been completed in respect of all Tahasils of the District and has been hoisted in the Bhulekh website. Computerized RoRs are being issued to the citizens. Re-entry of RoR data is being done on continuous basis for further updation. Cadastral map-sheets of all the villages of the district have been digitized and mosaiced. All those maps have been integrated with the textual RoR data of bhulekh website for public view and official use. Steps have been taken to make the mutation process transaction based in which notices of all transactions registered in the registration offices are sent by the registering officers to the concerned tahasil offices for initiation of mutation proceedings. There have been sharp decline in the application based mutation cases during the last 2-3 years. Further all Tahasildars have been instructed suitably to dispose all un-contested mutation cases within a maximum period of three months. People have been greatly benefitted due to quicker updation of land records.

In line of computerizing the Tahasil offices of the district, Tahasil level computer cells have been made functional in all Tahasils of the district. Information technology is being use for maintaining village wise property records and for providing services to citizens in a better way.

All the Tahasil offices have been provided with broadband internet connectivity. In addition, virtual private network over Broad Band (VPNBB) has been provided in the Tahasil offices for secure data transmission. The VPNBB connectivity is being used to transmit the updated RoR data from the concerned tahasils to the NIC Head-quarters through File Transfer Protocol (FTP) for reflection of the same in the bhulekh website. Steps have been also taken to provide connectivity through Odisha State Wide Area Network (OSWAN) to all Sub-Collectorates, Tahasils and Registration offices of the district. The District Head Quarters are already connected with OSWAN.

In order to replace the existing system of physical storing and maintenance of land records which has a lot of shortcomings and inconvenience, Modern Record Rooms in Tahasil offices are being created under DILRMP. In these Modern Record Rooms, valuable revenue case records shall be stored electronically through document management system software after their scanning. Maintenance of land records in the

dematerialized format shall go a long way in long-term storage of the valuable revenue case records as well as in providing better citizen centric services. As of now, Modern record rooms have been made functional in all Tahasils of the district.

Under DILRMP, all the Registration Offices of the district have been computerized with adequate hardware, software. All the Registration offices are connected to the Central Server at the State level through a dedicated software on Virtual Private Network(VPN) mode. Bio-metric authentication system has already been put in place in all the Registration offices. Data Entry of Valuation details, legacy encumbrance Data and scanning of old documents in respect of all records from 1995 to date has been accomplished. Citizens are being provided immediate services such as Encumbrance Certificates (E.C.) and Certified Copies (C.C.) at the Registration offices.

Hi-Tech survey operation using Aerial Photography followed by Ground Truthing by Electronic Total Station (ETS) and Differential Global Positioning System (DGPS) has been started in the district under DILRMP. All areas except those declared as urban areas and as forest areas are being covered under the programme. Necessary Ground Control Points have already been installed in the district. These Ground Control Points have been established taking the reference of existing Survey Pillars of Survey of India for the sake of accuracy and uniformity. One private agency namely M/s IIC Technologies Ltd. has been engaged by the State Government to undertake Hi-Tech Survey operation in the district. Digital map preparation depicting the ground reality in most accurate manner under Hi-Tech survey is expected to bring paradigm shift in the land record management and shall bring efficiency in the public delivery system.



Collectorate Building, Balangir in the 1960s

CHAPTER X LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

Pre-Integration Period

About the police administration in the Ex-State of Sonapur, Cobden-Ramsay writes in 1908, "the police force is now entirely under the control of the Chief: formerly the Zamidars entertained and paid for their own police but since 1904 the force has been made entirely a state force and the Zamidars pay a police Takoli or contribution. The Chief's uncle is the Superintendent of Police and he was trained in Sambalpur, Where he holds the rank of an Honorary Assistant District Superintendent of Police: the force is the direct charge of a capable Inspector from the British Police. The force consists of 05 sub-Inspectors, 23 Head Constables and 149 constables."¹⁷⁸

It is not definitely known when a police system was introduced in the ex-State of Patna. But Cobden-Ramsay points out in *Feudatory States of Odisha* that "the Police force consists of one Inspector, one Circle Inspector, seven Chief Constables, 40 Head Constables and 172 men besides Chaukidars (Village Watchmen) and Paiks (State Militia)."

At the time of merger on 1st January 1948, the ex-Patna State had six Police stations and eleven outposts grouped in three circles, each under a circle Inspector. The headquarters of the Police Circles were Balangir, Patnagarh and Titilagarh. The Police force consisted of 01 Superintendent of Police, 01 Assistant Superintendent of Police, 03 Circle Inspectors, 01 Reserve Inspector, 10 Sub-Inspectors, 31 Assistant sub-Inspectors, 12 Havildars, 23 writer constables, 06 Sawar Constables, 208 constables including Armory Guard and Buglers, 03 drill Inspectors, 01 Drill Naik, 06 clerks, 01 Daftri and 10 Town Choukidars, totalling 323 in number.

The Ex-State of Sonapur, on the other hand, on the 1st January 1948 had 05 Police Stations and 06 outposts and the strength of the police force was 142 which included one Superintendent of Police, 01 Inspector, 06 Sub-Inspectors, 23 ASIs, 01 Drill Instructor, 08 writer constables, 32 armed Reserved Constables and 69 Ordinary Reserve Constables.

At that time, there was a joint armed police force for the Eastern States Agency to which both these ex-States along with other ex-states contributed their force. This force could act only under the orders of the Ruling Chief or his Chief Executive Officer. There was provision for emergency.

Neither the Ruling Chief Officer nor his Chief Executive Officer was capable of passing or issuing an order. In that event the Resident could act at his discretion.

¹⁷⁸ Cobden Ramsay- Feudatory States of Odisha

Organisational Set-up of Police Administration

In the year 1993, Sonapur and Birmaharajpur were separated from Balangir district and a new district was formed named Subarnapur. So the police establishment of Balangir district is bifurcated w.e.f. 01.04.1993. At the beginning Balangir district was left with thirteen police stations. In the year 2012 one energy P.S. was established w.e.f. 09.04.2012. Again, in the year 2014 two more Police stations were established namely Lathore P.S. and Larambha P.S. by upgradation of 02 OPs namely Larambha OP and Lathore O.P. Lathore P.S. and Larambha P.S. started functioning w.e.f. 27.08.2014 and 29.04.2014 respectively. At present, Balangir District is constituted with 16 police stations and 08 OPs and 05 beat houses. They are under 03 SDPOs namely Sadar SDPO, Patnagarh SDPO and Titilagarh SDPO. One Dy. S.P. level officer remains in charge of SDPO office to control his/her jurisdiction.

Name of PSs

The following are the P.Ss located in Balangir district.

Town P.S. Sadar P.S. Tusra P.S. Loisingha P.S. Energy P.S. Patnagarh P.S. Belpada P.S. Khaprakhol P.S. Lathore P.S. Larambha P.S. Titilagarh P.S. Kantabanji P.S. Saintala P.S. Bangomunda P.S. Sindhekela P.S. & Tureiekela P.S.

Name of Ops

The following are the O.Ps established in Balangir district.

Dunguripali O.P., Agalpur O.P., Deogaon O.P., Bandhapada O.P., Harishankar O.P. Badmal O.P., Belgaon O.P. Muribahal O.P.

Name of Beat House

There are four Beat houses namely Chudapali beat House, Bairasar Beat House, Salebhata Beat House and Gudvela Beat House.

SDPOs Jurisdiction:

Name of SDPO	Name of P.S. comes under	Name of O.P. comes under	Name of Beat houses comes under
SDPO Sadar	Town, Sadar, Tusra, Loisingha, Energy	Dunguripali, Agalpur, Deogaon, Badhapada	Bairansar, Chudapali, Salebhata, Gudvela
SDPO Patnagarh	Patnagarh, Belpada, Khaprakho, Larambha, Lathore	Harishankar	
SDPO Titilagarh	Titilagarh, Kantabanji, Saintala, Sindhekela, Bangomunda, Tureikeala	Muribahal, Badmal, Belgaon	

District Police Office, Balangir

The D.P.O. Balangir is functioning in the district w.e.f 14.01.1981, situated at Rugudipada by the side of National Highway No. 206 in front of SBI, Balangir. It has 07 sections such as Establishment Section, Account Section, DCRB Section, HRPC Section and Con-Section. The ministerial staffs are managing the D.P.O. headed by one O.S. The strength of DPO is as follows:

Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength
Office Superintendent	01
Head Clerk	01
Senior Clerks/ Jr. Acct.	03
Junior Clerk	10
Dafatari	01

The Balangir Police district presently constitutes the following Officers/persons as given below:

Regular Police Force

Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength.
S.P.	01
Addl. S.P.	01
Dy. S.P.	03
SDPOs	03
Inspectors	19
Sub-Inspectors	57
Asst. Sub-Inspectors	100
CI Havildar	17
Constables	529
F.Os	15
G.R.s	604

Organisation of Reserve

Name of the Post	Sanctioned Strength.
R.I.	01
Sergeant	01
DSIs/SIs Armed	02
Havildar Major	03
Havildar	35
LNK	10
APR Constables	206
Cook	03
Visti	03
Barber	01
Sweeper	03
Dhobi	01

Organisation of Striking Force

The following are the strength of Striking force which are being deployed to the following places out of above strength.

Name of the S.F.	Sanctioned Strength.
Titilagarh	4 Hav. 2 LNK and 16 Constable
Kantabanji	4 Hav. 2 LNK and 16 Constable
L.T.R.	13 Constables

Police Motor Transport of Balangir District

Type of Vehicles	No. of Vehicles Available.
Heavy Vehicles	21
Light Vehicles	44
Motor Cycles	58
MTSI	01
Dr.Hav.	11
Astt.Driver	28

Police Pigeon Services

Due to implementation of modern communication technology, the police pigeon services have been discontinued W.E.F. 31.05.2008.

V.H.F. Communication

For immediate communication of information on crime, criminals, natural calamities and Office, VHF station is functioning at all PSs/OPs of this District. Constables are managing the same.

Wireless Service

The police wireless service is functioning at DPO building. The following staff are posted to the police wireless station of DPO, Balangir by the S.P. Signal Odisha Cuttack. They are directly controlled and regulated by the S.P. Signal, Cuttack.

Staff of Wireless Station

SI	02
ASIs WT	06
R.T.C.	01

Vigilance Unit

The Vigilance unit headed by the Dy. S.P. is functioning since 1999 within the jurisdiction of Balangir District. The vigilance unit is under administrative control of the Superintendent of Police, Vigilance, Sambalpur. The staff position of the vigilance unit is given below:

Dy. S.P.	01
Inspector	03
ASI	01
Constable	04
Asst. Driver	01
Orderly	02

Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force Unit (ODRAF)

The Odisha Disaster Rapid Action Force Unit was created in the year 2009 vide G.O. No. PDA-1180/2007-37126 dated. 7.8.2009 communicated vide S.P. Headquarters memo No. 33470/Force dated. 20.08.2009. The staff strength of ODRAF unit is as follows:

Deputy Subedar	02
APR Havildar Major	02
APR Havildar	12
APR Constable	62
APR Lance Naik	06
Driver Havildar	04
Asst. Driver	04
Helper Constable	05
Attendant	02

The ODRAF unit of Balangir District is mobilised during natural calamities like flood, cyclone, earthquake, railway accident, etc. The ODRAF Unit is working with utmost sincerity during the occasions.

District Forensic Science Laboratory (DFSL)

The DFSL, Balangir is functioning at District Headquarters to provide scientific aids to the investigation. The following are the sanctioned strength of DFSL, Balangir.

Utilization of DFSL, Balangir from the year 2000 is furnished below.

Year	No. of Times
2000	32
2001	22
2002	22
2003	39
2004	45
2005	46
2006	48

2007	48
2008	61
2009	100
2010	11
2011	85
2012	60
2013	78
2014	85

Dog Squad

At present there are two numbers of trained Dogs deployed for bomb detection and detection of clues in investigation of criminal cases. To look after them two trained constables are being deputed.

Crime figure of Balangir District of last 10 years

The Crime figure for last 10 Years under different Major Head is furnished below:

Year	Murder	Dacoit	Robbery	Burglary	Theft	Swind	Rape	Rioting	M.V.	Misc.	Total
2005	39	3	35	72	171	27	37	66	178	1520	2148
2006	32	9	26	79	149	40	40	61	196	1757	2389
2007	38	7	37	71	143	48	53	102	212	1808	2519
2008	30	7	33	98	161	50	34	98	189	1767	2467
2009	44	7	37	76	145	34	46	109	235	2111	2844
2010	34	8	36	110	152	42	48	95	256	1717	2498
2011	31	12	47	106	175	68	52	81	270	1593	2435
2012	44	20	45	125	202	59	51	109	265	1661	2581
2013	37	27	45	121	185	66	44	85	253	1541	2404
2014	26	13	59	129	199	43	56	64	252	1890	2731

Registrations of cases are increasing significantly over the years keeping pace with the increase in population. Motor vehicle accident cases and Burglary cases are increasing at a higher rate as compared to other heads of crime. It is the poor infrastructure facilities such as narrow roads, lack of pucca roads and mal-managed bridges which are highly responsible for frequent motor vehicle Accident in the District.

Information on courts

There are having 06 Police Court office at Balangir district namely Sadar court, Loisingha court, Saintala court, Titilagrh court, Kantabanji court and Patnagarh court. CSIs/CASIs are in charge of these courts. Saintala court was established in the year 2014.

Home Guards Establishments

Besides Police Personnel, Home Guards plays a vital role for maintaining of Law and order situation. At Police Station they are doing messenger work, sometimes engaged for spying and collection of intelligence. At present total strength of HGs at Balangir District are 650. For

the management and control of HSs one Commandant is being appointed to monitor their duty and activities.

The P.S./OP wise sanctioned strength of HGs are as follows:

Name of the Post	Sanction Strength
Headquarters/Town P.S.	191
Sadar P.S.	24
Dunguripali O.P.	11
Patnagarh P.S.	50
Larambha P.S.	05
Kantabanji P.S.	50
Muribahal O.P.	10
Titilagarh P.S.	100
Tusra P.S.	18
Deogaon O.P.	16
Bandhapada O.P.	06
Loisingha P.S.	22
Salebhata O.P.	07
Agalpur O.P.	10
Belpada P.S.	22
Khaprakhol P.S.	10
Harishankar O.P.	04
Lathor O.P.	10
Tureikela P.S.	12
Bangomunda P.S.	22
Sindhekela P.S.	10
Saintala P.S.	20
Belgaon O.P.	05
Badmal O.P.	04
Tikrapada O.P.	11

Grama-Rakshi

The Orissa Grama-Rakshi Ordinance, 1967 has been promulgated in January 1967 and 1,069 posts of Grama-Rakshis have been sanctioned to be appointed in this district during that period. The Balangir District was divided in to Sonapur and Balangir District in the year 1993 wef 01.04.1993.and after bifurcation the sanctioned strength of Grama-Rakshis is 604. The Post wise sanctioned strength of Grama-Rakshis is furnished below.

Sl. No.	Name of the PS/OP	Sanctioned Strength
1	Town PS	04
2	Sadar PS	58
3	Dunguripali OP	27
4	Loisingha PS	28
5	Salevata OP	13
6	Agalpur OP	18
7	Tusra PS	37
8	Deogaon OP	19
9	Bandhapada OP	15
10	Patnagarh PS	43

11	Larambha OP	17
12	Belpada PS	43
13	Khaprakhol PS	18
14	Lathor OP	12
15	Harisankar OP	06
16	Titilagarh PS	53
17	Sindhekela PS	36
18	Kantabanji PS	19
19	Muribahal OP	10
20	Bangomunda PS	31
21	Tureikela PS	30
22	Saintala PS	28
23	Belgaon OP	09
24	Tikrapada OP	20
25	Badmal OP	10
	Total	604

LAW & ORDER AND ANTICIPATED LAW & ORDER

Lower Suktel Irrigation Project

Lower Suktel Irrigation Project (LSIP) is a major irrigation project on river Suktel, a tributary of river Tel of Mahanadi Basin was taken up under AIBP in the year 1999-2000 at Magurbeda under Dunguripali Outpost, P.S Sadar, Dist. Balangir in a catchment area of 1,230 sq.km with an irrigation potential of 31,830 ha. Beside this it is also estimated to supply 17.89 Mcum (20 Cusec) water to Balangir town.

The proposed earth dam is 1410 mtrs long with left and right dykes and having spillway of 177 meters along with 10 Radial Gates. Earth dam construction work has not been started, where as spill way construction work is in progress; 7.35 kms approach road to the dam site has been completed and diversion road near village Bandhanghore has been taken up. In the project area 29 villages are affected out of which 15 villages will be submerged fully where as 14 will be partially submerged thereby affecting 9212 families. List of affected families have been finalized and rehabilitation and resettlement for 1266 families have been taken up at R.R.Colony (Larkipali), Sadaipali and Khujenpali villages. Govt. lands have also been identified in Dudukasira and Hardatal for rehabilitation of the rest 880 families.

In 2001, the affected families got united and formed a forum namely 'Lower Suktel Budi Anchal Sangram Agragami Sangha' and resorted to agitation and violence resulting in registration of 07 cases including two cases of Patnagarh P.S. and the rest 05 of Sadar P.S.. In the last review meeting on 18.09.2010 it was decided to review the cases registered against the displaced persons and a proposal for withdrawal of all 07 cases were submitted in the interest of the general public vide letter No. 159 dated 05.01.2011.

Further, on 11.06.2012 members of 'Lower Suktel Irrigation Project Action Committee' staged office hrs. Dharna/Demonstration before the

Collectorate, Balangir demanding adequate compensation/rehabilitation to the displaced persons of the proposed project and the expedite of Lower Suktel Irrigation Project. During agitation they restrained the officials to enter inside the office resulting hampering of official works.

On 18.06.2012 from 6.00 am to 6.00 pm they again resorted to Balangir Bundh supported by different political parties, Bar Association, Chamber of Commerce, Citizen Committee etc. During Bundh they picketed in groups, closed down shops, business establishments, Govt. offices, Banks etc and paralyzed vehicular traffic. They staged Dharana in front of Collectorate, Balangir and blocked the road by burning tyres at Kacheri Chowk. In this connection a case vide town PS Case No.167 dated.18.06.2012 U/S.143/145/283/341/149 IPC against the President, Lower Suktel Action Committee and others has been registered and investigated into.

On 19.06.2012 from 7.00 AM to 11.00 AM again the villagers of Badtelenpali, Khuntpali, Kankaria, Badmal, Khaksabahal and others resorted to Rast-Roko (Road blockade) on Balangir-Patnagarh road at Shibtala chowk on the same demands. In this connection a case vide Sadar PS Case No.171 dated.19.06.2012 U/S.143/341/283/149 IPC has been registered and investigated into.

On 20.06.2012 from 11.00 AM to 05.00 PM the villagers of Badtelenpali, Khuntpali, Kankaria, Badmal, Khaksabahal (about 250 nos) including ladies supported by Lower Suktel Action Committee, Balangir resorted to Rasta-Roko on Balangir-Patnagarh road at Barapudigia Chowk on the same demands and demanding immediate unconditional release of the arrested persons involved in Sadar PS Case No.171 dated.19.06.2012 U/S.143/341/283/149 IPC. In this connection a case vide Sadar PS Case No.173 dated.20.06.2012 U/S.143/341/283/149 IPC against the concerned & 250 others has been registered and investigated into. They lifted Rasta Roko at 5.30 PM after release of 45 persons on court bail.

On 27.08.2012 members of Lower Suktel Irrigation Project Action Committee, Balangir (About 25) resorted to 'Relay Hunger Strike' at Collectorate, Balangir demanding expeditious construction work of the project and proper rehabilitation of the displaced persons etc.

Supporting the same cause, members of Citizen Committee, Balangir (about 100) and the members of Lower Suktel Irrigation Project Action Committee supported by Congress, BJP, KKD, Truck & Bus operator Association, Zilla Adivasi Kalyan Sangha, Balangir, Chamber of Commerce and Bar Association observed Balangir Town Bundh on 31.08.2012 from 6.00 am to 6.00 pm demanding rehabilitation, adequate compensation, early and effective construction of project. During Bundh, all the Business Establishments, Educational Institutions, Govt. Offices, Banks were remained closed and Vehicular traffic was paralyzed.

Protesting against Government for not responding to activities, again on 27.08.2012, the members of Lower Suktel Irrigation Project Action Committee, Balangir resorted to Relay Hunger Strike before Collectorate, Balangir. During their hunger strikes most of the members have been

hospitalized for their deteriorating health condition. Excepting the members of BJD, almost all parties / organizations are supporting the hunger strike.

In the meanwhile a meeting was conducted at Bhubaneswar under the chairmanship of Honble CM, Odisha, Hon'ble MLA, Balangir and other district administration officers, where the work of the project was reviewed and it was decided to start the spill way work of the project from 27.09.2012.

But the members of Action Committee have demanded discussion with Secretary level officers instead of District level officers.

On 14.09.2012 members of Hirakud Bisthapita Kalyan Sangha and others participated in the Hunger Strike / Dharna demanding the same cause.

Further, in the evening of 11.09.2012 a meeting was held at Law College, Balangir, and irrespective of all parties (except BJD) decided to resort to dharana on 15.09.2012 at 08.00 AM at Collectorate Balangir by locking the main gate paralyzing the whole work of the day. They are also contemplating to go for Rasta Roko on Balangir-Patnagarh main road and not to allow Sri A.U. Singhdeo, MLA & Shri K.N.Singhdeo, MP, Balangir to enter in the Balangir town if no action will be taken by the Government within 72 hrs i.e. from 12.09.2012 morning to 15.09.2012 morning.

As per their decision, on 15.09.2012 from 09.00 am to 05.00 pm they locked up the main gate of Collectorate, Balangir protesting for the fulfillment of their demands. On the same day, the Special Secretary to Government of Odisha, Water Recourses Department visited Balangir and discussed the issue with the members of Action Committee at Collectorate, Balangir from 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm and at Lower Suktel I.B. Balangir from 8.00 pm to 10.00 pm on their demands. During discussion they decided that one team of delegates of action committee will proceed to BBSR to discuss the issue with the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha before 27.09.2012 and called off their hunger strike.

On the other hand, the members of the Suktel Budi Anchal Sangram Parishad are vehemently opposing the Project. Confidential inputs gathered so far reveal that they are likely to strongly oppose the Project with tooth and nail. They are planning for a stiff violent resistance for the construction works at the site. They intend to make the site as a prohibited area from 26.9.2012 onwards by keeping their armed supporters to prohibit others to the project site. They are found prepared to resort to violence by taking the law to their hands.

In this context, apprehension of a very serious law & order situation cannot be ruled out in this area. Mobilization of force and massive police arrangement may be required to face the situation and to guard against further breach of peace on the score.

However, the situation is under close surveillance.

Proposed Sahara Power Project under Titilagarh PS

Thermal power project is a major thermal project of Sahara India Pariwar Ltd. to be established in an area of 943.52 acres of land of villages Serko, Pudapadar, Ghantbahali, Sagunmunda, Mahada, Luthurbandh and Jamjore under Luthurbandh and Ghantbahali GPs in Titilagarh Tehasil under Titilagarh PS of Balangir district. In this connection an M.O.U. was signed on 09.04.2010. Due to the proposed project, 375 families of the above villages will be affected. The cost of the project is around 10,000 crores.

The affected villagers of six villages are protesting the construction of the project and have been resorted to dharna / meeting / rally etc. The forum with the name of Sahara Pratirodh Sangram Samiti is protesting against the entry of Sahara Company into their villages.

Again, on 29.11.2010 the dispute between the pro group and anti-Sahara power plant in the areas has started and still continuing with strong protest. The members of the Zilla Adivasi Kalyan Sangha, Balangir are also protesting against the proposed project.

Steps are being taken to bring the situation under control.

Kosal Kranti Dal (KKD)

The members of Kosal Kranti Dal (KKD) are demanding formation of the separate Kosal State. The members are being organizing rally and demonstration in massive scale encompassing Kalahandi, Balangir, Sambalpur, Bargarh, Sonapur, Sundergarh, Nawarangpur, Nuapada and Boudh District, which may lead to serious law and order situation in future. The Manch is staging agitational activities in the shape of Bundh, Rasta-Roko, Gherao, Dharna, Rail Roko, and Rally etc.

Teachers Association

The members of OSSTA and Block Grant High School Teachers Association, Balangir unit are frequently resorting to agitational programmes like Rally, Dharana and demonstration before DEO (District Education Officers) and B.E.O. (Block Education Officers) as well as at Collectorate, Balangir demanding regularization of their pay band and 100 percent grant in add instead of Block grant and fulfilment of other demands.

Their activities are closely observed by the authorities.

Activities of Zilla Adivasi Kalyan Sangha

The Zilla Adivasi Kalyan Sangha, Balangir emerged during 2008 and has been organizing agitational activities protesting against 'Fake Caste Certificate' and Fake Caste certificate holders in service and students pursuing study, availing facilities meant for the Adivasis. The Sangha organized meeting, rally, demonstration, gherao and dharna etc in Balangir, Kantabanji, Titilagarh, Tusra, Loisingha, Duduka, Muribahal, Patnagarh areas on the same demand such as Right on Jungle, Jami and Jala, enquiry on fake adivasi certificates and other demands. They are mobilizing Adivasi from bordering Kalahandi, Sonapur, Bargarh, Boudh, Kandhamal and Samalpur to participate in the rally. They are organizing rally every year in

protest for the fulfilment of their demands and during rally they are extensively costumed with their traditional weapons and march with beating of drums etc. The leaders of the said Sangha used to deliver speeches on the above demands against the Government resulting in law & order situations.

Establishment of Permanent High Court Bench in Balangir

The Bar Association members of Balangir district have been organising Cease Work agitation on the last Friday of the month demanding establishment of permanent High Court Bench in Balangir. During Cease Work agitation, they do not allow the Magistrates to hold court work. They used to indulge in other activities such as Chaka-Jam, Rally, Picketing in the State Government and Central Government offices. Similarly, The Bar Association members of Patngarh, Kantabanji and Titilagarh have also joined their hands supporting the said agitations. The Western Orissa Bar Association has started a movement for establishment of permanent High Court Bench in Western Orissa and the Balangir Bar Association is strongly supporting the cause organizing Cease Work activities demanding establishment of permanent court bench in Balangir.

Animal Sacrifice (Sulia Yatra)

Sulia Yatra, a traditional ritual of the Kandha tribal community, is performed with great pomp and show at Khaireguda under Tusra P.S. and Mirdhapali under Sadar P.S. of Balangir district. The Adivasis have deep religious feelings and belief on the demigod Sulia Baba and used to observe the Yatra on 1st Tuesday of bright fortnight in the month of Pausha every year. In the name of Sulia Baba, thousand of animals are sacrificed on that particular day. SuliaYatra is primarily a festival of animal sacrifice and people in the recent years are found to react strongly against the violence inflicted upon animals in the Yatra as a part of the ritual.

During the year 2005 Debasis Biswal, Santanu Nayak, Hemanta Kumar Panda and others of Balangir started protesting against the animal sacrifice forming a Manch namely Sulia Sanskar Manch and filed writ petition vide No. W.P.(C) No. 20057 of 2009.

After the restriction imposed by the Hon'ble High Court, the District Administration have been trying to stop animal sacrifice but sacrifice of animals could not be stopped completely.

However, The Adivasi community while celebrating the festival wants to continue the animal sacrifice and the cause is being supported by the devotees of Sulia.

Students' Agitation

The student of different colleges like Rajendra College, Govt. women's college, Govt Ayurvedic College and Govt Sanskrit college of Balangir town have been organizing Meeting / Rally / Dharna / Demonstration etc. demanding posting of lecturers in the different colleges of Balangir town resulting in law & order situation.

Left Wing Extremism

Left Wing Extremism activities have been started in Balangir district since 2003. P.S.s namely Khaprakhol, Tureiekela, Saintala, Tusra, Lathor, Larambha are affected by Maoist activities. In order to counter their activities CRPF forces, SOG, are being deployed in those areas. In the District level DVF are being deployed. In the year 2011 one lady moist was killed in the encounter and recently another lady moist was arrested. The entire Maoist are coming from Chhatisgarh area and residing at Harisankar, Tureikela and Lathore areas. In the District level one Anti-Naxalite Cell has been opened to check their movement.

Railway Police

The Government Railway Police stations are located in Balangir, Titlagarh and Kanatbanji Railway Stations in the district. These are administered from Rourkela by the Superintendent of Railway Police, Orissa. The cases generally detected relate to theft of properties belonging to passengers or of those which are carried in trains at Railway risk.

JAIL & JAIL ADMINISTRATION AND PRISONERS' WELFARE

Balangir District Jail

District Jail, Balangir was established in the year 1904. This Jail spans over 34.795 Acres of land out of which 5.269 acres of land is under Home Department, 15.520 acres is under Revenue Department and 14.006 acres is under P.W.D. Department. It is situated adjacent to the District Head Quarters Hospital, Balangir. Maintenance of security and Discipline along with welfare, reforms and rehabilitation of prisoners is the prime motto of this institution.

The Jail is headed by the Superintendent who is an O.J.S. officer supported with staff such as a Jailor, an Assistant Jailor, two Sub-Assistant Jailors, one Chief Head Warder, five Head Warders, twenty six male Warders and four Female Warders. The Guarding staff guard the prisoners round the clock in three shifts. The first shift is from 6 A.M. to 12.00 Noon; the second shift is from 12.00 Noon to 6 P.M. and the third shift is from 6 P.M. to 6 A.M. The Female Warders guard the female prisoners. There are 9(nine) Male Wards, one Young Offenders' Ward, One Hospital Ward, one Observation Ward, one Segregation Ward, 8(eight) cells. There is one 10 bedded capacity Indoor Hospital along with an outdoor. One full time Jail Medical Officer provides medical treatment to the sick prisoners. There is also a sanctioned post of Pharmacist for the Jail Hospital. Male Wards are used to accommodate Convict and under trial prisoners who are kept in separate wards. Female prisoners are confined in two Female wards which are within a separate enclosure. Cells are used for confinement of hard core prisoners, Naxalites, Maoists etc. The sanctioned strength of this Jail is 392 which comprises of 364 male and 28 female prisoners. The prison population is now 331 out of which 317 are male prisoners and 14 are female. Out of 317 male 119 are convicts and 198 are under-trial prisoner. Out of 14 female prisoners three are convicts and rest 11 are under trial. At present, five under-trial Maoist prisoners are confined in this Jail.

Literacy & Education

A Jail School is functioning by hiring services of a Teacher on daily wages basis who has retired from this Jail as School teacher. Jail school aims to make illiterate prisoners literate. A considerable number of books are available in the jail library for wide reading of the inmates.

Religious Discourse And Yoga

The Prajapita Bramhakumari IswaryaViswaVidyalaya, Balangir is regularly holding taking classes on Raja Yoga & other religious practices. Satsang and Pravachan are being held time to time to develop a sense spirituality among the inmates.

Supply of Study Material & Text Books to the Children of Needy & Poor Convicts

On 02.08.2014 John Augustus Prison and Social Welfare Services, Athagarh unit provided 92 (Ninety two) sets of text books of standard IX and X and provided study material for Class VI, VII & VIII for children of poor prisoners of this Jail.

John Augustus Prison and Social Welfare Services, Athagarh unit has been requested vide Office letter No. 200 dated 13.04.2015 for supply of 127 sets of Text Books and Study Materials for School going children of poor prisoners of this Jail covering classes from 6th to 10th.

Legal Awareness and legal services

Para Legal Volunteers as well as Legal Aid Counsel are visiting the Jail every two days of the week. A Legal Clinic is operating inside the Jail in association with District Legal Services Authority, Balangir. In this clinic, the U.T.Ps who have not availed any advocates were identified and legal aid counsels have been provided to them to defend their cases. 20 nos of U.T.Ps have been provided Legal Aid Counsel during the year 2014 and during the year 2015, three U.T.Ps have been provided Legal Aid Counsel.

CCTV Facilities: The Jail is strictly under CCTV surveillance. One CCTV System with 7 cameras is available. Recently, a new CCTV system with 16 cameras has been installed to guard the activities of the prisoner in the Jail premises.

Jammer Provision: No Jammer is available in District Jail, Balangir.

Video Conferencing: Video Conferencing facility has been installed but has become defunct since 10.12.2013. Two posts of V.C.O. are lying vacant which is required to be filled up.

Security Provision Available: Considerable amount of security provisions are available in the Jail. 18 nos. of Walkie Talkies are available. One Electric Siren and one Hand Operated Siren are available. One Night Vision Binocular is available. Four nos. of Watch Towers have been constructed around the four corners of the Jail, but these could not be made operational for want of staff.

Staff positions includes one Superintendent, one Medical officer, one Jailor, one Asst. Jailor, two Sub-Asst. Jailors, farmacist, Clerk Cum typist, Chief Head Warder, Head warders and warders, female warders, School teacher, Tech. Assistant, peon sweeper etc.

Titilagarh Sub-Jail

Titilagarh Sub-jail started functioning in 1930. There are 6 wards in the jail. The sanctioned capacity of the jail is 170. Present strength is 145 including five female prisoners.

Staff position includes one Jailor cum superintendent, one Assistant jailor and one Sub-Assistant Jailor, Head warders, Male warders (8 nos), Female warders (2 nos), Sweeper, Pharmacist, Doctor etc.

Two posts of male warders and one post of female warder are lying vacant. Doctor has been appointed on contractual basis for the treatment of the inmates.

Welfare Activities

The prisoners are provided with telephone facilities to contact their family members and advocate in the time of need. Prison Smart Course was conducted by the 'Art of living', Titilagarh at regular interval. Sample drugs were collected from the Drugs Inspector, Balangir free of cost for the use of prisoners. One sensitization programme about RNTCP (Tuberculosis) has been organized inside the Jail, Dr. Subhasis Mohanty (M.D), DTO, Balangir and Dr. Prasanta Kumar Hota, S.D.M.O, Titilagarh delivered lectures on TB & HIV to the inmates. World Aids Day was observed in the Jail Campus with co-operation of the ICTC, SDH, Titilagarh, Red Ribbon Club, Titilagarh and Youth Red Cross of Govt. Women's College, Titilagarh on 01.12.13 Demonstration on 'Acupressure & Massage Therapy' has been organized to create awareness among the inmates on 15.09.13 A Legal Awareness Camp was organized on 12.01.14 inside the Jail campus with co-operation of the Taluk Legal Services Committee, Titilagarh. One spiritual programme was organized on 18.01.14 with the co-operation of ISKCON, Bhubaneswar 'Adult Education' programme has been introduced to literate the illiterate prisoners. The office has collected 82 nos. of books, 160 nos. of copy, 70 nos. of pencils, and 02 nos. of blackboards from the BEO, Titilagarh. One literate prisoner is engaged as voluntary teacher to teach them.

The office has collected 354 nos. of books for Jail library from the outsiders at free of cost.

One hour of Bhajan and Sankirtan is being held on daily in the jail campus.

Text books and Study Materials for the school going children of the Prisoners ranging from Std.VI to X are being provided with the help of John Augustus Prison and Social Welfare Services, Athagarh.

Petitions & Legal Aid:-

No of petition issued to the Prisoners	18
Nos of Post Cards issued to the Prisoners	45
Nos. of Legal Aid assistance submitted	06

Schedule capacity

Male-164, Female-06 Total=170

Population as on 10.09.15:

Convict- 04 UTP- 150 Total=154

The Female prisoners are accommodated in separate enclosures. They are provided with Colour T.V and other indoor games for their entertainment.

Sanitation, Conservancy & Hygiene

Education & Recreation:-

One local N.G.O named Bharat Vikash Parisad has opened a library and different kinds of books are donated by them for the use of prisoners. The Prisoners are provided with sports items like Ludu, Carom, Chess, etc. Besides, they are provided with colour T.V. Sets, Mrudanga, Kubaja, etc. for their entertainment.

Health

The Jail has no indoor medical facilities. There is one Pharmacist and one Medical Officer posted on contractual basis to manage the Jail Hospital. Daily average of OPD patient is 35.

Patnagarh Sub-Jail

The Jail has been established in the Year 1962. It is situated adjacent to the Patnagarh town. Earlier, one doctor in the rank of Asst. Surgeon (Local S.D.M.O.) was posted as the superintendent of the institution from 1962 to 1987. Chronologically, Dr. B.D. Hota was the first superintendent (1962) and Dr. R.N. Rao was the last superintendent (1987) of Patnagarh Sub-jail. After that the post was begun to be filled up by one officer in the rank of jailor promoted from the Asst. Jailor who had qualified the departmental higher standard examination. In this regard Mr. P.C. Sahoo was the first departmental Jailor-cum-Superintendent.

Statistics of inmates in jail

This section will display the statistics of the inmates of the jail i.e. number of male inmates, number of female-inmates, expenditure for inmates, inmates detained, diet chart of inmates etc.

Prisoners Details

Scheduled Capacity

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
[A]	CONVICTS			
	R.I.	-	Nil	-
	S.I.	-	-	-
	Civil	Nil	Nil	Nil
[B]	UNDER-TRIALS			
	Remand	-	-	-
	Sessions	-	-	-
	Total	88	11	99

Prisoners Strength

Prison population as on 29.11.2014

		<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
[A]	CONVICTS			
	R.I.	06	-	06
	S.I.	01	-	01
	Civil	-	-	Nil
[B]	UNDER TRIALS			
	Remand	29	02	31
	Sessions	27	01	28
	Total	63	03	66

[C] Details of Under-trial Prisoners

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	
Less than 3 months	37	02		393 months to
less than 6 months	09	10		6 month to less
than 1 years	08	08		
1 year to less than 1 1/2 years	03	03		
1 1/2 years to less than 2 years	01	-	01	
2 years and above	05	-	05	
TOTAL	63	03	66	

[D] U.T.Ps. detained more than the prescribed sentence - NIL

[E] Number of Juvenile U.T.Ps. below the age of 16 years - NIL

[F] Number of mentally unsound prisoner. - NIL

[G] Number of prisoner suffering from major disease
i.e. T.B., Leprosy, H.I.V., Heart diseases etc. - NIL

[H]	CONVICTS	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
	Death Sentence	-	-	NIL.
	Life Imprisonment	02	-	02
	10 Year & above	00	-	00
	5 Year & above	02	-	02
	1 Year & above	01	-	01
	Month & above	02	-	02
	Less than 1 month	-	-	Nil
	Total	07	Nil	07

The Assistant Surgeon is the Superintendent of the Jail who is supported by one Lower Division Clerk, one Head Warder, six Warders and one Sweeper. There is a Diet Committee which makes direct purchase and supply of food articles to the sub-jail. There are three non-official visitors appointed by the District Magistrate for two years.

Kantabanji Sub-Jail

One new Sub-Jail in Kanatabanji having the capacity of 250 nos. of prisoners has been constructed by the Odisha State Police Housing & Welfare Corporation, Bhawanipatna Division. The sub-jail has not yet been made functional.

JUDICIARY SYSTEM OF THE DISTRICT

Balangir was earlier named as Balangir Patna. Prior to independence the feudatory state of Patna, Sonapur and Kalahandi were being administered by three different ruling chiefs. After their integration with Orissa, they constituted a new district called Balangir-Patna District with a new Judgeship and Sessions Division styled as Balangir-Patna Judgeship and Sessions division. On the 1st November, 1949 the Ex-State of Patna and Sonapur together formed a separate district. After the formation of this district, the judgeship and Sessions division came to be known as Balangir-Kalahandi Judgeship and Sessions division with headquarters at Balangir. The District and Sessions Judge held circuit at Bhawanipatna and Sonapur for disposal of cases. The Munsif stationed at Titilagarh also acted as Ex-officio Munsif of Nawapara and held circuits at Nawapara for disposal of contested suits of that Sub-division. With the passing of time and in the larger interest of public demand, the judgeship of Kalahandi was formed and bifurcated from its parent judgeship i.e. Balangir on 27th February, 1982 and subsequently, the Judgeship of Sonapur was formed and was separated from Balangir on 23.6.2012.

At present the judgeship of Balangir consists of the following Civil and Criminal Courts.

1. District and Sessions Judge, Balangir.
2. Addl. District Judge-cum-Special Judge (Vigilance), Balangir.
3. Judge, Family Court, Balangir.
4. Addl. District & Sessions Judge, Balangir.
5. 2nd Addl. District and Sessions Judge, Balangir.
6. Presiding Officer, Special Court under S.C. & ST (POA) Act.
7. Addl. District & Sessions Judge, Titilagarh
8. Addl. District & Sessions Judge, Patnagarh
9. C.J.M-cum-Asst. Sessions Judge(Principal Magistrate) Juvenile Justic Board, Balangir.
10. Registrar-cum-Asst. Sessions Judge(STC) Balangir.
11. Civil Judge (Senior Division) Balangir.

12. Civil Judge (Senior Division) Titilagarh
13. Civil Judge (Senior Division) Patnagarh
14. Civil Judge (Senior Division) Kantabanji.
15. S.D.J.M Balangir.
16. Civil Judge (Junior Division)-cum- S.D.J.M Patnagarh.
17. Civil Judge (Junior Division)-cum- S.D.J.M Titilagarh.
18. Civil Judge (Junior Division)-cum- J.M.F.C Balangir.
19. Addl. Civil Judge (Junior Division)-cum- J.M.F.C Loisingha.
20. Addl. Civil Judge (Junior Division)-cum- J.M.F.C Kantabanji.
21. Civil Judge (Junior Division)-cum- J.M.F.C Saintala.
22. J.M.F.C-I Balangir.
23. J.M.F.C-II, Balangir.
24. J.M.F.C Titilagarh.
25. Special Judicial Magistrate, Balangir.
26. Special Railway Magistrate, Kantabanji.

From the 1st November, 1960 a Registrar has been appointed for the Judgeship who relieves the District Judge of the routine administrative duties. Over and above his normal functions, the District Judge also acts as ex-officio Registrar of Orissa High Court as far this judgeship is concerned. He receives appeals and cases preferred before the High Court and transmits the relevant records to the court after serving notice on the parties under intimation to the advocate concerned.

The Acts and Laws applicable to the State of Odisha and India at large are applicable to this judgeship in addition to some local laws, mostly in revenue matters, that were in force during the pre-merger time. The year-wise number of civil and criminal cases instituted, disposed of and pending in different courts of this judgeship for the last three years is furnished below.

Year	Institution		Disposal		Pendency at the end of the year	
	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil	Criminal
2012	1168	9336	999	8795	4543	20230
2013	979	11375	958	11718	4571	20112
2014	1211	9135	1190	11212	4637	20689
Average	1119	9949	1049	10575	4584	20344
Total (Civ.+Crl.)	11068		11624		24927	

Criminal Justice

Presently, except the Civil judge (Senior Division) Balangir, all the counter parts in the judgship have been vested with Sessions power and the Civil Judge (Junior Division) and Addl. Civil Judge (Junior Division) of this judgship including S.D.J.Ms have been empowered to deal with magisterial power to deal with criminal cases. From time to time the Sessions Judge transfers sessions cases to the Additional and Assistant Sessions Judges of the headquarters station. In the recent past, to meet the public demand, on 10.8.2015 two courts of District Judge cadre, one the 2nd Additional District and Sessions Judge, for Balangir station and another Special Court for dealing with cases under S.C. & S.T.(POA) Act cases having jurisdiction over the entire revenue district of Balangir have started functioning from that date. A Family Court having its presiding Officer in the cadre of District Judge has also started functioning in the headquarters station Balangir with effect from 6.7.2013 to deal with matrimonial disputes. The Special Judge (Vigilance) having jurisdiction over Balangir and Sonepur districts started functioning on 23.6.2007.

The Chief Judicial Magistrate, Balangir has been declared as the Principal Magistrate, Juvenile Justice Board, Balangir to try cases of the juvenile in conflict with law.

In the meantime, the District Legal Services Authority has been constituted with effect from 23.12.1996 and the District and Sessions Judge, Balangir is declared the Ex-officio Chairman of the District Legal Services Authority and the Registrar, Civil Courts, Balangir is presently functioning as the Secretary in charge of the District Legal Services Authority since transfer of its independent Secretary of the cadre of Civil Judge (Senior Division). Under the District Legal Services Authority, Balangir, four Taluk Legal Services Committees are functioning i.e at Titilagarh, Patnagarh, Kantabanji and Loisingha. Besides, a Permanent LokAdalat, to deal with various utility services, started functioning on 12.3.2012 having a Chairperson in the cadre of District Judge. Sri Dukhishyam Chaulia, a Retd. District Judge, was the First Chairperson of the Permanent Lok Adalat, Balangir. By this time, the Lok Adalat and the Chairperson of the Permanent Lok Adalat have been provided with good infrastructural facilities and a new building was opened on 3.11.2012 which has housed the Permanent Lok Adalat and also acts as Alternative Dispute Resolution Centre. Under District Legal Services Authority, a Mediation Centre is also functioning for mediation of different cases and disputes as mentioned in the decision of the Honourable court reported in Afcons Infrastructure limited and Another Vrs. Cherian Varkey construction company private limited and others, on conciliation. It is pertinent to mention herewith that the District Legal Services Authority, Balangir has rendered remarkable services in the field

of disposal of cases by way of conciliation and through A.D.R mechanism, Lok Adalat and Legal Awareness camps which has been recognized by the State Legal Service Authority and has been awarded as best District Legal Services Authority of West Zone for the year 2014-15 with a trophy and certificate.

Nature of Cases Handled

Civil Suits are generally simple in nature. Suits for ejection, recovery of possession, partition, adoption, maintenance etc, are common. The prevailing crimes in the district are murder, theft and burglary. Generally, murder cases arise out of land dispute or love affairs.

Bar Association

Bar Association, Balangir

The Oldest Bar Association in the district is the Patna Bar Association founded in the year 1938 consisting of seven members, out of whom 5 were Law Graduates and the rest two were Muktiars. Late Sri Kapileswar Prasad Nanda was the first registered Lawyer of Patna State. Presently the District Bar Association has around 600 enrolled members and also the number of enrollment is increasing in numbers, day by day. Also in the outlying station such as Titilagarh, Patnagarh, Kantabanji, Loisingha, Saintala have their own Bar Association and the strength of Bar members has also reached to a considerable extent.

Consumer Protection

Consumer Protection Act, 1986 is an Act of the Parliament of India enacted in 1986 to protect the interests of consumers in India. It makes provision for the establishment of consumer councils and other authorities for the settlement of consumers' disputes and for matters connected therewith.

District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum (DCDRF): Also known as the 'District Forum', established by the State Government in each district of the State. The District Forum shall have jurisdiction to entertain complaints where the value of the goods or services and the compensation, if any, claimed does not exceed rupees twenty lakhs. District Consumer Dispute Redressal Forum, Balangir functions within the jurisdiction of Balangir District since 1994. It is functioning under the Food Supplies and Consumer Welfare Department, Orissa, Bhubaneswar. This Office/Forum provides justice to the consumers with clean records and supporting materials. The President, District Consumer Dispute Redressal Forum, declared to be the Head of the office who is in charge of both Administration and the Judicial. The president presides over the bench with the help of two members (Male and Lady) as supporting staff and bench clerk (Senior

Steno) to perform clerical work. If anybody filed a complaint against the opposite party in this forum, then the case is placed before the bench for admission and after admission notice is sent to the opposite party for filing version. After filing version the case stands posted for hearing. After hearing in the presence of both the parties, the president and members pronounce their judgment in the open forum.

There are two Senior Clerks in this office (Forum).The senior most Senior Clerk is in charge of Accounts, stock and stores and another Senior Clerk is in charge of establishment section, report returns and library. There is one Junior Clerk in this office that is in charge of Issue, Dairy & type. There are two peons and one Night watch man.

The Civil Supply Officer, Balangir is working as Drawing and Disbursing officer in this forum.

The Additional District Magistrate, Balangir is working as District Consumer Protection Officer of this forum. He is the authority to take decision about the Consumer Awareness Programmes, launched by the Government.

Fire services

At present there are 11 Fire Stations working in different places of Balangir district. The Fire Stations at Balangir, Patnagarh and Titilagarh are oldest Fire Stations in the district. Government of Odisha has decided to set up Fire Stations in each of the Blocks. Presently, three nos. of Fire Stations have been set up in Muribahal Block, Mahimunda of Puintala Block and at Kantabanji. Each Fire Stations should have staff strength of one Station Officer, one Assistant Station Officer, two Leading Firemen and Five to six Firemen. There is acute shortage of Assistant Fire Officers who are to be posted as Station Officers. There are only three nos. of Station Officers posted at Balangir, Titilagarh and Patnagarh. All the Fire Stations are equipped with modern fire fighting equipments and for rescue operations. Apart from dealing with fire fighting operations , the staffs of Fire Stations are engaged in rescue operations in road accidents, floodsituation,drowning,natural and manmade disaster,fire prevention and protection duty and any other emergency in the district. The Fire Stations are connected through a wireless network .In all newly opened Fire Stations telephone services have not yet been provided and the Fire Stations are functioning in Block Office premises temporarily or through other arrangements. Fire services in the district is equipped with thge following:

- 1.Total water tenders/motor fire engine 13 nos

- | | |
|--|---------|
| 2.Total towing tenders | 11 nos |
| 3.Total WADIA Pump | 13 nos |
| 4.Total quick response units | 03 nos |
| 5. Total two wheeler motorcycle mist units | 01 nos. |

Staff position includes the sanctioned strength of one Asst. Fire Officer, 10 stations, 04 Asst Station Officers, 22 Leading Fire Men, 12 Driver Havildars, 11 Fire Man Driver, 116 Fire Fighters and 33 nos of Homeguards. However some of the posts are lying vacant.

Cyber Crime and Counter Mechanism

Cyber crimes and related criminal activities through the use of computers and internet are on the rise in the district. Some of the common cyber crimes detected in the area are hacking, cyber stalking, software piracy, credit card fraud and phishing. To tackle the issue of Cyber crimes, Cyber Crime Cell has been opened up in the district.

The internet users in Balangir are increasing in number. With the advancement of technology the risk of data theft and hacking has also increased significantly. Many cases have been registered for prank calls to people citing as bank official or misappropriating call from RBI for ATM Card No, Account No., Address & ATM Pin No. etc.

This is the most commonly identified type of technology based crime although not fully comes under the purview Cyber Crime is still involved under the IT (Amendment) Act-2008.

The Government has taken up smarter implementation of a number of e-governance projects. Many government processes have been automated by implementation of web-based or stand alone applications. A number of software applications serving Government-to-Citizen (G2C), Government-to-Business (G2B) & Govt. to Govt. (G2G) are being implemented in Balangir district.

Crime and Criminal Tracking Network & Systems (CCTNS) project aims to create a comprehensive and integrated system for enhancing the efficiency and effective policing at all levels and especially at the Police Station level including citizen services which are the integral part of CCTNS project. The CCTNS project envisions to create services that can be availed directly by the citizens through the nearest available mode such as internet, police station etc. This also implies that the police personnel would have access to citizen complaints and requests from different sources in a real time manner; which will enable faster means of resolution to a complaint or service request from the citizen. Crime and Criminal Tracking Network &

Systems (CCTNS) is a plan scheme conceived in the light of experience of a non-plan scheme namely – Common Integrated Police Application (CIPA). CCTNS is a Mission Mode Project under the National e-Governance Plan of Govt of India. CCTNS aims at creating a comprehensive and integrated system for enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of policing through adopting principle of e-Governance and creation of a nationwide networking infrastructure for evolution of IT-enabled-state-of-the-art tracking system around investigation of crime and detection of criminals.

Objectives of ‘CCTNS’

1. Make the Police functioning citizen friendly and more transparent by automating the functioning of Police Stations.
2. Improve delivery of citizen-centric services through effective usage of ICT.
3. Provide the Investigating Officers of the Civil Police with tools, technology and information to facilitate investigation of crime and detection of criminals
4. Improve Police functioning in various other areas such as Law and Order, Traffic Management etc.
5. Facilitate Interaction and sharing of Information among Police Stations, Districts, State/UT headquarters and other Police Agencies.
6. Assist senior Police Officers in better management of Police Force
7. Keep track of the progress of Cases, including in Courts
8. Reduce manual and redundant Records keeping

Benefits to Citizens

1. Multiple channels to access services from police.
2. Simplified process for registering petitions/complaints.
3. Simplified process for accessing general services such as requests for certificates, verifications, and permissions etc.
4. Simplified process and accurate means of tracking the progress of the case during trials.
5. Simplified and easy access to view and generate reports on unclaimed/recovered vehicles, property, and missing persons.
6. Simplified process and channel for grievance registration.
7. Faster and assured response from police to any emergency calls for assistance.

Cyber Cases Registered in Balngir District in 2015

- 1 Town P.S. case No-02 dt.3.1.15 U/s. 420 IPC/66 I.T.Act
- 2 Town P.S. case No-33 dt.6.2.15 U/s. 420/409/120(b)/465/468/497-A IPC/66 I.T.Act
- 3 Town P.S. case No-34 dt.6.2.15 U/s. 420/409/120(b)/465/468/497-A IPC/66 I.T.Act
- 4 Town P.S. case No-270 dt.17.8.15 U/s. 420 IPC/66 I.T.Act
- 5 Town P.S. case No-345 dt.8.10.15 U/s. 420 IPC/66 I.T.Act
- 6 Tusra P.S. case No-68 dt.2.5.15 U/s. 420 IPC/66 I.T.Act
- 7 Loisingha P.S. case No-84 dt.15.5.15 U/s. 379 IPC/66 I.T.Act
- 8 Bangomunda P.S. case No-90 dt.6.7.15 U/s. 465/469/471/500/507 IPC/66-C I.T.Act
- 9 Patnagarh P.S. case No-169 dt.30.08.15 U/s. 420/34 IPC/66 I.T.Act

CHAPTER XI

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

Evolution of Local Self Government at District Level

The constitution of India was adopted by the Indian constituent assembly on 26 November 1949 and came into effect on 26 January 1950. Article 40 of the Constitution which enshrines one of the Directive Principles of State Policy lays down that the State shall take steps to organise village panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority as may be necessary to enable them to function as units of self-government. Panchayati Raj institutions have been in existence since then. later it was observed that these institutions have not been able to acquire the status and dignity of viable and responsive people's bodies due to a number of reasons including absence of regular elections, prolonged supersession, insufficient representation of weaker sections like Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and women, inadequate decentralization of powers and lack of financial resources.

The bill of the constitution (73rd Act) 1992 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 16th September 1991. The 73RD Amendment inserted a new part IX in the constitution which contains Article 243 and 243- A to 243- 0. Section 4 of the Amendment inserted a new i.e. eleventh schedule to the constitution where the Panchayats may be devolved with the powers and responsibilities of the state legislature by law.

The main provisions which the state statutes provided so for

1. Creation of a state Election commission to conduct elections to PRIs
2. Financial commission was set up
3. Elections to the PRIs held regularly since 1997 at the end of five years tenure of PRIs
4. Creation of 3-tier panchayat Raj structure at Zilla, Block, and village levels
5. Reservation for woman in panchayats, Reservation of seats for SC/ST in Panchayats
6. Indirect election to the post of Chairman at the intermediate and apex tiers
7. Creation of gram sabhas

Local self Government comprises of Panchayati Raj Institutions and Urban local bodies. In Balangir district there are five urban local bodies in

five towns, namely Balangir and Titilagarh Municipalities, Patanagarh, Kantabanji, and Tusra Notified area councils. There are 284 Gram Panchayats, 14 Panchayat Samities and Zilla Parishad in the district. Elections to the above Panchayatiraj Institutions have been held regularly since 1997. Apart from this Elections are held regularly for five urban local bodies of Balangir, Titilagarh, Kantabanji, Patanagarh and Tusra. Provisions have been made for reservation of woman candidates, ST and SC candidates in PRI bodies and urban local bodies. Election to these three tier systems and urban local bodies are made generally at an interval of 5 years basing on Odisha Gram Panchayat Election Rules, 1965, Odisha Panchayat Samiti Election Rules, 1991, Odisha Zilla Parishad Election Rules, 1994 and Urban local bodies Election Rules, 1994 in the spirit of 73rd Amendment to the Constitution. Election to local bodies (3-tier Panchayat Raj system) has been held in the district since 1997 under the superintendence, direction and control of State Election Commission, Odisha.

MUNICIPALITIES AND NACs

Balangir Municipality

The present town of Balangir is hardly a century old. The old Balangir which was founded in the 16th Century A. D. by Balaram Deo is probably represented by the present Junhadiha (Old site) close to Balangir town to the north. The new Balangir is a planned town. It was established by the Court of Wards in 1871 and the capital of the ex-State was transferred from Patnagarh to the new township in 1872.

In April 1938, a Municipal Committee consisting of 15 members was formed in Balangir under the Patna State Municipality Act. Balangir, according to this Act, was divided into five wards. Out of the 15 members, 10 were being nominated by the Durbar and the remaining 5 were being elected from the five wards. Franchise was first introduced in 1939 when the number of wards increased to 6. The Municipal Committee, after election of July 1939, consisted of 7 ex officio members and 2 non official members nominated by the Durbar and 6 elected ward members. The area of the Municipality was 1,300 acres which extended to 1,400 acres in 1940.

The Orissa Municipal Act, 1950 came into force in Balangir Municipality on the 16th April 1951. The new Municipal Council, consisting of 11 representatives including one Scheduled Caste member, started functioning with effect from the 18th June 1951 and continued till 23rd January 1957 after which they all resigned and the council was dissolved. The management of the Municipality was then taken over by the Government and in 1958 a fresh election took place and a council consisting of 12 Councillors was elected including one from the Scheduled Tribes. The Municipal area is divided into 21 wards. Now the council consist of 21

councillors including 01 from Scheduled Tribes, 03 from Scheduled Caste and 06 from Backward Class Citizens. Chairman and other members were elected in the urban election held in the month of June and July 2014.

The Municipal area now covers 32.77 Sq Km and the total population of 98211 as per 2011 census. Total road maintained by the municipality is 422.988 kms.

Financial Resources

The Municipality draws its income from different taxes and fees. It also receives grants from the State Government.

Special Achievements

The Municipality was awarded as the best municipality in 2012. The Municipality maintains parks, roads and civic centres. It is receiving Government grants for the improvement of the park. It also earns from its own shopping complexes.

Public health is looked after by the staff supplied by Government, their conveyance, allowance being paid by the Municipality which also supplies medicines and disinfectants.

Titilagarh Municipality

The Titilagarh Notified Area Council was constituted on 17th November 1951 with 9 members with an area of 5 square miles consisting of 9 wards. It has been declared as Titilagarh Municipality vide Notification No 4906 dated 24.3.14 of Housing and Urban Development Department Government of Odisha. It consists of 15 wards represented by 15 councilors- 01 from Scheduled Tribes, 02 from Scheduled Caste and 05 from Backward Class Citizens. According to 2011 census the total population of the Notified Area Council is 31258.

Patnagarh Notified Area Council

The Patnagarh Notified Area Council was constituted on 6th January 1964. According to Notification No. 9136, dated 11th September 1962 of Health and Local Self-Government, Patnagarh town and the area covered by the villages of Brahmapur, Tikapali, Nafrisagar, Kukurmunda and Rampur have been declared as Notified Area. Initially Patnagarh Notified Area Council had 12.8 square kilometers in area and was divided into 12 wards. Subsequently the boundary of the NAC was revised in accordance with the Notified Area Council which now covers an area of 18.26 Sq km and consists of 15 wards represented by 15 councillors- 02 from Scheduled Tribes, 02 from Scheduled Caste and 04 from Backward Class Citizens. According to 2011 census the total population of the Notified Area Council is 21,024.

Kantabanji Notified Area Council

The Notified Area Council of Kantabanji was constituted on the 17th November 1965 covering 4.8 square kilometers. The area of the NAC has been extended. Now the Notified Area Council consists of 16 wards represented by 16 councilors- 03 from Scheduled Tribes and 01 from Scheduled Caste and 05 from Backward Class Citizens. According to 2011 census the total population of the Notified Area Council is 21778.

Tusra Notified Area Council

The Notified Area Council of Tusra was constituted vide Notification No. 11272 Dt 29.5.14 of Housing and Urban Development Department, Government of Odisha. The Notified Area Council has an area of 10.12 Sq Km. The 1st Election to the council took place during April 2015 and consists of 11 wards represented by 11 councillors- 02 from Scheduled Tribes, 02 from Scheduled Caste and 03 from Backward Class Citizens. According to 2011 census the total population of the Notified Area Council is 10,638.

Statement Showing Receipts and Expenditure of the ULBs

Name of the ULB	Year	Receipts	
Balangir Municipality	2013-14	109050886	193862359
	2014-15	143392118	109050886
Titilagarh Municipality	2013-14	65552722	60796518
	2014-15	70879421	74157041
Patnagarh NAC	2013-14	74358606	68653090
	2014-15	64032153	78455117
Kantabanji NAC	2013-14	81195543	117754150
	2014-15	97801902	122256330

Town Planning and Development

The Town Planning Unit, Balangir was constituted as per Govt. Notification No. TP-Estt. 8/80 31145/UD, Dt. 29.07.1980 of the Government Housing & Urban Development Department and started functioning from 15.11.1980. The office is functioning on monthly rent basis in the 1st floor of Special Planning Authority, Balangir building against sanctioned strength of 11 posts including the officer. The Officer-in-charge, Town Planning Unit, Balangir is in additional charge of S.P.A, Balangir, Titilagarh, Patnagarh & Sonepur which have been constituted as per the provisions of O.T.P & I.T

Act, 1956. The Town Planning Unit, Balangir under the Directorate of Town Planning, Odisha, Bhubaneswar is the Master Plan Preparing Agency and the concerned Special Planning Authority are plan executing and implementing Balangir: The Master Plan for Balangir has been published under section 32 of the O.T.P & I.T Act, 1956 vide Notification No.310-34/83/BSPA., Dt.20.05.1983 comprising of Balangir Municipal area and 6 rural adjoining villages namely Puintala, Sadeipali, Podapali, Gandhrel , Talpali and Larkipali. The revision of the Master Plan of Balangir has already been initiated using GIS/RS based technology. The preparation of GIS based Master Plan primarily covers 14 villages (8 mouzas from urban segment i.e. Municipal area.) and 6 villages from rural segment). For the above mouzas, there exists one Master Plan which was prepared on conventional method. Subsequently, other 13 mouzas, namely, Barkani, Madhiapali, Dumerpali, Gaintala, Bagbhadi, Kalsaipali, Khujenpali, Malmanda, Birmunda, Rinbachan, Pakhanchepa, Dhumamara and Khamarmunda have been included within the ambit of Master Plan. Coverage as per the decision of Adhoc Committee held on 18.11.2010. The considered views of the Collector & District Magistrate, Balangir have already been communicated to the R.D.C (ND) Sambalpur. The considered views of the R.D.C (ND) Sambalpur regarding the above inclusion of the 13 mouzas were taken within the ambit of preparation of Master Plan. The Master Plan area have a population of 1,20,513 according to the 2011 final population figure and covers an area of 86.00sq.mts. The Master Plan works has been assigned to the consultant N.F Infratech New Delhi for preparation of Master Plan for Balangir Master Plan area vide Order No.TP-Dev-150/2013(pt) 12824/HUD., Dt.18.05.15 and according to the letter No.2275/DTP., Dt.26.0515 of the Director of Town Planning, Odisha, Bhubaneswar.

Titilagarh

Titilagarh Master Plan has been prepared and published under section 32 of the O.T.P & I.T Act,1956 vide Notification No.69-MP-1/98/TSPA., Dt.23/07/1998 comprising of 2 revenue mouzas of Titilagarh N.A.C and 4 adjoining rural villages namely; Bhatipara, Satighat, Turla and Bandhupala.

Patnagarh

The Master Plan for Patnagarh has been prepared under section 32 of the Act and published vide Notification No. MP-I-1/2006-67/PSPA., dated 07.07.2006, comprising of 2 revenue mouzas like Patnagarh 'Ka' and Patnagarh 'Kha' of Patnagarh N.A.C and other one adjoining rural village namely, Beherabandh.

Kantabanji

The proposed Master Plan area comprises of 3 revenue village, namely, Kantabanji 'KA', Kantabanji 'KHA' and Kantabanji 'Ga' of the N.A.C and other 7 adjoining rural mouza namely, Dabri, Dumerchuan, Birna, Beherensilet, Kurli, Chatuanka and Kukurahad. The Collector, Balangir and R.D.C (ND) Sambalpur have already communicated their considered views vide their letter No.1609/Rev., Dt.14.09.2001 and letter No.135/RDC., Dt.22.01.2002 respectively to the Govt. The Act extension proposal is pending at Government level.

PANCHAYATI RAJ

Zilla Parishad and Panchayat Samitis

With the enactment of the Orissa Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad Act, 1959 (Orissa Act 7 of 1959), the Zilla Parishads and the Panchayat Samitis came into existence with effect from the 1st April 1961. It has given complete shape to the Panchayati Raj administration in three tiers, the Zilla Parishad at district level, the Panchayat Samiti at Block level and the Panchayat at village level.

Gram Panchayats

There are 284 Gram Panchayats functioning in the district. The Gram Panchayats are functioning according to Odisha Gram Panchayat Act, 1964. The Gram Panchayats are responsible for execution of development work in their respective areas. Gram Panchayats are conducting Gram Sabha and Palli Sabha for selection of beneficiaries under different schemes of Government of Odisha. The names of the Gram Panchayats are listed in Annexure I at the end of the chapter.

All the public properties like tank, markets, ghat, ferries, cattle pounds etc. have been transferred to Gram Panchayats.

The management of Minor Forest Produce was transferred to the control of Gram Panchayat since March 2000 and 68 MFP items are being managed by the G.Ps. since 2000-2001 trading year. The minimum procurement price for 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 were fixed by the District Level Price Fixation Committee under the Chairmanship of Collector, Balangir and approved by the R.D.C. ND, Sambalpur and communicated to all the Gram Panchayats of the district. Subsequently, the procedure for fixation of minimum price of MFP has been revised in the Orissa Gram Panchayat Minor Forest Administration Rule, 2002 and accordingly the minimum price of procurement of the different MFP payable to primary gatherers were approved in the Panchayat Samiti meetings every year in the month of September from 2002-03 trading year onwards. Accordingly

Panchayat Samitis are fixing the minimum price on MFP in each trading year.

Further the Sal Seed is included in the list of 'Minor Forest Produce' as 69 items as per notification of the Government in Forest and Environment Department Resolution No. SF (C)-6/2005-3695 dated 02.03.2006. As such the Block Development Officer of Balangir district fixes a minimum price of the Sal Seeds in the Panchayat Samiti Meeting for the next trading year.

Out of all the MFP items Mahua flower, Thorn broom, Siali leaves and Tamarind are predominantly being traded in the district. The primary gatherers are getting better price on MFP due to management by the Gram Panchayats.

List of 69 MFP (Minor Forest Produce) entrusted with G.P.

69 Minor Forest Produce entrusted with Gram Panchayat are as follows:

Tamarind, Mahua Flower, Brooms, Thom Brooms, Fool Jhadu, Broom Grass, Kochila Seed, Harida, Bahada, Ainla, Ritha Phal, Bhalia , Cleaning Nut, Honey, Siali leaf, Sabai Grass, Mengo Kemel, Thatch Grass, Simulu Cotton, Palua, Dhatuki Flower, Putrani, Sikakal, Jungle Jada, Palas Seed, Siali Seed, Indra Jaba, Gila Seed, Bena Cher, Bana Haldi ,Gaba, Tulasi, Bana Kalathi, Kantha Padma, Talmakhan Seed, Baidanka Seed, Landa Baguli, Kamala Gund Fruit, Bagh Nakhi Seed, Landa Baguli, Bela, Bhuin Limba, Khajuri Patia, Rohini Fruit, Bhrusunga Leaf, Fena Fena Fruit, Rasana Root, Sidha Fruit, Satabari, Katha lai, Antundi lai, Khelua lai, Suam lai, Eksira Fruit, Katha Chhatu, Sapamasina Grass, Ananta Root, Antia Pata, Nageswar Flower, Mankada Kendu, Antundi Fruit, Mahul Seed, Kusuma Seed, Karanji Seed, Neem Seed, Char Seed, Chakunda Seed, Babul Seed, Baibirang Seed and Sal Seeds.

Financial Resources

In order to augment their resources the Gram Panchayts are imposing panchayat tax, Vehicle tax, market tax and licensees on trades. Many of them derive income from pisciculture, cattle pounds etc. Gram Panchayats also receive grants out of sale proceeds of Kendu leaves. The main items of expenditure of the Gram Panchayats concern development works.

Zilla Parishad and Panchayat Samitis

Balangir Zilla Parishad comprises 14 Panchayat Samitis of the district. There are 34 Zilla Parishad Members in Balangir Zilla Parishad. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Zilla Parishad are elected amongst the 34 Zilla Parishad Members. Under the Original Act, the Members of Legislative Assembly and Members of Parliament of the District were also

members of Zilla Parishad but with the amendment of the Act in 1961(Act XXIV of 1961), they are no longer members although they are entitled to be issued with notice for Zilla Parishad Meetings and to have the right to participate in the discussions even though they do not have the right to vote in the meetings.

The Zilla Parishad meets once in three months. The general meeting of the Parishad takes place in the month of January, April, July and October. Special meetings are also convened according to special need and urgency.

Balangir Zilla Parishad of the district has 34 Zilla Parishad Members. The Parishad consists of the following members, namely:

- a. One member elected directly on the basis of adult suffrage from every constituency within the Parishad area.
- b. Chairman of each Samiti situated within the district.
- c. Every member of the House of the People and of the State Legislative Assembly representing Constituencies which comprise wholly or partly the member of the Parishad.
- d. Members of the Council of states who are registered as electors within the area of the Parishad.

Every Parishad, unless sooner dissolved under OZP Act,1991 shall continue for five years from the date appointed from its first meeting.

Panchayat Samitis

Out of 14 Panchayat Samitis in Balangir District 6 are in Balangir Subdivision, 5 are in Titilagarh Subdivision and 3 are in Patnagarh Subdivision. The Statement below will show the particulars of Panchayat Samitis in different Subdivisions and their headquarters. Further particulars about individual Panchayat Samitis are given below:

Name of Subdivision	Name of Panchayat Samiti	Name of Panchayat Samiti headquarters
Balangir Sub division	Balangir Puintala Loisingha Agalpur Deogoan Gudvella	Balangir Puintala Loisingha Agalpur Deogoan Gudvella
Titilagarh Subdivision	Titilagarh Muribahal Turekela Saintala Bangomunda	Titilagarh Muribahal Turekela Saintala Bangomunda
Patnagarh Subdivision	Patnagarh Khaprakhhol Belpada	Patnagarh Khaprakhhol Belpada

Gram Sabha, Pallasabha and its Modus Operandi

Gram Sabha and Its Functions

Gram Sabha and its functions are as given below:

(1) There shall be at least two meetings- one in February and another in June every year held by the members of the Gram Sasan and such others meetings as may be prescribed.

(2) a. The quorum for the meetings of the Gram Sabha shall be one-tenth of the members of the Gram Sasan.

b. In the event of there being no quorum at any Gram Sabha it shall stand adjourned to a future day of which notice shall be given in the prescribed manner and no quorum shall be necessary for any such adjourned meeting.

(3) The Gram Sasan shall have the power to-

a. approve the plans, programs and projects for social and economic development, programs and project are taken up for implementation by the Gram Panchayat

b. indentify or select persons as beneficiaries under the poverty alleviation or similar other programs provided that every Gram Panchayat shall be required to obtain from the Gram Sasan a certification of utilization of funds by that Panchayat for the plans, programs and projects referred to in clauses (a) and (b).

c. Consider and approve the annual budget of the Gram Panchayat including the supplementary or revised budget.

d. Consider levy of all taxes, rates, rents and fees and enhancement of rates thereof.

e. Organize community service and drawing up and implementation of agricultural production plans.

f. Consider all such matters as may be referred to it by the Gram Panchayat for its decision.

g. Call for such information and data from the Gram Panchayat as it may consider necessary; and

h. Consider such other matters as may be prescribed.

(4) Subject to the provisions of Sub-section (1) the meetings of the Gram Sasan shall be convened by such authority, in such manner and at such time and intervals as may be prescribed.

(5) The business of the Gram Sasan at the Gram Sabhas shall be conducted and the record of the proceedings thereof shall be maintained in the prescribed manner.

Palli Sabha and its function

Palli Sabha and its modus operandi are mentioned at Section 6 of Odisha Gram Panchayat Act, 1964 as follows:

(1) For every village within the Gram, there shall be constituted by the State Government a Palli Sabha, provided that where the area comprised within a ward constituted for the Gram under Section 8 consist of more than one village there shall be only one Palli Sabha for such ward.

(2) Each Palli Sabha shall consist of all persons registered by virtue of the Representation of the People Act, 1950 in so much of the electoral roll for any Assembly Constituency for the time being in force as relates to the area in respect of the Palli Sabha and the said portion of the roll shall be deemed to be electoral roll of the Palli Sabha.

(3) The Palli Sabha shall meet annually in February every year and may also meet at other times in manner prescribed.

(4) The person representing the Palli Sabha area in the Gram Panchayat if there be more than one such person, one from the list of all such persons in order of preference to be determined by the Gram Panchayat, shall preside over the meeting of the Palli Sabha and in absence of all such persons at the meeting at the appointed time, those present at the meeting may elect one from amongst themselves to preside over the meeting.

(5) (a) The quorum for the meeting of the Palli Sabha shall stand adjourned to future day for which notice shall be given in the prescribed manner and no quorum shall be necessary for any such adjourned meeting.

(b) Provided that if any member of the Palli Sabha files a complaint either in writing or in person in the next meeting of the Gram Panchayat challenging that the proceedings have not been correctly recorded by the President, the Gram Panchayat may in its discretion, summon another meeting of the Palli Sabha, to consider the same issue or issues, to be held in the presence of a member of the Panchayat in this behalf; and the recorded proceedings of this meeting, if duly countersigned by the said member of the Panchayat shall be taken to be final.

(6) It shall be the duty of the Palli Sabha at its annual meeting in February each year to give its recommendations to the Gram Panchayat in respect of the following matters in so far as such matters relate to the Palli Sabha area, namely:

(a) the development works and programme that may be taken up during the ensuing year, and

(b) the annual budget estimate submitted by the GramPanchayat under Sub-section (1) of Section 98.

Election to local bodies

Article-40 of the Constitution of India provides for the State to take steps to organise village Panchayats and endow them with such powers and authority so as to enable them to function as units of self-Government, Consequent upon the Constitution (73rd Amendments) Act, 1992, details of provision have been made in the Constitution for the 3 tier Panchayats in every State and also providing for the constitution and election to these Panchayats under a constitutional authority. Three tier Panchayati Raj System functioning in all the District of Odisha are 1. Gram Panchayat at Panchayat level 2. Panchayat Samiti Odisha at Block Level and 3. Zilla Parishad at District Level which are governed by Gram Panchayat Act,1964, Odisha Panchayat Samiti act, 1959 and Odisha Zilla Parishad Act,1991 respectively.

The State Election Commission, Odisha constituted under Article 243-K of the Constitution of India is vested with the powers of superintendence, direction and control of preparation of electoral roll for and conduct of elections to the 3-tier Panchayati Raj Institutions and urban local bodies. Election to these three systems and urban local bodies are made generally at an interval of 5 years basing on Odisha Gram Panchayat Election Rules, 1965, Odisha Panchayat Samiti Election Rules, 1991, Odisha Zilla Parishad Election Rules, 1994 and Urban local bodies Election Rules, 1994 in the spirit of 73rd Amendment to the Constitution. Election to local bodies (3-tier Panchayat Raj system) has been held in the district since 1997 under the superintendence, direction and control of State Election Commission, Odisha. The last Election to 3-TIER Panchayat raj system was held in the district in 2012 and Election to urban local bodies was held in 2013 for Kantabanji and Patnagarh, in 2014 for Balangir and Titilagarh and in 2015 for Tusra. Apart from this, Bye-election to Panchayat Raj bodies and urban local bodies are also held when there is vacancy of members of PRI bodies and ULB bodies due to death or resignation.

The conduct of General Election to 3-tier Panchayati Raj Institutions is a great challenging task before the Election Officer/ Supervisory Officers/ Polling Personnel drafted for election duty for successful completion of free, fair and peaceful election. The Officers and staff drafted for election duty should maintain high standard of impartiality and neutrality in discharging their duties. The Collector of the District as Election Officer is responsible for overall conduct of elections to the Panchayati Raj Institutions within the district.

Ward Members of each ward of the Gram Panchayats, Sarapanch of the each Gram Panchayat, Panchayat Samiti Members of each Panchayat have been elected directly by the voters of the respective Gram Panchayat. Zilla Parishad Members representing the Zilla Parishad have been elected by the voters of concerned Zilla Parishad Zone. There are 34 Zilla Parishad Zone in Balangir district comprising of 284 Gram Panchayats.

The Block wise nos. of wards, Sarapanch, Panchayat Samiti and Zilla Parishad Members in Balangir district are as follows:

Sl. No	Name of the Block	No. of Ward Members	Sarapanch	Panchayat Samiti Members	Zilla Parishad Member
1	Agalpur	236	20	18	02
2	Balangir	277	20	22	02
3	Deogaon	281	23	24	02
4	Gudvella	143	11	12	02
5	Loisingha	220	13	18	02
6	Puintala	316	73	29	03
7	Belpada	278	05	22	03
8	Khaprakhol	231	07	18	02
9	Patnagarh	338	16	26	03
10	Titilagarh	264	28	23	03
11	Turekela	212	11	19	02
12	Saintala	252	21	20	03
13	Muribahal	209	18	18	03
14	Bangomunda	270	28	24	02
	Total	3527	258	293	34

Annexure I

List of Gram Panchayats in Balangir District

Name of the Block	Name of the Gram Panchayats	Population
Agalpur	Agalpur	7183
Agalpur	Babufasad	5264
Agalpur	Badtika	4244
Agalpur	Bakti	4053
Agalpur	Bendra	4938
Agalpur	Bharsuja	7458
Agalpur	Budula	6501
Agalpur	Duduka	4913
Agalpur	Jharnipali	4283
Agalpur	Kutasingha	5847
Agalpur	Nagaon (A)	7079
Agalpur	Nagaon (B)	4682
Agalpur	Nuniapali	3700
Agalpur	Patuapali	3800
Agalpur	Rinbachan	3437
Agalpur	Roth	3078
Agalpur	Salebhata	7174
Agalpur	Uparbahal	5408
	Total	93042
Balangir	Baidipali	3234
Balangir	Barapudugia	4598
Balangir	Barkani	2794
Balangir	Bhundimuhan	6835
Balangir	Bhutiabahal	4544
Balangir	Bidighat	2917
Balangir	Chandanbhati	6640
Balangir	Chikalbahal	3321
Balangir	Chudapali	5802
Balangir	Jhankarpali	8313
Balangir	Khaliapali	2681
Balangir	Khujenpali	3845
Balangir	Khuntpali	3372

Balangir	Kudasingha	4196
Balangir	Madhiapali	4285
Balangir	Manhira	5017
Balangir	Mirdhapali	4953
Balangir	Sadeipali	4369
Balangir	Sahajbahal	2341
Balangir	Sakma	5097
Balangir	Sibtala	5307
Balangir	Sikachhida	4168
Balangir	Tusrabahal	2708
	Total	101337
Deogaon	Arjunpur	3048
Deogaon	Badbahal	4107
Deogaon	Badbandh	3967
Deogaon	Bandhpada	3252
Deogaon	Bramhanijore	3136
Deogaon	Deogaon	4997
Deogaon	Desandh	3571
Deogaon	Dhandamal	3232
Deogaon	Gaibahal	4890
Deogaon	Gaurgoth	4436
Deogaon	Jarasingha	4616
Deogaon	Kultapada	3418
Deogaon	Kuturla	7380
Deogaon	Landapathar	4210
Deogaon	Mahalei	5637
Deogaon	Makundapur	4955
Deogaon	Ramchandrapur	6460
Deogaon	Salepali	3621
Deogaon	Sarasmal	3499
Deogaon	Sikuan	2274
Deogaon	Singhamunda	3426
Deogaon	Udar	5372
Deogaon	Uparjhar	4142
	Total	97646
Gudvella	Badangomunda	2067

Gudvella	Biramunda	3487
Gudvella	Chinched	2945
Gudvella	Ghuna	4588
Gudvella	Gudvella	8544
Gudvella	Jamut	5076
Gudvella	Madhekela	4110
Gudvella	Nuapada	4859
Gudvella	Rusuda	5914
Gudvella	Samara	3399
Gudvella	Tentulikhunti	5385
	Total	50374
Loisingha	Badibahal	5295
Loisingha	Badimunda	2992
Loisingha	Budhipadar	4166
Loisingha	Burda	3563
Loisingha	G.S.Dungripali	7461
Loisingha	Hirapur	5601
Loisingha	Jharmunda	4491
Loisingha	Jogisarda	5296
Loisingha	Kandajuri	3156
Loisingha	Kusang	6239
Loisingha	Kusmel	7056
Loisingha	Kutenpali	4940
Loisingha	Loisingha	9165
Loisingha	Ratakhandi	6612
Loisingha	Rengali	4767
Loisingha	Sargad	4296
Loisingha	Taliudar	6771
Loisingha	Uparbahal	4071
	Total	95938
Puintala	Ankariapadar	3384
Puintala	Atgaon	6621
Puintala	Bahalpadar	7555
Puintala	Bairasar	4130
Puintala	Bandhapada	3329
Puintala	Bhaler	4530

Puintala	Bileisarda	3602
Puintala	Bubel	5760
Puintala	Chhatamakhana	5258
Puintala	Chhatapipal	5741
Puintala	Daspur	4914
Puintala	Durgapali	2245
Puintala	Gaintala	4147
Puintala	Jamgaon	5657
Puintala	Khaliapali	4269
Puintala	Kurul	3404
Puintala	Lokapada	3373
Puintala	Mahimunda	4972
Puintala	Malmunda	3076
Puintala	Patharla	5506
Puintala	Pipirda	3202
Puintala	Puintala	3776
Puintala	Randa	6224
Puintala	Sauntapur	7427
	Total	112102
Patnagarh	Balipata	4621
Patnagarh	Baneimunda	6295
Patnagarh	Barpadar	3959
Patnagarh	Batharla	3434
Patnagarh	Bhainsa	6248
Patnagarh	Dangbahal	5916
Patnagarh	Deulgaon	3450
Patnagarh	Dhubalpara	5117
Patnagarh	Fatamunda	5018
Patnagarh	Gangasagar	4862
Patnagarh	Gerda	3704
Patnagarh	Ghasian	3223
Patnagarh	Ghuchepali	3472
Patnagarh	Jogimunda	8333
Patnagarh	Kendumundi	7345
Patnagarh	Khuntsamalai	3742
Patnagarh	Larambha	7067

Patnagarh	Maruan	5821
Patnagarh	Mundomahul	4534
Patnagarh	Pandamunda	8047
Patnagarh	Salepali	4992
Patnagarh	Solbandh	3281
Patnagarh	Sunamudi	4195
Patnagarh	Tamian	4863
Patnagarh	Tendapadar	5256
Patnagarh	Ulba	3988
	Total	130783
Belpada	Bagdor	7561
Belpada	Bahabal	3601
Belpada	Beheramunda	4238
Belpada	Belpara	11040
Belpada	Bharuapali	5215
Belpada	Dhumabhata	7535
Belpada	Gambhari	8208
Belpada	Ghagurli	6866
Belpada	Juba	6901
Belpada	Kandhenjhula	4572
Belpada	Kanut	5012
Belpada	Kapani	8390
Belpada	Madhyapur	2986
Belpada	Mandal	4969
Belpada	Nunhad	6327
Belpada	Pandrijore	5790
Belpada	Parlimal	4870
Belpada	Salandi	5207
Belpada	Sarmuhan	5360
Belpada	Sihini	2567
Belpada	Sulekela	5804
Belpada	Tentelmunda	5897
	Total	128916
Khaprakhol	Baghmund	6791
Khaprakhol	Bender	3080
Khaprakhol	Bhanpur	4538

Khaprakhol	Damaipali	3561
Khaprakhol	Dhandamunda	7208
Khaprakhol	Ghunsar	6783
Khaprakhol	Karuanjhar	3243
Khaprakhol	Khaprakhol	5648
Khaprakhol	Lathor	9163
Khaprakhol	Luhasingha	7061
Khaprakhol	Maharapadar	4473
Khaprakhol	Matiabhata	4805
Khaprakhol	Nandupala	2519
Khaprakhol	Odiapali	4872
Khaprakhol	Padiabahal	6033
Khaprakhol	Rengali	4539
Khaprakhol	Tankapani	4647
Khaprakhol	Telenpali	4897
	Total	93861
Bangomunda	Alanda	5998
Bangomunda	Arsatula	4338
Bangomunda	Baldha	3198
Bangomunda	Bangomunda	7530
Bangomunda	Belpara	7850
Bangomunda	Bhalumunda	4747
Bangomunda	Bhuslad	3588
Bangomunda	Biripali	4099
Bangomunda	Chandotora	6613
Bangomunda	Chulifunka	6128
Bangomunda	Dedgaon	3826
Bangomunda	Gandharla	5949
Bangomunda	Jamkhunta	5101
Bangomunda	Jhalap	4141
Bangomunda	Jharial	4669
Bangomunda	Jurabandh	4054
Bangomunda	Kapilabhata	6077
Bangomunda	Khaira	4426
Bangomunda	Kundabutula	3378
Bangomunda	Mundpadar	7454

Bangomunda	Sindhekela	7769
Bangomunda	Themera	5647
	Total	116580
Muribahal	Badsaimara	6906
Muribahal	Bankel	7213
Muribahal	Sirol	5117
Muribahal	Chalki	6604
Muribahal	Chanabahal	5136
Muribahal	Dangarpada	5790
Muribahal	Ganrei	7489
Muribahal	Goimund	4318
Muribahal	Gudighat	4901
Muribahal	Haldi	9900
Muribahal	Ichhapara	5238
Muribahal	Lakhana	5723
Muribahal	Lebda	6189
Muribahal	Malisira	9203
Muribahal	Muribahal	6592
Muribahal	Patrapali	5663
Muribahal	Tentelkhunti	6219
Muribahal	Tupaudar	6638
	Total	114839
Saintala	Ampali	4128
Saintala	Belgaon	6743
Saintala	Bhadra	8066
Saintala	Budabahal	6707
Saintala	Deng	3923
Saintala	Dharapgarh	5054
Saintala	Dungripali	5429
Saintala	Gandapatrapali	5374
Saintala	Ghunsar	5794
Saintala	Jhinkidungri	4941
Saintala	Jurabandh	4960
Saintala	Kandhakilgaon	5416
Saintala	Kansar	4669
Saintala	Karamtala	8142

Saintala	Kermeli	4954
Saintala	Kuikeda	4222
Saintala	Kumbhari	5287
Saintala	Saintala	9298
Saintala	Siskela	5566
Saintala	Tikrapara	6102
	Total	114775
Titilagarh	Adabahal	4905
Titilagarh	Bandupala	9741
Titilagarh	Banjipadar	3964
Titilagarh	Bhalegaon	4659
Titilagarh	Bijepur	8682
Titilagarh	Binekela	5465
Titilagarh	Digsira	5527
Titilagarh	Ghantabahali	4118
Titilagarh	Ghodar	3531
Titilagarh	Jagua	7856
Titilagarh	Kholan	6896
Titilagarh	Kursud	6095
Titilagarh	Kuskela	2614
Titilagarh	Luthurbandh	4914
Titilagarh	Mahulpada	3663
Titilagarh	Manigaon	5449
Titilagarh	Marlad	3604
Titilagarh	Naren	4828
Titilagarh	Parasara	9016
Titilagarh	Sagadghat	4483
Titilagarh	Sihini	7429
Titilagarh	Siluan	3226
	Total	120665
Turekela	Badbanki	6287
Turekela	Baddakla	3073
Turekela	Buromal	5735
Turekela	Chatuanka	5275
Turekela	Chaulsukha	4256
Turekela	Dhamandanga	6876

Turekela	Dholmandal	2769
Turekela	Ghunesh	4070
Turekela	Halanbhata	3496
Turekela	Hial	6874
Turekela	Jharni	4311
Turekela	Kameimunda	3025
Turekela	Kandei	2733
Turekela	Karuanmunda	4154
Turekela	Khagsa	3339
Turekela	Kuibahal	3807
Turekela	Mahakhand	3408
Turekela	Mahulpati	3059
Turekela	Turekela	6234
	Total	82781
	Grand total	1453639

CHAPTER XII

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

Historical Background

During the reign of the Chauhan dynasty, Sanskrit education was greatly encouraged. King Vaijal Deva, one of the early Chauhan rulers of Patna, has compiled an admirable lexicon known as *Vaijal Chandrika* (also known as *Prabodha Chandrika*) which is highly acclaimed throughout India. Many poets and philosophers of repute also flourished in Patna state under the patronage of the Chauhan kings. The spread of education was, however, not very remarkable during the 18th and 19th centuries. Wandering teachers called *Abadhanas* were holding primary classes in towns and villages where they were teaching only reading, writing and arithmetic. The village Pathasalas were maintained by the villagers where the *Abadhanas* were being engaged for teaching. The influence of Western education came to be felt in this area towards the end of the 19th century A. D. It was in 1894 that an English School was started at Balangir by the then Maharaja Ramachandra and English education was introduced in 1891. By 1907-1908 there were one Middle English and one Middle Vernacular School in Balangir. The early part of 20th century witnessed appreciable progress in English education.

Education of SCs, STs, OBCs, Minorities And Women

Balangir district has a population of 16.49 lakhs as per 2011 census. The Scheduled Caste population is 294777(17.88%) and the Scheduled Tribe population is 347164(21.05%).

For educational development of ST & SC students the following numbers of School & Colleges are functioning in the district by the SSD Department, Government of Odisha:

1. Nos of HSS	01
2. Nos of Girl High School	02
3. Nos of Boys High School	04
4. Nos of Ashram School	19
5. Nos of Sevashram	09

10517 nos. of ST & SC students are perusing their studies in the above Schools.

Apart from providing free education to ST & SC students, the Government has also constructed many hostels in the district.

Now, 6436 nos. of ST & SC students are residing in the above hostels & pursuing their studies with Government fund.

Pre-Matric Scholarship & Post Scholarship are also being awarded to all SC/ST/SEBC & Minorities students of the district to uplift their status of education.

Gender and Inter-Caste Differences in Education and Measures to Address them

Problems of gender disparity and discrimination occur in relation to schooling. Achieving gender equality in and through education has been a long standing goal of educational policy of Government of India. Accordingly, several steps have been taken to provide educational facilities to all section of society. The gender concerns have been brought to the center stage of policy making prompting adoption of special measures for the education of the girl students in India. The demand for elementary education and schooling has considerably increased with an increase in female literacy which was lower in early decades has increased remarkably leading to an upsurge in enrollment of boys and girls.

As discussed above, education of SCs and STs, OBCs and Women have been given adequate importance by ST, SC development Department. Particularly for enrollment of girls, Girls' hostels have been set up in the district. Separate Girls high schools have been constructed with hostel facilities in the interior parts of the districts, so that more girls can be educated in the process.

Other Measures Educational facilities at different level

Almost all the revenue villages and habitation having adequate no of children (as per Govt.norm) are covered up by providing Schooling facilities. There are 2278 nos of Govt. aided Schools at Elementary level out of which 1301 are Primary and 977 are Upper Primary school with having 6220 teachers in position. A list of the position of education in Balangir district is given at the end of the chapter as Annexure I.

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan is the comprehensive and integrated flagship programme of Govt of India to attain universal elementary education.

Block Resource Centre (BRC)

In each block (BRC) one ABEO-cum-BRCC are in position to provide academic support, and to monitor different initiatives at schools point.

Cluster Resource Centre (CRC)

Each block (BRC) has been divided into 10/17 cluster areas taking 10/15 schools in one cluster. To provide academic support, monitor different initiatives at schools point, 204 Cluster Resource Centre Coordinator (CRCC) are in position against the requirement of 209 all over the district.

Free Text Book

Free Text books for students of Class-I to Class-VIII of all Government & Government Aided schools are provided through the TBPM, Bhubaneswar. MS & ME department enable itself to open selling counters in Balangir and Titilagarh BEO office for private school children. For the year 2015-16, 81% of total required NT books have been received and distributed at the school points.

Provision of Uniform

As an incentive to the student, there is a provision of two sets of uniform for all girls and SC, ST & BPL boys of Government Schools under SSA-RTE. The unit cost is Rs. 400/- per child for two sets of uniform. The funds will be released to School Management Committee for the distribution of school uniform.

Education of the Girl Students

Programme for Self Defense Training to Upper Primary School Girls is being conducted in 185 Nos. of schools. Through this training, girls are physically and mentally empowered to face the challenges in life.

ST/SC Education

SRUJAN is an integrated cluster based programme in which the community, children, teachers, tribal youths, field functionaries are to be actively involved. This is a concept drawn from the past experience and also from the ideas of National Curriculum Framework 2005, which connects the culture of the society with the culture of the school. This is basically a child friendly, community based, culturally supported teacher driven programme in which the activities are taken up to promote the creativity and talent of every individual child.

Activities

Art & Local Handicraft, Traditional Music, Song & Dance, One act Play, Elocution, Fancy Dress, Science Project, Math Mela are being organized and performed under this programme.

Kasturba Gandhi Balika Vidyalaya (KGBV)

The objective of KGBV is to ensure access and quality education to the girls of disadvantaged groups of society by setting up Residential Schools with boarding facilities at Elementary Level. During the year 2015-16, 1300 Nos. of girl students are enrolled in 13 Nos. of K.G.B.V. Hostels functioning in 13 Blocks of Balangir District (except Agalpur Block).

Trends and Growth of General and Technical Educational Institutions, Engineering and Medical Colleges

Balangir town was center of all educational institutions in the past and presently it has the same trend and is one of the educational hubs in the district. It has considerable numbers of High schools and colleges along with many English medium schools have come up in last fifteen to twenty years. In other parts of the district, in Patnagarh, Titilagarh, Kantabanji and Tusra, there are many English medium schools and Colleges functioning since long. Many such institutions in rural areas, particularly in Block headquarters have also been established. In rural set up, many Plus two colleges and Plus three Colleges have been opened with private endeavour and getting Government recognition at later stage.

Few Prominent Educational Institutions of the District

Rajendra College (Autonomous), Balangir

Rajendra Autonomous College is situated at an ideal site and owes its inception to the magnanimous philanthropy of late Rajendra Narayan Singhdeo, the then ruler of the erstwhile Patna State and later the Chief Minister of Odisha. The College was founded by him on 3rd July 1944. As the first College of Western Odisha it was affiliated to Utkal University with Intermediate of Arts and Commerce. It was upgraded to a Degree College in July 1946 with the introduction of BA (Pass) class. The institution attained the status of a full-fledged degree college after the affiliation of the B.Com class in 1964-65 and B.Sc. class in 1965-66. Since 1st January 1967 the College has been running under Sambalpur University. PG teaching started from the session 1978-79 in Commerce stream for the first time in Odisha.

The College was granted Autonomy for a period of 5 years w.e.f. 01.04.2002 by the U.G.C and it was extended subsequently. Since 2003-04 +2 Arts, Science is also running in Rajendra College Campus as Junior College. In Rajendra Autonomous College the students' strength is 1936. There are Honours in 16 departments viz. Hindi, English, Odia, Sanskrit, History, Economics, Political Science, Geography, Mathematics, Statistics, Physics, Chemistry, Botany, Zoology and Commerce and Self-financing honours in Computer Science. PG is opened in 7 departments such as History, Economics, Political Science, Botany, Zoology, Chemistry and Commerce. There are 65 teaching posts sanctioned by the government. The Library of Rajendra College is the biggest one in Western Odisha.

A study centre of IGNOU was opened on 01.10.1987 in the Arts Block of the College which was later shifted to New Commerce Block where it is running now. From this Centre Certified Diploma, Degree and Post Graduate courses are being offered. Now the student strength of Rajendra

Autonomous College Study Centre, IGNOU is 1500. The study centre for Odisha State Open University is also going to be opened soon.

There is a Guest House near Principal's Bungalow. Among the other facilities provided to the students are Dispensary, Canteen, Post Office, Students Information Bureau, facilities for photocopies (in the Library) etc. The dispensary is running from 10 AM to 1 PM on all working days. The College canteen time is 7 AM to 5 PM. Students information Bureau is operating in collaboration with the District Employment Exchange. The College provides facility to outgoing students on career counseling.

There are 3 Hostels for 294 men students and 51 women students. Ladies Hostel is situated in the staff colony with the strength of 51. The new Hostel accommodates 150 and PG Hostel 144 men students.

In the College NSS, NCC, Red Cross and Red Ribbon Club is running with success. There is also an upper Primary School in the College Campus which was started by the then Principal Md. Fakhruddin in 1985-86.

While opening the College in the year 1944, the founder of the college the then Patna Maharaja Rajendra Narayan Singh Deo envisioned to raise this to a University. From its initiation the College has been passing through various stages of development- the intermediate level, a degree College, a Post Graduate College to a lead College and at present it has become an Autonomous College.

Women's College, Balangir

The Women's College, Balangir was established in 1962. It provides education up to Graduation in Arts with subjects namely, History, Psychology, Economics, Home Science, Odia, Philosophy and English. There are 1473 students enrolled during 2014-2015 (700 from +2 wing and 773 from +3 wing) and the faculty strength is 26 including the Principal. There is hostel facility available for the students. Orissa Government took over the management of the college from 1st October 1965. Prior to this, it was a privately operated college.

Law College, Balangir

It was founded in 1982. It offers three years law programme (LLB) at under graduate level. Total students enrolled during 2014-2015 are 240 and total staff position is 15.

Jawaharlal College, Patnagarh

Jawaharlal College Patnagarh was established on 26th January 1964. The College provides honours teaching in English, Odia, Political Science, History and Economics in Arts and Physics, Chemistry, Computer Science, Botany, Zoology and Mathematics in Science for both boys and girls. The

team of faculty comprises of 37 teachers, 28 Administrative and 21 technical staff members. The College is affiliated to CHSE Odisha and Sambalpur University, Jyoti Vihar. It is also recognized under 2(f) and 12(B) of UGC. The College campus is sprawled over an area of 46.63 acres of land.

D.A.V College, Titilagarh- It is one of the oldest colleges in the district. It was established in 1968.

Bidya Bhusan Sanskrit College

George Sanskrit Toll was established in the year 1912. It was upgraded to Bidya Bhusan Sanskrit College in 1948 catering education from Prathama to Acharya. The first Principal was Madhaba Chandra Nanda in 1954. Eminent Professor like Ladukeswar Satpathy, Pandit Purna Chandra Tripathy had worked in this College. Later on Acharya classes were withdrawn and the College was separated from Prathama and Madhyama wing with Shastri Class at the top level. Prathama and Madhyama Branches are under School & Mass Education Department while the College comes under Higher Secondary Department at present.

Apart from these colleges, there are more than fifty plus two colleges and fifteen numbers of Degree colleges functioning in the district.

Technical Colleges One Engineering College namely, Sushree institute of Technical Education, Balangir is opened in Balangir town. Other Technical Institutions include Govt. ITI and Polytechnics. Many Private ITIs are also functioning in the district.

Medical College- One medical college is being constructed in Balangir with the help of Government assistance. This was a long pending demand of the public of the district which is finally going to be fulfilled.

Some Old and Prominent High Schools

Prithwiraj High School, Balangir

In the year 1892, an English Medium School was established by Maharaja Sri Ramachandra Dev. It was upgraded to a High School. The first batch of Matriculation appeared through M.R. High School, Sonapur and in 1917 the students of this school appeared the same through Sambalpur Centre under Calcutta University. The school was named after the then King Prithwi Raj Singh Deo who ruled over the Patna State from 1910 to 1924. The school is remarkable for facilitating female education even at that period of time.

Some eminent alumni of the School are as follows:

Air Marshall Saroj Jena, Matriculation, 1941

Naba Kishor Mishra, Speaker of Odisha Legislative Assembly, Matriculation, 1937

Kapileswar Prasad Mishra, Matriculation in 1921, Eminent Lawyer, 1st Minister from Balangir District to represent in 1948 in Orissa Cabinet

Ainthu Sahu, 1944

Muralidhar Guru, Matriculation in 1954, MLA and Minister of State, Orissa in 1977

Kishor Mohan Mishra, Matriculation in 1943, Additional Secretary to Government, Law Dept. Additional Judicial Commissioner, Goa, Daman, Diu. Member Additional Tribunal.

Balakrushna Behera, Matriculation in 1944, Secretary Law Department, Judge in Orissa High Court

Yudhisthir Mishra, Matriculation in 1934, MP, Member of Senate, Sambalpur University 1968-78, Vice-Chancellor Sambalpur University, Member of World Peace and Disarmament.

Krushna Chandra Panda, Matriculation in 1934, Member of Rajya Sabha

Ajit Kumar Tripathy, IAS, Matriculation in 1964, Chief Secretary

Dr. Srinibas Udgata, Recipient of Padmashree and Sarala Awatrd

Prof. Madhusudan Pati, Recipient of Atibadi Jagannath Award

P.P. Academy, Balangir

In the heart of Balangir town the school was established with Classes up to 6th. It was recognised in 1961 and the first batch appeared for Matriculation Examination in the year 1968. The School received Grant –in-Aid in 1964 and direct payment in 1974. It was taken over by the Government on 07.06.1994.

Late Chandra Sekhar Panda donated the land for the School, and was managing it for a long time.

Sri Sujit Dash passed Matriculation Examination from this school in 1976. He got Allied Service and now is employed in Defence Academy, Chennai.

Sri Rabi Narayan Nanda who passed his Matriculation in 1976 was the Minister of State in Education.

Govt. Girl's High School, Balangir

Govt. Girl's High School, Balangir was established in 1892. It caters to the need of girl's education in the district. At present the roll strength is 1093.

Students of this School like Madhuri Mehta (2004-05), Rosnara Parbin (2004-05) played cricket at National level representing the state.

Literary & Cultural Societies

Followings are some of the literary and cultural societies functioning in Balangir district. Some of these are very old societies believed to have been established in 1950s and 60s. These societies undertake and organize literary and cultural activities, and promote them as well.

1. Literary & Social Club, Balangir.
2. Atmaprakashani, Balangir.
3. Rangakara, Balangir.
4. Koshal Kalamandal, Balangir.
5. Ladies Club, Balangir.
6. Zilla Lekhaka Parishad, Balangir.
7. Bhumika, Balangir.
8. Nataraj Kala Parishad, Balangir.
9. Pancham, Balangir.
10. Lok Utsav Committee, Balangir.
11. Ashok Chandan Smruti Trust, Patnagarh.
12. Sahitya Sanskruti, Titilagarh.
13. Radharani Sanskrutika Parishad, Balangir.
14. Sur Mandir, Balangir.
15. Tulasi Natak Kala Parishad, Balangir.
16. Sur Jhankar, Balangir.
17. Dulduli Kala Parishad, Balangir.
18. Purna Chandra Ratha Smruti Trust, Balangir.

Literary Periodicals and Magazine

Periodical magazines are published in the district such as Patana Dipika (Patna State Gazette), Chaturanga, Tikisipahi, Bagulia, Hakua, Abhyudaya.

Eminent poets and writers have been awarded at national level as well as state level for their outstanding performance and contribution to literature and society. Some of them may be mentioned here:

1. Dr. Srinibash Udgata has been awarded with Padmashree and Sarala award. He has been awarded Padmashree for his work 'Bidya bachaspati'
2. Prof. Madhusudan Pati has been awarded Odisha Sahitya Academy Award (Atibadi Sahitya Samman).
3. Sri Natya Bhushan Jagadananda Chhuriahas been awarded Sarala Award and Sahitya Academy Award. Apart from this Following eminent personalities have been awarded for their best performances
4. Sri Manoj Panda(Story Writer) Sarala Awardees(Barna Bagicha)

5. Guru Ghasiram Mishra- Paschima Odisha Sanskruti sammana/Odisha and award from cultural department Odisha.
6. Sri Banchha Nidhi Pattnayak- Odisha Culture Department Award
7. Sri Khetrabasi Nayak- Kendra Sahitya Academy Yuba Award(Dadan)

Annexure I

Education in Rural / Urban Areas of Balangir District										
Sl. No.	Categories of School / Colleges	School / Colleges			Teachers / Lecturers			Enrollment		
		Govt.	Private	All	Govt.	Private	All	Govt.	Private	Total
1	Primary	163	36	168	331	112	34	808	32	840
2	Middle	516	26	542	246	116	25	565	68	576
3	Secondary / Higher Secondary	14	286	30	88	1887	19	224	0	3871
4	Colleges (Gen. Education)	5	50	55	61	597	65	241	6	1075
5	Colleges (Diploma)	0	1	1	0	30	8	2	0	131
6	Colleges (Tech. Degree)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	68
		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	425
		0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

CHAPTER XIII

MEDICAL, PUBLIC HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

Public Health and Medical Facilities in Early Times

Ayurvedic and other indigenous systems of treatment were being practiced in the district in the past and the ex-rulers of Patna were patronising the Ayurvedic system. The practitioners were called Baidyas or Kavirajas. During the rule of Maharaja Ramchandra Singh Deo and Dalganjan Singh Deo of ex-Patna State (from 1870-1910) there were many well-known Kavirajas notable among whom were Bhartdari Behera, Narayan Dash and Dinabandhu Behera. These three were being regarded as Raj-Baidyas or State Kavirajas.

An Ayurvedic College was set up by the Ex-rulers in 1941 for imparting education up to the degree of Ayurvedacharya in the George Sanskrit Tol, Balangir. Ayurvedic pharmacy was introduced in 1945 and a branch Ayurvedic dispensary at Bangomunda was opened in 1946-47. An Ayurvedic garden at mount Harisankar was raised with rare medical herbs.

Apart from Ayurvedic system of cure, the people were practicing magic cure with the help of witch doctors. This practice is rapidly being discontinued due to the impact of modern culture and general awareness.

The Western system of Allopathic treatment was introduced in the ex-Patna when it was under the administration of Court or Wards (1871-1893). In 1907 there was an Allopathic Dispensary at Balangir, a description of which is given by Cobden Ramsay, "There is a fine dispensary at headquarters with excellent accommodation for males and females and a separate Ward for low caste patients. The institution is in charge of an Assistant Surgeon and Civil Hospital Assistant and is well found with surgical instruments and Medicines". The dispensary at Titilagarh was started in 1913 and that of Patnagarh in 1914. In 1921 the dispensary at Tusra started functioning. In commemoration of the Silver Jubilee of King George V an X-Ray and Electro-therapy institution was established in September 1937. By that year Balangir town alone had three medical institutions, viz. (a) General Hospital, (b) X-Ray and Electro-therapy, and (c) Maharani Kailash Kumara DCI Maternity Ward. There were four other dispensaries in ex-Patna State located at Tusra, Patnagarh, Belpara and Titilagarh. In 1938 two more institutions- Palace dispensary and Leprosy Hospital at Loisinga were started. In addition to these, there were two maternity and child welfare centres at Belpara and Patnagarh and two leprosy clinics at Balangir and Patnagarh.

CHAPTER XIII

MEDICAL, PUBLIC HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE

Public Health and Medical Facilities in Early Times

Ayurvedic and other indigenous systems of treatment were being practiced in the district in the past and the ex-rulers of Patna were patronising the Ayurvedic system. The practitioners were called Baidyas or Kavirajas. During the rule of Maharaja Ramchandra Singh Deo and Dalganjan Singh Deo of ex-Patna State (from 1870-1910) there were many well-known Kavirajas notable among whom were Bhartdari Behera, Narayan Dash and Dinabandhu Behera. These three were being regarded as Raj-Baidyas or State Kavirajas.

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Present Health Service Scenario in Balangir District

The health system in Balangir district functions scheme-wise such as 1. Public Health, 2. Medical, 3. Family Welfare & Immunisation, 4. Leprosy, 5. TB and 6. Malaria with wing offices designated as Asst. District Medical Officer(Medical), Asst. District Medical Officer(FW & Immn.), Asst. District Medical Officer (PH), District T.B. Officer, District Leprosy Officer and District Malaria Officer over all under the control of the Chief District Medical Officer as Head of the Programmes.

Initially the Health Infrastructure of undivided Balangir District was consisting of one District Headquarters Hospital (DHH), three Sub-divisional Medical Officer (SDH) and twenty Primary Health Centre (PHC) and Govt. Hospital at Tusra, Harishankar, Kantabanji and Gambhari. After the separation of Subarnapur District from Balangir, there remained 01 District Headquarters Hospital, 02 Sub-Divisional Hospital, 15 CHCs. Later on, the system has been developed by upgrading Sector Health Centres (SHC) as PHC (New) in 44 nos. and PHCs as Community Health Centre in 15 nos. with sanction of Specialist Posts, enhancement of beds, strengthening of staff position with mobility support.



District Headquarters Hospital, Balangir

The total demography and infrastructure of the medical and public health service in the district are appended at the end of the chapter as Annexure I.

I. Public Health Activities

During 1970-80, the Public Health Programme was supervised by the Asst. District Med. Officer (PH) for the undivided district of Balangir, supported by two Food Inspector ,i.e. Balangir Head quarter and SDH, Titilagarh, MPHS(Male),MPHW(Male)Sanitary Inspector, Vaccinators Senior Helper , disinfecter etc.

Two Medical Officers designated as one Asst. Health Officer for undivided district and one Municipal Medical Officer for Balangir Municipality were looking after the sanitation, food and other health activities. The main objectives of the scheme were control of epidemic, outbreaks, surveillance and Registration of Birth and Death.

(i) Programme on Prevention and Control of Outbreaks

That during the period 1970-80, there was no electricity in the distant villages and there was also no communication to the remote villages of the undivided district. Taking into account all the difficulties, public health staffs were covering and complying at the remote areas to control any outbreak during rainy season, floods. During the period undivided district was full of forest. The employees had to walk, due to lack of transport facilities.

The field staffs were engaged in disinfection, sanitation work and also were facilitating welfare programmes. In between 1992-2000, the post of ADMO (PH) was re-designated as ADMO (PH.Mal/Fil/Lep) and supervising the programme of Public Health, Malaria /Filaria and Leprosy.

(ii) Programme on Food Safety & Standard Act (FSSA)

The existing Prevention of Food Adulteration act 1954 has been replaced by Food Safety and Standard act 2006 & regulation 2011 during the year 2012 in Odisha. Accordingly, the post of Food Inspector has been re-designated as Food Safety Officer. Later on out of two post of Food Inspector, the post of Titilagarh has been abolished. Now the present Food Safety Officer is manage both of Balangir and Subarnapur districts. The ADMO (PH) of the district has been declared as the Designated Officer, Food Safety of this district. The main rule and objective is the monitoring of 'food safety' and create awareness among the public regarding 'food Safety' and 'safe drinking water' through IEC activities and enforcement. Besides this Public Health wing is also monitoring the quality of MDM, Chatua under Emergency Feeding programme randomly through sample surveillance and awareness.

(iii) Drinking Water Supply & Sanitation

Although supply of drinking water is the primary responsibility of RWSS, the health department also remains vigilant as this is absolutely essential for prevention & control of many water borne diseases. Analysis of supply water is done regularly for chlorination by the health staffs. During rainy season and outbreak the health staffs also do chlorination of tube wells and dug wells as people use the same for domestic purposes.

In addition to the sanitation activities done by RWSS the health department undertakes few activities to strengthen the system. During rainy season an amount of Rs.250/- is spent for cleaning purposes in the village

on every Saturday under Gaon Kalyan Samiti (GKS). Under MDD (Malaria Dengue Diarrhoea) Campaign mass cleaning is done in health institutions and school premises etc. Public awareness on sanitation is also created through IEC (Information Education Communication) and BCC (Behavior Change Communication) at regular interval.

(iv) National Iodine Deficiency Disorder Control Programme (NIDDCP)

The National Goiter Control Programme (NGCP) 1964 is replaced by National iodine Deficiency Disorder Control Programme (NIDDCP) during the year 1989. The Public Health wing is monitoring IDD control programme, the ADMO (PH) Balangir is designated as Nodal Officer, IDD and the Food Safety Officer is working under her supervision. The main objective of the programme is to reduce the IDD prevalence rate in the district through IEC to monitor mass awareness for use of iodised salt and surveillance of iodine content through sample testing by the Food Safety Officer at State Public Health Lab.

(v) National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP & COTPA)

During the year 2003, the Public Health wing was also entrusted to monitor the Tobacco control Programme. The ADMO (PH) is working as Nodal Officer, COTPA and the Food Safety Officer working as supported staffs. Recently Balangir district has been selected as a special district for Tobacco control programme, and simultaneously different manpower going to be posted. The main objectives of the programme is to control the use of 'Tobacco & Cigarette' through IEC activities and enforcement. In addition to our staffs, other designated officials are also entrusted in this programme in enforcement. During 2013, another act was introduced namely 'Ban of pan masala added with Tobacco and Nicotine as ingredients' which has also being monitored by the public health wing supported by Food Safety Officer under supervision of ADMO(PH).

(vi) District Blindness Control Programme (DBCS)

The District Blindness control programme was introduced in the district under the supervision of ADMO (PH) to control curable blindness and also to organize regular eye camps at the different areas of the district. Some NGOs, Missionaries Hospitals were also involved in conducting extra capsular surgery with I.O.L. in Hospitals with O.T. facilities, as per guideline.

(vii) School Health Programme

The School Health Programme under Public Health scheme was supervised by the School Medical Officer who was visiting the school in undivided district in regular interval for better health care of school children. But presently the post of School Medical Officer is abolished.

(viii) Odisha Health System Development Project (OHSDP)

The Odisha Health System Development project (OHSDP) was introduced in the district during the year 1999-2000. Under the programme manpower was recruited at different institution and infrastructure work was developed in this district. Besides this logistics were provided to strengthen the health system in the district. Two building for ANM training centres at Loising and Kholan, Three eye ward each at SDH, Patnagarh, Titilagarh and DHH, Balangir were built by OHSDP funds, in which now O & G,OT ward is presently functioning under supervision of newly created post of Add. Chief District Medical Officer, Balangir.

One Medical Officer with Mobile Health Team under Public Health scheme was functioning for better surveillance and access to remote areas when required. Later on RLTA programme, Mobile Health units (14 nos) were introduced in all CHCs, which were functioning till 2014 and re-designated as RBSK(Rastriya Bala Surakshya Karyakarma).

(ix) Integrated Diseases Surveillance Programme (IDSP)

Previously, the public health wing was accountable for prevention & control of communicable diseases like diarrhoea, hepatitis etc. After 1999 super cyclone the Odisha multi diseases surveillance system (OMDSS) was formulated which took care of prevention and control of eleven diseases of public Health importance like Diarrhea, dysentery, malaria, jaundice, measles ,encephalitis etc .till 2004.Then it was replaced by Integrated Diseases Surveillance Programme during the year 2004,which is still continuing, under the supervision of ADMO(PH)as Nodal Officer. Recent development of the programme is that, supporting staffs have been recruited with One Data Manager and DEO with latest IT facilities. Besides, one Epidemiologist is there to assist in the programme.

The main aim and objectives of IDSP is to establish a decentralized district-based system of surveillance for communicable and non-communicable diseases so that timely and effective public health actions can be initiated in response to health challenges in the urban and rural areas. The IDSP deals with 20 epidemic prone diseases .The grass root level workers collect the data which are compiled, analyzed and transmitted to high levels in a regular weekly manner. The main objectives of IDSP remain surveillance and prevention & control of outbreaks. It is intended to detect early warning signals of impending outbreaks and help initiate an effective response in a timely manner.

There is an epidemic cell functioning round the clock at District Head Quarter throughout the year and similarly for a specific period the control rooms are functioning at CHC levels. Rapid Response Team (RRT) have been constituted at all levels starting from District to block levels. Recently keeping on view of water borne diseases, water quality monitoring is being done regularly at all areas by way of sample testing with OT & H2S test kit.

One integrated public Health Laboratory is going to function shortly for facilitation of the public health work.

(x) National Programme for Prevention and Control of cancer, Diabetes, Cardiovascular Diseases and Stroke (NPCDCS)

India is experiencing a rapid health transition with a rising burden of Non Communicable Diseases (NCDs) like cancer , diabetes, cardiovascular disease, stroke, etc which cause significant morbidity and mortality both in Urban and Rural Population, with considerable loss in potentially productive years (aged 35-64 years) of life. There are some common potential and preventable risk factors for NCDs. They are tobacco consumption, alcohol intake, bad dietary habits, sedentary life style etc.

The Government of India launched a flagship programme called the national Rural Health Mission (NRHM) in 2005 with the objective of expanding access to quality health care to rural populations by undertaking architectural corrections in the institutional mechanism for health care delivery. The NCD programme presently designated as NPCDCS aims at integration of NCD interventions in the NRHM framework for optimization of scarce resources and provision of seamless services to the end customer / patients for ensuring long term sustainability. The National Programme for Health Care of Elderly has also been integrated with this programme. NCD cells have been constituted at various levels in 2013. Balangir has one District NCD cell and 17 reporting units situated at sub divisional and CHC levels. The ADMO (PH) is the Nodal Officer with a supportive staff consisting of Epidemiologist, Finance cum Logistic Officer, Programme Assistant, Data entry operator. There is a NCD complex including one 6 bedded ICU, 10 bedded Geriatric Ward in the Hospital Premises. The main aim & objectives of the programme are:

1. Prevent and control common NCDs through behavior and life style changes,
2. Provide early diagnosis and management of common NCDs,
3. Build capacity at various levels of health care for prevention, diagnosis and treatment of common NCDs,
4. Train human resource within the public health setup viz doctors, paramedics and nursing staff to cope with the increasing burden of NCDs,
5. Establish and develop capacity for palliative and rehabilitative care.

Massive screening of population above 30 years of age, Pregnant Women, TB Patients and School Children is being conducted regularly.

Year	No. of Persons Screened	No. of persons found with Random Blood Sugar more than 140 mg/dl	No. of persons found High Blood Pressure with Systolic more than 140 mmHg and diastolic more than 90 mmHg
2011-12	54531	4638	386
2012-13	207404	14572	7233
2013-14	452187	19962	11866
2014-15	61666	4713	2712
2015-16	38887	2774	2489

38 nos of Cancer patients have been referred to AHRCC, Cuttack for better treatment. 577 nos of patients have been treated in ICU and 656 nos of patients have been treated in 10 bedded Geriatric Ward at NCD complex till July 2015. 3151 nos of physiotherapy patients treated and 10996 nos of patients have been counseled. For IEC activities Multi Colour Printed Tin sheet showing 10 different messages regarding Diabetes, CVD, Stroke and Health Care of Elderly have been distributed to all medical institutions in Balangir district. Different Health Days World Hypertension day, World Diabetes day, International day for Elderly and National Cancer Day have been observed at District level for public awareness.

(xi) Treatment of Terminal Diseases

The seriously ill patients are treated in the six bedded ICU situated in the hospital premises. As many of these patients are in their terminal stages the treatment is done meticulously with specially trained doctors and staff nurses. There is an attached Oxygen Plant (Main-fold System) to supply oxygen round the clock. All life saving medicines with equipments are kept ready to save the life of a patient.

(xii) National Urban Health Mission (NUHM)

As the NRHM was dealing with the Rural Population, a new project, the Urban Health Mission was initiated during the year 2015 to catch up the urban slum population. The aims and objectives are fundamentally similar to NRHM. The recruitment of Mahila Arogya Samiti (MAS), ASHA, ANM have already been completed. ADMO(PH) is the Nodal Officer for the programme. Two numbers of Urban PHCs are proposed to function in this urban slum area of Balangir. The weekly Urban Health & Nutrition Programme(UHND) has also already been started in the Urban sub centre level.

(xiii) Vital Statistic Programme (VS)

In the year 1969, Birth & Deaths Rule was framed in India. Previously the registration of Birth and death was registered at Municipality / NACs for Urban areas and at local Police Station for Rural areas. They forwarded the detail report to the District Health Office, for compilation. But during 1984 it was functioned at CHC/PHCs level for rural areas and Municipality / NACs for urban areas. They were submitted their report to the District Office. The District vital Statistics section of PH. wing supported by one Statistical Investigator, one Statistical Assistant, one V.S. clerk and every registration units supported by one V.S. Clerk each, under the supervision of ADMO(PH). Now to facilitate the onwards transmission of Birth and Death report through IT system, a Data Processing Assistant (DPA) has been posted in this programme. The brief data on registration of Birth and death is as follows:

Year	Birth			Death			Infant Death		
	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total	Urban	Rural	Total
2010	21736	12090	33826	1923	9471	11394	234	711	945
2011	21495	12931	34426	1977	9161	11138	319	610	929
2012	22342	11428	33770	2223	10014	12237	461	565	1026
2013	17407	11103	28510	2287	9513	11800	403	373	776
2014	20608	11551	32159	2340	10079	12419	285	343	628
2015(till Aug)	6667	3988	10655	1663	4063	5726	39	118	157

(xiv) District Mental Health Programme (DMHP)

The proposal for implementation of various tertiary level care and other related activities to be undertaken under the National Mental health Programme (NMHP) during the 12th plan year plan period include inter-alia, Manpower Development Schemes, Information Education & communication (IEC) activities, Training support for the State Mental health authorities. In this context the District Mental Health Programme has been started in 2007 at Balangir district supported by Seven members of technical team consisting of a Psychiatrist/ Program Officer, Clinical Psychologist/ Psychologist, Psychiatric Social Worker/ Social Worker, Psychiatric Nurse/ Trained Nurse, Community Nurse, Record Keeper, Case Registry Assistant for providing secondary level Mental Health care at district level. The main aim & objectives of the programme are to develop special technique and expertise & Neurological procedures and standardize the practice in the district, to develop quality of human resource in the field of Neurosurgery in the district, to develop inter-departmental co-ordination for activating research and project such as head injury, Oncology, Neurobiology, the neurosurgery would begin by catering to Neurological patients from the adjoining areas and could progress to become a zonal referral centre., to organize periodic trainings for DMHP teams in clinical and managerial skills

to help them and understand common mental disorder, treatment plans, to generate awareness on Mental Illnesses, treatment, removal of stigma associated with the disease and dissemination of information on the legislative provision by different IEC activities.

Patient Figure of Mental OPD & IPD at District Headquarter Hospital, Balangir for the Year 2012-15

Sl. No	Name of the diseases.	2012		2013		2014		2015		Total	
		OPD	IP D	OPD	IP D	OPD	IP D	OPD	IP D	OPD	IP D
1	Anxiety	36	15	57	0	84	59	21	15	198	89
2	Bipolar Disorder	42	3	84	4	110	9	66	5	302	21
3	Dementia	1	0	9	0	11	1	7	2	28	3
4	Depression	32	0	25	0	38	4	13	14	108	18
5	Epilepsy	39	21	40	31	37	32	23	16	139	100
6	Mental Retardation	21	0	35	0	31	0	19	0	106	0
7	Neurosis	134	0	127	16	149	32	61	17	471	65
8	OCD	21	0	25	0	23	0	15	1	84	1
9	Psychosis	241	41	239	52	330	84	191	37	1001	214
10	Schizophrenia	44	9	69	4	85	11	45	2	243	26
11	Subs Used Disorder	21	0	32	3	25	4	14	4	92	11
12	Child Mental Health Problem	2	0	2	0	6	0	0	0	10	0
13	Other	329	0	363	0	273	82	109	7	1074	89
	New Patients	963	89	1107	110	1202	318	584	120	3856	637
	Old Patients	2224		2554		3144		846		8768	0
	Total Patients	3187	89	3661	110	4346	318	1430	120	12624	637

(xv) National AIDS Control Programme in Balangir District

National AIDS Control Programme (NACP) was started in Balangir district during 2002 with a motive to prevent & Control HIV/AIDS by educating the people. That programme includes District Programme Manager, District AIDS Prevention & Control Unit (DAPCU), District ICTC (Integrated Counseling & Testing Centre) Supervisor, Monitoring & Evaluation Assistant, Programme Assistants, Counselors, Laboratory Technicians with Assistant District Medical Officer as Nodal Officer/ District AIDS Control Officer (DACO) and Chief District Medical Officer as Head of the programme.

Ongoing Activities / Facilities under NACP in Balangir District

District AIDS Prevention & Control Unit (DAPCU)	-	01
Integrated Counseling & Testing Centre (ICTC)	-	15
Facility based- ICTC	-	03
Anti Retroviral Therapy Centre (ARTC)	-	01
Designated STI/RTI Clinic (DSRC)	-	02
(Sexually Transmitted Infection (STI), Reproductive Tract Infection (RTI))		
Targeted Intervention (TI) Project for Male having Sex with Male (MSM) and Female Sex Worker (FSW)	-	01
Targeted Intervention + (TI+ Pehchan) for MSM	-	01
Community Support Centre (CSC) for PLHIV	-	01

The client infected in Human Immune deficiency Virus (HIV) is being identified in ICTC and they are being registered at Anti Retroviral Therapy Centre located at Balangir for free ART Treatment.

1. Special focus is being given to the area where migrated labourers returning to their villages after a long period by conducting special health camp for them.
2. DAPCU led single window model on social protection scheme for People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLHIV), Most at Risk Population (MARP) & Children affected by AIDS (CABA) is being implemented.

II. National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP)

Leprosy was highly prevalent in Balangir district prior to the implementation of National Leprosy Eradication Programme (NLEP). Due to its successful implementation in 1983 and introduction of MDT (Multidrug Therapy) thereafter in 1991, the Prevalence Rate of Leprosy (case per 10000 population) has come down from 138 (March 1991) to 2.66 (March 2015). NLEP was a vertical programme until 2003 when it was integrated with the General Health Care System.

Year-wise Status of the District

Component by 31 st March	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
New case Detection	447	476	782	733	982	650
Release from treatment (RFT)	449	502	638	691	714	837
Cases under Treatment	257	225	362	395	645	457
Prevalence Rate (PR)	1.71	1.49	2.37	2.39	3.68	2.66
Annual New Case Detection Rate (ANCDR)	29.90	31.52	51.20	44.47	56.09	37.90
GII disability Proportion	1.11	0.42	1.53	0.27	2.74	1.69
Female Proportion	28.85	27.52	32.22	29.46	25.66	25.07
Child Proportion	8.05	6.93	6.26	8.45	5.80	6.92

Objectives:

The salient objectives of the programme are as follows:

Decrease the burden of leprosy, Early case detection, Prompt and improved case management, Prevention and reduction of disability burden by strengthening the DPMR (Disability , Prevention and Medical Rehabilitation) services, Reduction in stigma, Involvement of all health care personnel, Intensive IEC (Information Education & Communication).

Programme

In Balangir district three institutions were functioning with a goal to eliminate/eradicate the disease i.e.to reduce the burden. They were LEU (Leprosy Eradication Unit) at Titilagarh, Loisingha and MLCU (Modified Leprosy Control Unit) at Patnagarh.

In 2011 all the independent units were merged and currently a single institution is functioning as District Leprosy Office in Balangir Headquarter. The District leprosy officer is supported by District Leprosy Consultant (DLC) and Physiotechnician (PT). At block level either PMW (paramedical worker for leprosy) or the general health care staffs are managing the programme.

All the ASHAs in the district were trained and they are getting an incentive of Rs.850 for (MB type) and Rs.650 for (PB type) of leprosy. Their services are utilised to suspect the cases, early referral to treatment centers and treatment follow up.

Traditionally RCS (Reconstructive Surgery) of deformities in Leprosy was being conducted in specialised hospitals in the country but now such surgeries are performed in this District Headquarter Hospital with the support of surgeons, general OT staff and physiotechnician. Till date 110 numbers of cases were already operated in our institution since 2011. Moreover a sum of Rs.8000/- are paid to each RCS patients in 3 installments.

Apart from the IEC/BCC and routine efforts, Special drives like Intensive Case Detection Drive (ICDD) or Block Leprosy Awareness Campaign (BLAC) was introduced in high endemic blocks of the district since 2010-11 in phase manner. Besides detecting the undetected cases, the benefit of ICDD have enduring affect on awareness about Leprosy, reduce the stigma in society through IEC, healthy contact examination and involvement of GKS in the process.

Vision

The immediate goals of the programme (by March 2017) are

To reduce the burden of the disease(PR to less than 1 per 10000 population), Reduction of new G- II disability cases by 35% and Reduction of

stigma. But the ultimate goal is to realize Leprosy free status for the people of the district.

III. National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP)

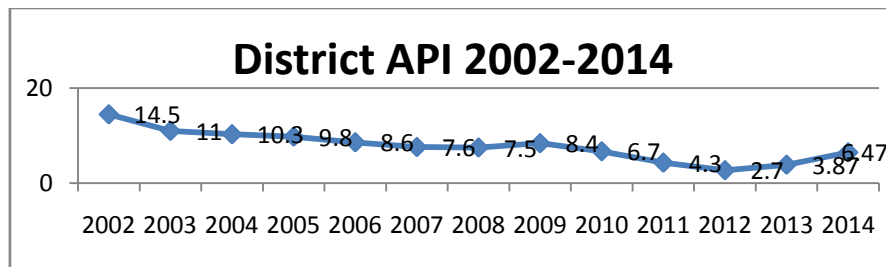
National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme (NVBDCP) is the nodal agency in the district to deal with the vector borne diseases such as Malaria, Filariasis, Dengue, Chikungunya, Japanese Encephalitis and Kala-azar.

This Programme is headed by the District Malaria Officer under the administrative control of Chief District Medical Officer, Balangir. In the State level, the Programme is headed by Joint Director of Health Services (NVBDCP), Odisha. The National Directorate is headed by the Director, NVBDCP which act as the nodal agency in programme planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation and policy formulation in the country. The programme has been implemented in the different parts of the country as per the disease endemicity. Orissa being an endemic state to malaria, the Malaria programme under NVBDCP has been run in the district in the support of Externally Aided Agency Support to the programme of the state time to time.

In 2009, additional man power support has been given to the district in the form of Malaria Technical Supervisor (3 nos) and Sentinel Site Technical Coordinator (3 Nos) to map the malaria endemicity in the district and to assist in the disease. Further in 2012 the malaria programme in the district is further assisted by support of human resources like District VBD Consultant, Finance and Logistics Assistant and Data entry Operator along with increase in strength of Malaria Technical Supervisor.

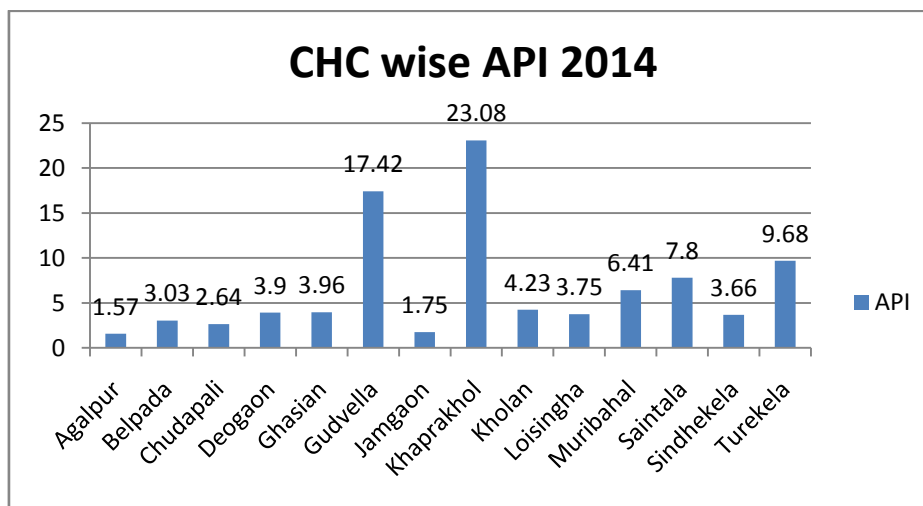
The Malaria Programme is evaluated by an indicator 'Annual Parasite Incidence' which was calculated out by taking into consideration nos of malaria positive cases detected in 1000 population of the district.

The year wise analysis of API in Balangir district is as follows.



It indicates that the trend has been declined till 2012 and now it has been upsurging. The reason behind the present increase is the use of

bivalent RDK which covers both Pv and Pf cases of the village level and now in each village level the Fever Treatment Depo has been functional and run by the ASHA. The CHC wise status is as follows:



The dengue was 1st reported in the district in 2011 and the vulnerable status of the district is as follows:

Dengue Vulnerability Areas 2015	
CHC	Sub Center
Agalpur	Salebhata, Duduka, Rengali, Bharsuja , Jharnipali
Chudapali	Sadeipali, Dangarda, Sakma , Kudasinga, Chandanbhati
Deogaon	Jarasingha
Gudvela	Ghuna, Nuapada
Jamgaon	Chatamakhana, Chatapipal, Bubel, Atgaon
Loisingha	Kusang, Jogisarda; Loisingha

IV. Revised National Tuberculosis Programme (RNTCP)

History

Prior to launching of Revised National Tuberculosis Control Programme in Balangir District National TB Control Programme was in place. The NTP was started in 1963 in India & continued till the launch of RNTCP in a phased manner in different districts of Odisha.

Human Resources

DTO, Asst. Surgeon TB Clinic, Radiographer, Health Visitor (M), Laboratory Assistant, Treatment Organiser. One mobile team was there to visit field & conduct Montoux test in < 5 year children.

All PHC & PHC (N) were acting as Treatment point. DTC OPD was functioning twice a day. In morning patients give sputum & in the afternoon pt given treatment after X-ray was done in MMR. In undivided Balangir district treatment & diagnostic facility available in 20 blocks.

Treatment Pattern

Patients are given monthly medication by opening a card in which address, x-ray finding, sputum result, date of receiving medicine is recorded.

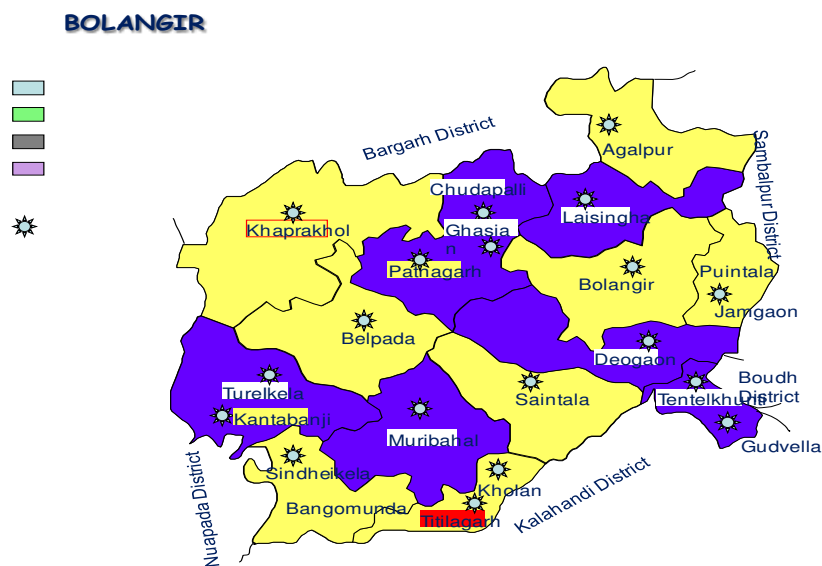
If a patient does not turn up for medicine one letter was issued & if no response Health visitors were visiting to retrieve them.

Starting of Programme (RNTCP)

RNTCP Launched in Balangir District in 22nd January 2004. Balangir was divided into 4 Tuberculosis Unit & 18 Designated Microscopy Centre. All health staffs were trained in a phased manner. Upgradation of laboratory in all DMC is done.

Infrastructure

DTC (District TB Centre) – 1, TU (Tuberculosis Unit) – 6, DMC (Designated Microscopy Centre) – 18, PHI (Peripheral Health institute) – 59 DP (DOTs Provider) – 1673



Human Resources

HUMAN RESOURCES

Name of the post	Sanctioned	In position	vacancy
DTO	1	1	0
MOTU	4	4	0
STS	6	4	2
STLS	4	3	1
TBHV	2	2	0
Accountant	1	1	0
LT	4	2	2
District PMDT & TBHIV Coordinator	1	1	0
DEO	1	0	1
DPC	1	0	1
PPM Coordinator	1	0	1



Diagnosis

Diagnosis of TB patients is done as per diagnostic algorithm. For each Chest symptomatic two sputum samples (One Spot & one morning) is tested. If found positive treatment as sputum Positive TB is done, If samples are negative then decision taken after Chest X-ray & Clinical finding. In Extra-pulmonary cases other investigations like FNAC, Histopathological study are done. In paediatric cases Montoux test is done.

All TB patients are sent to ICTC, & for RBS testing.

MDR TB is diagnosed by sending Sputum for culture to ATDT Cuttack (IRL).

Treatment pattern

Two categories of treatment – CAT I & CAT II For MDR patients CAT IV & CAT V for XDR patients are provided. For each patients of TB two treatment cards are prepared. One original kept at DMC & another duplicate kept with DP. Another third card is kept by the Health worker of that area.

Patients are getting medicine (freely) from trained DOTs Providers. Directly Observation of Treatment (DOTs) is the mainstay of the treatment Any person in the community who is acceptable, accessible & accountable except family member of the patient can be a DOTs Provider (DP), Prior to starting of medicine for MDR pts they are sent to DOTs Plus Site (VSS MC Burla) for pre evaluation & treatment initiation.

Objective

1. To achieve and maintain 90% cure rate among sputum positive case
2. To achieve 90% sputum positive case detection from the community after achieving the 1st objective.

Description

For diagnosis the following activities are done

- a. Functioning of good quality laboratory (Binocular microscope)
- b. Training to all health staff on R N T C P
- c. To train AWW\ASHA and community volunteers for functioning as a DOTs providers
- d. To reach un-reachable area for diagnosis and treatment of all TB patients
- e. To monitor good quality of DOTs and sputum follow-up
- f. Conduct I E C activities at different level like community, P R I member, students etc.

Present Development

1. From 4 TB unit to 6 T U.
2. From June 2013 the Programmatic Management of Drug Resistant TB is running successfully
3. TB-HIV cross referral and H I V testing of T B patients has increased from 52% to 92%
4. Honorarium is provided to DOTs provider on regular basis
5. Fund reimbursement to M D R TB patients.
6. On-line NIKSHYA entry of all T B patients
7. Involvement of private practitioner/register health establishment on TB notification
8. Liaisoning and networking with related departments(ESI, Railway, Jail hospital, Ordinance factory)
9. All ASHAs trained on R N T C P.

Physical Achievement

	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015 (upto June,15)
Total case load	2291	2211	1940	2014	1062
Total No. of NSP	825	768	742	719	395
Total No. of NSN	746	747	543	572	239
Total patient cured	766	726	674	344 (upto 2Q 14)	
Total patient treatment completed	1220	1235	1016	529 (upto 2Q,14)	

RNTCP is running successfully in our district achieving the target that is set smoothly. With the launching of PMDT programme & recently supplied LED microscope & with the help of NRHM, DAPCU, NCD the programme is expected to 'achieve reach all & treat all' objective.

Other Medical Activities

(i) Central Store

There is a Central store located inside the DHH Campus which distributes medicines to all Health Institutions of Balangir District. The Central Ware House keeps the stock of all essential Medicines & consumables to meet any emergency. Further the store distributes medicine during Health Camps in the District. State Drug Management Unit, Odisha supplies the medicine to Central Ware House for distribution to all the Health Institutions of the District Concern.

The ADMO (Med), Balangir is the Store Medical Officer of the District supported by 1 Technical Store Keeper, 1 Pharmacist & 1 System-in-charge.

(ii) Rogi Kalyan Samiti

The Rogi Kalyan Samiti, Balangir was registered under District Registrar of Societies, Balangir from 18.11.2006. There is one Governing Body under the chairmanship of Collector & one Executive Body under the Chairmanship of CDMO, Balangir. There are total 36 members in the Governing Body with all MLAs of the District, Local MP, Zilla Parishad President, Block Chairman, PRI members & others. There are total 14 members in the Executive Body with the line agencies & in house members for execution of works for the decisions of the Governing Body.

The RKS takes decisions for development of the Hospital & patient welfare.

(iii) Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY)

RSBY is a Government sponsored scheme for the BPL population of India. The majority of the financing, about 75 percent, is provided by the Government of India (GOI), while the remainder is paid by the respective state government. Government of India's contribution is 90 percent in case of North-eastern states and Jammu and Kashmir and respective state Governments need to pay only 10% of the premium.

RSBY has been launched by Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India to provide health insurance coverage for Below Poverty Line (BPL) families. The objective of RSBY is to provide protection to BPL households from financial liabilities arising out of health shocks that involve hospitalization. Beneficiaries under RSBY are entitled to hospitalization coverage up to Rs. 30,000/- for most of the diseases that require hospitalization. Government has even fixed the package rates for the hospitals for a large number of interventions. Pre-existing conditions are covered from day one and there is no age limit. Coverage extends to five

members of the family which includes the head of household, spouse and up to three dependents. Beneficiaries need to pay only Rs. 30/- as registration fee which amount shall be used for incurring administrative expenses under the scheme.

(iv) Biju Krushaka Kalyan Yojana

Odisha lives in its Villages and farmers are its backbone. They toil hard to feed the nation. They suffer in silence and when they are affected by ailments and diseases, pay heavy economic, social and emotional price. The most important and major cause of our farmers falling to poverty trap is the financial hazards and deprivation that health related expenses bring to them. Biju Krushak Kalyan Yojana is brought in as a tribute to the Farmers and their families to provide them health security. It is an earnest effort to provide them financial support through health and accident insurance as a part of the commitment of the welfare state. Rural Odisha houses 83% of the total population of the state. One of the major insecurities for rural populace and farmers is absence of health cover for such farmers and their family members. Insecurity relating to absence of health cover, heavy expenditure on medical care and hospitalization and recourse to inadequate and incompetent treatment is not only a social and psychological burden borne by these populace but there are significant economic costs resulting from loss of earning and progressive deterioration of health. Thus, with a view to providing health insurance cover to farmers in the Rural Odisha and their families, the Government of Odisha has announced the 'Biju Krushak Kalyan Yojana'.

(v) BMW at DHH, Balangir

The Bio-Medical Waste Management is at work since 2012 in DHH, Balangir. It is done by an outsourcing agency since 2013. The agency follows all the statutory guidelines at the time of handling of BMW & submits the reports on daily basis. The ADMO (Med) is the Nodal Officer for District Headquarters Hospital, Balangir and ADMO (PH) is the Nodal Officer of BMW of all health institutions of Balangir District.

The DHH, Balangir has its authorization for handling of BMW till 31.03.2018.

(vi) Pathology Department, DDH, Balangir

Pathology department started in 1968 at Old T.B. Building. There was no Pathologist, only Hematology like D.C., M.P., TLC, HB %, ESR, Routine and Microscopic examination of Stool & Urine were done by two Lab. Technician. One Pathologist was posted since 1974 when chemical test like Blood Sugar, Syrum Uria, Syrum Creatinin etc. were introduced. In 1985

Pathology was shifted to Blood Bank building which consisted of seven Lab. Technician in addition.

QBC machine was installed to detect malaria parasite by WOCD in 2004. 80 to 100 QBC are tested every day. A semi auto analyzer was supplied in 2006 which taking care of all chemical tests. Now ELISA and CBC machine are supplied by Public Health which are going to function very soon.

(vii) Odisha Red Cross Blood Bank, Balangir

Odisha Red Cross Blood Bank, Balangir started functioning from 10th October, 1968 in its own building. Staff position includes Blood Bank Officer I/C, Laboratory Technician, Counsellor, Clerk, System Support Engineer, Attendant and Sweeper. It is well-equipped with all modern instruments and equipments. Test methods involve Five mandatory tests done by ELISA (HIV, HCV, HBs Ag, VDRL & Malaria). Dist. Collector & Magistrate and Chief District Medical Officer act as the Chairman and Vice-Chairman of the Managing Committee respectively. Emergency Officer, Collectorate works as the Secretary and the Blood Bank Officer is entrusted with convening the various plans and programmes of the organization.

Family Welfare Activities

India launched the National Family Planning Programme in 1951 with the objective of reducing the birth rate to the extent necessary to stabilize the population at a level consistent with the requirement of the National economy. The Family Welfare Programme in India is recognized as a priority area. The approach under the programme during the First and Second Five Year Plans was mainly 'Clinical' under which facilities for provision of services were created. However, on the basis of data brought out by the 1961 census, clinical approach adopted in the first two plans was replaced by 'Extension and Education Approach' which envisaged expansion of services facilities along with spread of message of small family norm. In the IV Plan (1969-74), high priority was accorded to the programme and it was proposed to reduce birth rate from 35 per thousand to 32 per thousand by the end of plan.

The objective of the V plan (1974-79) was to bring down the birth rate to 30 per thousand by the end of 1978-79 by increasing integration of family planning services with those of Health, Maternal and Child Health (MCH) and Nutrition, so that the programme became more readily acceptable.. The name of the programme also was changed to Family Welfare from Family Planning.

In the VI Plan (1980-85), certain long-term demographic goals of reaching net reproduction rate of unity were envisaged. The Family Welfare Programme during VII five year plan (1985-90) was continued on a purely voluntary basis with emphasis on promoting spacing methods, securing maximum community participation and promoting maternal and child health care.

The Universal Immunization Programme (UIP) was launched in 1985 to provide universal coverage of infants and pregnant women with immunization against identified vaccine preventable diseases and extended to all the districts in the country.

The approach adopted during the Seventh Five Year Plan was continued during 1990-92. For effective community participation, Mahila Swasthya Sanghs (MSS) at village level was constituted in 1990-91. MSS consists of 15 persons, 10 representing the varied social segments in the community and five functionaries involved in women's welfare activities at village level such as the Adult Education Instructor, Angan Wadi Worker, Primary School Teacher, Mahila Mukhya Sevika and the Dai. Auxiliary Nurse Midwife (ANM) is the Member-Convenor.

From the year 1992-93, the UIP has been strengthened and expanded into the Child Survival and Safe Motherhood (CSSM) Project. It involves sustaining the high immunization coverage level under UIP, and augmenting activities under Oral Rehydration Therapy, prophylaxis for control of blindness in children and control of acute respiratory infections. Under the Safe Motherhood component, training of traditional birth attendants, provision of aseptic delivery kits and strengthening of first referral units to deal with high risk and obstetric emergencies were being taken up.

To impart new dynamism to the Family Welfare Programme, several new initiatives were introduced and ongoing schemes were revamped in the Eighth Plan (1992-97). Realizing that Government efforts alone in propagating and motivating the people for adaptation of small family norm would not be sufficient, greater stress has been laid on the involvement of NGOs to supplement and complement the Government efforts. Reduction in the population growth rate has been recognized as one of the priority objectives during the Ninth & Tenth Plan period. The strategies are:

- i) To assess the needs for reproductive and child health at PHC level and undertake area specific micro planning.
- ii) To provide need-based, demand-driven, high quality, integrated reproductive and child health care reducing the infant and maternal morbidity and mortality resulting in a reduction in the desired level of fertility.

Family Planning

(i) Contraceptive

The National Family Welfare Programme provides the following contraceptive services for spacing births:

- a) Condoms
- b) Oral Contraceptive Pill
- c) Intra Uterine Devices (IUD)

Whereas condoms and oral contraceptive pills are being provided through free distribution scheme and social marketing scheme, IUD is being provided only under free distribution scheme. Under Social Marketing Programme, contraceptives, both condoms and oral pills are sold at subsidized rates.

Copper-T

Cu-T is one of the important spacing methods offered under the Family Welfare Programme. Cu-T is supplied free of cost to all the States/UTs by Govt. of India for insertion at the PHCs, Sub-Centers and Hospitals by trained Medical Practitioners/trained Health Workers.

The earlier version of Cu-T 200 'B' (IUDs) has been replaced by Cu-T 380-A from 2002-03 onwards which provides protection for a longer period (about 10 years) as against Cu-T 200 'B' which provided protection for about 3 years only.

Emergency Contraceptive Pill (ECP)

ECP was introduced under Family Welfare Programme during 2002-03. The emergency contraceptive is the method that can be used to prevent unwanted pregnancy after an unprotected act of sexual intercourse (including sexual assault, rape or sexual coercion) or in contraceptive failure. Emergency Contraceptive is to be taken on prescription of Medical Practitioners.

(ii) Terminal Method

Under National Family Welfare Programme following Terminal/Permanent Methods are being provided to the eligible couples.

- A) Tubectomy
 - i) Mini Lap Tubectomy
 - ii) Laparoscopic Tubectomy (Laparoscopic sterilization is a relatively quicker method of female sterilization.)

B) Vasectomy

i) Conventional Vasectomy

ii) No-Scalpel Vasectomy

It is one of the most effective contraceptive methods available for males. It is an improvement on the conventional vasectomy with practically no side effects or complications. This new method is now being offered to men who have completed their families. The No-Scalpel Vasectomy project is being implemented in the country to help men adopt male sterilization and thus promote male participation in the Family Welfare programme.

(iii) Reproductive and Child Health (RCH)

RCH-II (1st April 2005) Aim: 1. Reduction of IMR, MMR and TFR, 2. Increase of CPR and Immunization coverage. Goals: 1. Reduction of decadal growth to 16.2% (2001-2011) 2. Reduction of IMR :<30/1000 live birth by 2010, 3. Reduction of MMR to <100/100000 live births by 2010, 4. Reduction of TFR to 2.1 by 2010, 5. Increase CPR to 65%, Immunization Coverage to 100%, ANC to 89% & Rural Institutional deliveries to 80%.

Objectives of RCH II

Immediate objective: Improve Routine Immunisation - Reduce the Unmet need for Contraception - Provide an integrated Service delivery for basic Reproductive & Child health Care. Medium Term Objective: Bring TFR to Replacement level by 2010. Long term objective: Population Stabilization

RCH-II: Flagship programme under NRHM launched on 1st April 2005, Special focus under RCH-II: 1. Essential obstetric care: - Institutional delivery - Delivery by SBA 2. Emergency Obstetric Care: Operationalizing FRU - PHC 24 x 7 delivery services 3. Essential Newborn Care / Care of the sick Newborn

Components of RCH II

Population stabilization, Maternal health, IMNCI, Adolescent health, Control of RTIs/STIs, Urban health & Tribal health. Main streaming gender and equity • Intersectoral and donor convergence • Behavior Change Communication (BCC) • Public Private Partnership (PPP) • Monitoring, Evaluation and Health Management Information System • Community Participation • Procurement and Logistics.

New Interventions

1. Basic Em Obstetric Care (BEmOC) 2. Comprehensive Em Obstetric Care (CEmOC) 3. Facility based Newborn Care 4. Janani Suraksha Yojna 5. Janani Sishu Suraksha Karyakram 6. Village Health & Nutrition Day (VHND) 7. Integrated Management of Neonatal & Childhood Illness (IMNCI)

RMNCH+A:

1. This is a comprehensive strategy for improving the maternal and child health outcomes, under NRHM, 2. It is based on the evidence that maternal and child health cannot be improved in isolation as adolescent health and family planning have an important bearing on the outcomes. 3. This strategy encompasses various high impact interventions across the life cycle.

Over these years expected level of achievement (ELA) in respect of various components of RCH of implementation is assessed to meet the unmet need. The impact of the programme can be judged from the following

		2001	2011	2013-14	2014-15
	Indicators	BALANGIR	BALANGIR	BALANGIR	BALANGIR
1	Birth Rate (per 1000 Population)	23	19	18	19
2	Infant Mortality Rate (per 1000 Population)	101	45	37	39
3	Maternal Mortality Ratio (per 1 lac birth)	308	287	199	168
4	Institutional Deliveries % age	53	86	89	92
5	Couple Protected by any modern method.	39	41	42	46

demographic indicators.

(iv) National Rural Health Mission (NRHM)

National Rural Health Mission (NRHM) was launched in 2005. It is playing a vital role in different health activities. Various programmes are running under this scheme like Family planning, immunization, Maternal health, Child Health etc. The primary objective of the programmes under the health system is to reduce the maternal and child death in the district and also reduce the birth rate. High improvement occurred in case of Institutional deliveries after launching of NRHM and its Janani Surakhya Yojna scheme (JSY). Under the JSY scheme the rural beneficiaries are getting Rs. 1400/- and urban beneficiaries are getting Rs. 1000/- after delivery only at the facility (DHH/SDH/CHC/PHC /OH/SC).

In the recent few years some health indicators reflect that the health scenario has been improved after the launch of NRHM scheme. There are some major health indicators as given below that reflect the status of the health system in a wide sense.

(v) Janani Sisu Surakshya Karyakram(JSSK)

1. Total 14 designated institutions identified for JSSK scheme
2. Manpower are positioned in 14 designated institutions as per mandate to provide 24x7 service
3. Scheme implemented from 1st November'11
4. 3 months buffer medicine stock are available at designated institutions
5. Cashless delivery ensured in above institutions

(vi) Vaccination Programme (Immunisation Activities)

A Programme was launched by UNICEF during 1990-92 for immunization under the name of Universal Immunisation Programme (U.I.P). The objective of this programme was to protect the under five children from six vital diseases like Tuberculosis, Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, Tetanus, Polio and Measles. Every Monday and Wednesday have been selected as Immunisation day when all the children avail their due doses of vaccination at all the health institutions including the Sub-Centres.

Cold Chain Rooms are constructed at every CHC, Sub-Divisional and District Level for proper storage of the vaccines.

(vii) Introduction of AYUSH

Govt. of India has introduced the AYUSH services through NHM for better health care delivery in rural area i.e. in CHCs, PHCs and through MMT.

(viii) Sick Neonatal Care Unit (SNCU)

A well equipped SNCU is functioning in this district since 24.06.2012 consisting of 13 nos. of Radiant Warmer, 06 nos. of Phototherapy Units, Oxygen Concentrator, Infusion Set etc. There two trained Medical Officers and ten trained Staff Nurses who are working round the clock. It has 12 beds which takes care of both in-borne and out-borne babies. There is significant improvement in survival of pre-term and pre-mature (low birth weight) babies due to this facility.

(ix) MCH Complex

The construction of MCH Complex aiming to take care of mother and children inside the District Headquarters Hospital Campus is in progress with estimated cost of Rs.1571.80 Lacs. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Odisha had laid the foundation stone of the project on Dt. 29.01.2013. The expected date of completion of project is 31.12.2015. The Complex will be having 125

bedded consisting of ANC wards, PNC Wards, SNCU, ICU, Labour Room, Paediatric ward & DEIC.

(x) Medical College

The proposed Medical College is under construction at Chantiapalli, Balangir on an area of 27.047 acres. The foundation stone was laid done by Hon'ble Chief Minister, Odisha on dated 30.08.2015. The work has already been started by Saporji & Palonji Pvt. Ltd. with a budget of Rs.187.29 Crore & expected to be completed by the end of March, 2017. This will definitely promote the health care service system of Western Odisha.



D.W.S.M (District Water Sanitation Mission)

From 1999 a demand driven approach under the total sanitation campaign (TSC) lunched which emphasized on Nirmal Gram Puraskar (NGP) through the DWSM, Balangir. In this programme financial incentives were provided to Below Poverty Line (BPL) house hold for construction & usages of IHHL.

The Nirmal Bharat Abhiyan (NBA)

The successive programme of Total Sanitation Campaign (TSC) started from 2012. Under NBA the incentives for IHHL were enhanced in convergence with MGNREGA. To accelerate the effort to achieve universal sanitation coverage, the Swachha Bharat Mission Gramin SBM(G) lunched on 2nd October,2014 with objectives of improving the quality of life of people as well as improving the level of cleanliness in rural area through SLWM (Solid Liquid Waste Management) activities and making Gram Panchayat Open Defecation Free (ODF).

The details of works executed / taken up by RWS&S Division, Balangir

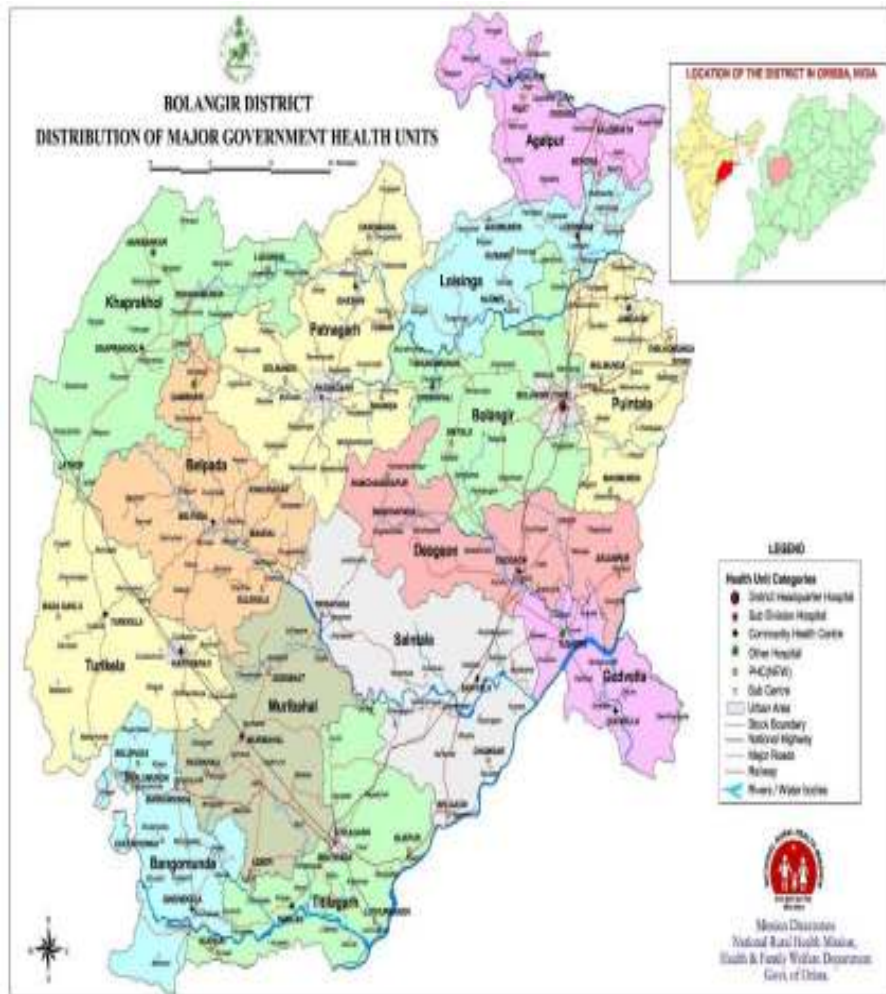
and DWSM, Balangir in the district are as follows:

1. Total nos of PWS (Pipe water supply) commissioned: 462
2. Total nos of ongoing PWS: 38
3. Total nos of spot sources: 19297
4. Total nos of new scheme during 2015 -16: 56

D.W.S.M

1. IHHL Completed: 12906

Public Health Department, Balangir Division provides drinking water in two Municipal areas of Balangir and Titilagarh, and in three notified area council of Patanagarh, Kantabanji and Tusra. In these towns, drinking water is provided through house connections and stand posts.



Annexure I
Demography

1	Area Covered	6575 Sq km
2	Total Population (as Census 2011)	1648574
	Male	831349
	Female	817225
3	Child Population	
	0-1 Year Child	34151
	1-6 year Child	172813
	Male	106090
	Female	100874
4	No of Village	1792
5	No of Block	14
6	No. of GPs	285
7	Density of Population	251
8	Sex Ratio	983/1000 Male
	Total Literacy Rate	65.50%
9	Male Literacy Rate	77.08%
	Female Literacy Rate	53.77%
10	Natural Growth Rate	10.6
11	Crude Birth Rate (CBR)	21.1
12	Crude Death Rate (CDR)	10.5
13	Maternal Mortality Rate (MMR)(Dist-Data)	198/100000
14	Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) (Dist –Data)	45/1000
15	Couple Protection Rate (CPR)	48
16	No. of Eligible Couples	304978
17	TFR	2.4

Health Infrastructure

1	No of District Hospitals	1
2	No of Sub-divisional Hospital	2
3	No of CHC	15
4	No of CHCs with Building	15
5	No of CHCs Selected for up-gradation to IPHS Standard	15
6	No of CHCs with Specialists	15
7	No of CHCs where Facility Survey is completed	8
8	No of FRU Declared	5
9	No of FRU working	3
10	No. of PHC(Sector Level)	42
14	No of PHC with 3 staff Nurses	0
15	No of PHCs with upgraded OT	0
16	No of CHCs with upgrade OT	10
17	No of institutions undertaken 24 X 7	8
18	Mobile Health Unit in Position	28
19	No of Private Hospitals Accredited Under JSY	2
20	Postpartum Centre	4
21	No of S/C	226
22	No. of Immunization point	954
23	No. of Other Hospitals	2
24	No of Sectors	50
25	No of S/C in Govt. Building	86
26	No. of A.N.M. Training Schools	1
27	No. of District Training Unit	1
28	No. of Ayurvedic Hospitals	1
29	No. of Homoeopathic Hospitals	0
30	Total No of ASHA the District	1346

CHAPTER XIV

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY ORGANISATION

Political Parties and Organizations and Pressure Groups

After independence, the first General Election under the constitution of India was held in 1951-52. The major political parties participated in the General Elections were (1) Indian National Congress (2) Praja socialist Party and (3) Ganatantra or Swatantra Party. These Parties contested General Election held in 1957 and in midterm election held in 1961. In 1967 General Election three parties contested for Election i.e. Indian National Congress, Swatantra party and Jana Sangha. In 1971 General Election Indian National congress, Swatantra Party are the main parties contested for Election. In General Election of 1977, a new party called Janata party was formed and contested election with Indian National Congress. Janata Dal came to power in centre. In 1980 General Election, Congress-I party under the leadership of late Indira Gandhi was formed and contested election with Janata Party. Congress led by Indira Gandhi won and formed the government at centre. In 1980 Assembly Election in Odisha, Congress led by Indira Gandhi won with majority. In the Assembly Constituencies of Balangir, Congress –I won in many seats. After the sad demise of Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi on October 31st of 1984, General Election was held and Indian National Congress came to power in centre as well as in assembly Elections of 1985. In the General Election of 1989 and Assembly Election of 1990, Janata Party won the Lok Sabha seat and few assembly seats respectively. In 1991 General Election for Lok Sabha, many seats were own by Indian National Congress. In 1995 assembly election, though Indian National congress came to power still few assembly seats were retained by Janata Party. In General Election to Lok Sabha held in 1996 Sri Sarat Patnaik of Indian National Congress won the Balangir Lok Sabha seat. Smt. Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo of Bharatiya Janata Party emerged winner for Balangir Lok Sabha seat in the the Election held in 1998, 1999 and 2004. Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo of Biju Janata Dal won Lok Sabha seat for Balangir in the General Election held in 2009 and 2014. In the Assembly Election, since 2000, Biju Janata Dal is the major party in the district which won in majority of seats in the election.

From above, it can be seen that Biju Janta Dal, Bharatiya Janata Party, and Indian National congress are the leading political Parties in the district for the last fifteen years.

Apart from the said political parties, there are different organizations in the district that influence political parties and government officials to achieve their interest. These organizations may be small or big. These are the

organized group of people fighting for common interest. Presently, such organized groups are seen in villages and towns of the district. Even for very smaller issues, they influence the administration to make their problem solved. Quite common are road blocked carried out by few organized people due to any accident or, farmer's death; protest by member of Women Self help Groups for closure of liquor shop in village, and non-availability of rice or other commodities under public distribute system due to inefficiency or negligence by government officials. These groups work like a pressure group to exert pressure techniques on administration for taking quick decisions.

Pressure Groups

The presence and role of specific Pressure Groups augment and supplement the role and purposes of the political parties. They are part of the wider political process. The pressure groups do not themselves want to form the Government, but they try to influence the decisions of the Government. Thus, every pressure group has three elements:

1. An organized group of people
2. The common interests
3. Exercise influence on the decisions of the Government

In short, the pressure groups cause the legislators, or ministers or bureaucrats to act in a particular way by offering arguments or employing other techniques as the case may be.

It may be pointed out that the 'pressure groups' is a term applied to those interest groups (e.g., Trade Unions like the I.N.T.U.C. and the C.I.T.U.) who use different pressure tactics including extra-Constitutional methods (dharna and gherao) to pursue their goals.

Following are the few pressure groups in the district on different issues.

1. BarAssociation, Balangir: Balangir Bar Association along with other organization is demanding and organizing protests for creation of High Court Bench in the district since long, Zilla Adivasi Kalyan Sangha: It seeks intervention of Government on issues related to tribals of the district. Major issues are action against persons employed in Govt Job by obtaining fake caste certificate, issues related to Tribal land and others, Zilla Krushak Mahasangha: It demands intervention of Government over various issues of famers in the district, Koshal Ekta Manch is demanding a separate Koshal state in the district, Balangir Action Committee: It demands early completion of Lower suktel irrigation project and seeks intervention of Government for payment to displaced persons, Citizen Committee, Balangir: It seeks

intervention of district administration in solving the various problems of the town like regular supply of electricity and water in the town of Balangir. Apart from this, Opposition political parties in town also put forth various issues for solution by the Government.

General and Assembly Elections

The First General Election under the Constitution of India took place in 1951-52. Since then General Elections held in 1957, 1961(mid-term), 1967, 1971, 1974 (Assembly Election), 1977, 1980, 1985, 1989, 1990 (assembly Election), 1991, 1995(Assembly Election), 1996, 1998, 1999, 2000(Assembly Election) 2004, 2009, and 2014.

Balangir Lok Sabha constituency

It is one of the 21 Lok Sabha (parliamentary) constituencies in Odisha. Before delimitation in 2008, the legislative assembly segments, which constituted this parliamentary constituency, were:

Titilagarh, Kantabanji, Patnagarh, Saintala,Loisinga and Balangir. Following delimitation, at present this 10-Balangir constituency comprises the following legislative assembly segments:Birmaharajpur , Sonapur Loisingha , Patanagarh , Balangir , Titilagarh , Kanatabanji .

Out of the above, Birmaharajpur and Sonapur assembly constituencies are in Subarnapur district. Rest constituencies are in Balangir district. Noted that Loisingha Assembly Constituency is reserved only for Scheduled Caste candidates.

General Election-2014

Simultaneous General Election to Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha 2014 held in the district on 10th APRIL 2014. Kalikesh Narayan Singhdeo of Biju Janata Dal won the Balangir Lok Sabha seat defeating his nearest rival Smt. Sangeeta Kumari Singhdeo of Bharatiya Janata Party by a margin of 104,229 votes. Following is the Constituency wise results in the district.

Sl No	Name of the constituency	Name of the candidates	Votes polled
1	66-Loisingha	1. Jogendra Behera , BJD 2. Pranab Chandra Kumbhar, INC	64346 (W) 41,486
2.	67-Patanagarh	1.Kanak ardanSingh Deo,BJP 2. Prakruti Devi Singh Deo, BJD.	74,372(W) 60,719
3.	68-Balangir	1.Nrasingha Mishra INC 2. Ananga Udaya Singh Deo, BJD	61,730(W) 49,476
4.	69-Titilagarh	1.Tukuni Sahu, BJD 2.Surendra Singh Bhoi, INC	71,858(W) 57,836
5.	70-Kantabanji	1. Ayub Khan, BJD 2. Santosh Singh Saluja, INC	55,252(W) 51,384

List of Members of Parliament of 10- Balangir PC since 1962:

1. 2014: Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo, Biju Janata Dal
2. 2009: Kalikesh Narayan Singh Deo, Biju Janata Dal
3. 2004: Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo, Bharatiya Janata Party
4. 1999: Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo, Bharatiya Janata Party
5. 1998: Sangeeta Kumari Singh Deo, Bharatiya Janata Party
6. 1996: Sarat Pattanayak, Indian National Congress
7. 1991: Sarat Pattanayak, Indian National Congress
8. 1989: Balgopal Mishra, Janata Dal
9. 1984: Nityananda Mishra, Indian National Congress
10. 1980: Nityananda Mishra, Indian National Congress
11. 1977: AinthuSahoo, Janata Party
12. 1971: R.R. Singh Deo, Swatantra Party
13. 1967: R.R. Singh Deo, Swatantra Party
14. 1962: Hrushikesh Mahanand, Ganatantra Parishad (Later Swatantra Party)

Civil society organization and their functioning

Civil society Organizations (CSOs) are private, non profit distributing, self-governing, voluntary organizations. Many such organizations are working in the district. These may be distinguished in five main types of Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) viz. religious, community based, philanthropic, expert groups and trade unions.

Followings are the religious Civil Society Organizations working in the district Aurubindo Yoga Mandir, Yuga Nirman -GayatriParivar , Arya Samaj Divine life Society , Brahma Kumaris , Satya Sai SevaSanstha , Chinmaya Mission (fields of intervention are education, health, emergency relief and basic assistance (food, clothing, shelter etc.) Community based organization are also found in large number in the districts of which can be listed here Brahmin Mahasbha , Yadav Mahasabha , Agharaia Mahasabha , Khandayat Mahasabha, Zilla Karan Samaj Mahasabha , Lakshyaghar Ganada Samaj , Baisya Tilak Mahasabha , Kulta Mahasabha , Binjhal Mahasabha ,. Dumal Mahasabha

Another type of civil society organizations found in the districts are the trade unions, which are labour and worker society associations operating in the district to promote their interests.

Few of them are as follows Shramika Adhikar Mancha, Balangir , Badhei O Mistry Sangha Patnagarh , Biswakarma Raj Mistry Sangha , All India Central Council of Trade Unions, Bhubaneswer.

NGOs and their Activities

Many registered NGOs are working in the district. They are independent bodies engaged in philanthropic activities in the district. Few NGOs are expertise in the matter of Rural Development, Forest and Environment, Agriculture, Watershed and Health sector.

A non government organization is an organization that is neither a part of the Government nor a organization of profit business. NGOs may be funded by Government, foundations or private persons. NGOs are highly diverse group of organizations engaged in wide range of activities. There are many non-Government Organizations registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860.

Newspapers and Periodicals such as Patana Dipika (Patna State Gazette), Chaturanga, Tikisipahi, Bagulia, Hakua, Abhyudaya etc. are regularly published in the district.

Adult Literacy Activities

The Saakshar Bharat Programme was launched at National Literacy Mission Authority New Delhi on 8th September 2009. In Balangir District it was launched on 1st January 2011.

The Programme has been functioning at village level and G.P.level. There are 356219 numbers of illiterate in our district as per the survey report. In this regard 20613 numbers of Volunteer Teachers were selected for providing education to them without honorarium on voluntary basis. The Zilla Sakshyarata Abhijan Samati have been supplying the teaching and learning materials to the learners from time to time.

There are 570 numbers of Loka Sikshya Kendra Preraks appointed in 285 G.Ps along with 14 Block Co-ordinators and four District Co-ordinators have also been appointed for monitoring the performance of the Volunteers Teachers and Loka Sikshya Kendra Preraks. The honorarium fixed by the National Literacy Mission Authority New Delhi is Rs. 2000/- for per Prerak and Rs. 6000/- for per Co-ordinator for monitoring and supervision of the Volunteer Teachers and Lokasikshya Kendra Preraks.

In the mean time 5 Model Adult Education Centre have been opened in this District at following places.

Sl. No	Name of the Block	Name of the G.P
1	Balangir	Sibtala
2	Puintala	Gaintala
3	Loisingha	Burda
4	Deogaon	Singhamunda
5	Saintala	Ghunsar

Two neo learners assessment tests are being held each year during March and August. Accordingly, 9 numbers of assessment tests have already been conducted till date and 181590 illiterates have been made literate till August, 2015.

List of Registered Trade Unions issuing Certificate of Employment to construction workers for registration as beneficiaries under Odisha Building & Other Construction Workers Welfare Board in Balangir district

Sl. No.	Name & Address of the registered Trade Union	Registered No. & Date	Name of the Authorized Member
1	Odisha NirmanShramika Sangha, AITUC Officed, 3R/156, Unit 9 Road No2, Bhubaneswar	1027-CTC, 07.08.2013	Sri Ramakrushna Panda
2	All India Central Council of Trade Union (A.I.C.C.T.U) A-13 NagabhusanBhawan, Ashok Nagar Bhubaneswar	15.05.2008	Sri BanbihariBehera
2	Odisha Forest, Wood, Agriculture and Building construction workers Union Affiliated to A.I.T.U.C, Qr No.-3R/156, Unit-9, Road No-2, Bhubaneswar-751022	473-CTC, 27.04.1995	Sri Bibhudatta Mishra
4	Odisha KrushiEbamGraminaMazdoor Sangha, DattatryaBhawan, Plot No-D/476, Sector-8, CDA, Cuttack-14, Odisha	654CTC, 13.12.1998	Sri Arun Kumar Sahu Sri Siba Narayan Putrohit
5	ShramikaAdhikar Mancha, AT-Kapsipali, Po-Odiapali, Via-Khaprakhol, Dist.-Balangir, Pin-767028		Sri Raghunath Rana
6	Badhei O Mistry Sangha Patnagarh, At-BiswakarmaMandap, Po-Patnagarh, Dist-Balangir	325-SBP	Sri Sunil Kumar Goel
7	Biswakarma Building Construction & Wood Worker Union 5 RF-1, Unit-3, Road Bhubaneswar Affiliated with I.N.T.U.C and INBCWWF	489-CTC-1995, 14.07.1995	Sri Krushna Chandra Sahu
8	Odisha NirmanMazdoor Sabha Affiliated to Hind Mazdoor Sabha and BWI, Qrs No-VA-8/1, Unit-2, Bhubaneswar-751009, Odisha	851/CTC, 19.10.2006	Sri Gokul Rana Smt. Malabika Mishra
9	Biswakarma Raj Mistry Sangha Ghuchepali, Agalpur, Dist- Balangir	330/SBP, 19.08.2014	Sri Narayan Sahu

CHAPTER XV

PLACES OF INTEREST AND TOURISM

Agalpur

Agalpur is a big village situated on the bank of river Ang with a population of 4,237 according to 2011 census. It is now the Tehsil Headquarter of Agalpur tehsil. It is 50 kilometer from Balangir. A straight road connects this village with Salebhata, another village of the same tehsil on Balangir-Baragarh route. The village was earlier a Zamindari under ex-Patna state. The Zamindari was abolished in the year 1952 under Estate Abolition Act, 1951.

Atgan

The village is located in the Balangir police station, 10 kilometer to the south-east of Balangir. It was the seat of a Zamindari, the Chief of which belonged to the Kondh tribe. In 1937 the Zamindari of Atgan consisted of 79 villages with an area of 66 square mile excluding reserved and protected forests.

The population of the village according to 2011 census was 1830. It is now a Gram Panchayat Headquarter endowed with a High School and Revenue Inspector's office. Atgaon comes under Puintula Block and newly created Puintula Tehsil.

Bairasar

A village in Balangir police-station, 18 kilometer from Balangir on Balangir-Sonepur Road. It is a junction for many villages of both Balangir and Subarnapur district. On the road is situated an Inspection Bungalow under National Highway Department. The Population of this village is recorded 815 according to 2011 census.

Badmal

The place is situated on Saintala-Titilagarh road. It assumes its significance for setting up of an ordnance factory. Late Prime Minister Smt. Indira Gandhi laid the foundation stone of this Factory on October 29th 1984. The factory is situated with a spread of 12,200 acres encompassing hills & hillocks with forest clad surroundings. The vision of setting up a huge ammunition factory dedicated to manufacture of medium and heavy calibre ammunition has brought this backward region of KBK belt of Orissa to lime light. The project was sanctioned in 1989. Today, this factory is one of the youngest fully operational ordnance factories of India in the Ordnance Factories family. The factory has a sprawling residential area of 2,360 acres for a very well planned colony of 1541 quarters and having 1770 acres of

reserve forest. It boasts of a water reservoir named Dumberbahal Water Reservoir, considered to be the pride of the project. It has an area of 1539 acres which supplies water to the Factory.

Badmal is located at a distance of 20 km from Titilagarh Railway Junction of East Coast Railways. Keeping in view the importance of the ordnance factory, a railway station in Badmal has also been made functional with stoppages for Express and Superfast trains. Balangir district headquarter is 50 km away from the factory. Entire factory area is covered with dense forest and is declared a restricted zone with a long 28 kilometer perimeter wall under tight security.

Bangomunda

A village in Titilagarh Sub-division located thirty Kilometer north-west of Titilagarh connecting Sindhekela, Kantabanji, and Khariar in Nuapada District. Bangomunda road is also connected with Muribahal. The village comprised mainly of Adivasi families and was the seat a Zamindari under ex-Patna State. Bangomunda is a Block and Tehsil headquarter, with other Government offices. Population of Bangomunda according to 2011 Census is 5,759.

Belpara

It is a village with a police-station at a distance of 23 kilometer south-west of Patnagarh on Patnagarh-Kanatabanji Road. It is a meeting place of various roads; different roads from here lead to Turekela, Kantabanji, Deogaon, Patnagarh and Khaprakhol. Situated on the north bank of the river Lanth, the village comprises mainly of Bhulia (weaver) population. It has a Block office and a Headquarter for Tehsil. A privately run High School, a College, a Hospital and a Rest House are located here. It is a big village with population of 9454 according to 2011 census and is considered one of most populated villages in Balangir district. Many urban characteristic features are found here as it is developed to be a growing business center. Bhulia caste population are mostly business class people in the village. The village Goddess Barabhai Lanth is widely revered and worshipped in this area.

Balangir

The existence of Balangir dates back to 16th century. It was an obscure village till 1871 when the Court of Wards administration during the minority of the then Ruler Ram Chandra Deo III shifted the capital from Patna-garh to Balangir. Immediate steps were taken to build a planned township. Balangir town was a planned town, the plan being prepared by Pandit Chintamani Nanda Bidyabhusan for a square-shaped town equipped with roads criss-crossing one another at right angles was accepted and the new township was constructed to the south of the old village. Balangir was selected to be

headquarters not only because of its climate but also for its admirable location on the route connecting the headquarters of Sambalpur with that of Kalahandi. Sir Douglas, the then Deputy Commissioner of Sambalpur, got the sanction of the Government and transferred the headquarters from Patnagarh to the new town of Balangir in 1872. Old Balangir is now known as JunhaDihi meaning the old house site.

The Ex-rulers of the State built dispensary, many office buildings including present Collectorate building, established High English School and Dalganjan Press. Other contributions made by the rulers are excavations of big tanks called Karanga Kata, Pratapsagar and Gopalji temple. A beautiful temple of God Nrusingha was also built during the time. Balangir grew in size and grandeur during the rule of Maharaja Pruthviraj Singh Deo who established a High English School, a Sanskrit Tol, George Literary Club and fine temple of Samaleswari. New Palace building called Sailasri Palace was constructed amidst charming background of green hills.

There are a number of temples in the town. Some of the important ones include Patneswari temple wherein is worshipped Goddess Patneswari believed to be the Presiding Deity of Balangir, Lokanath Baba Temple, Jagganath Temple, Laxmi Narayan Temple and Durga Temple. The town also has places of worship for other religions and sects. Sunni Masjid for Muslims is located in Tikra para, and one Gurudwara for Sikh people is located on Ramai talakies road. Several Churches are also there in the town. Prominent among them are Roman Catholic Church at Rugudipada and Protestant church near College Chowk.

A hill-stream named as Lakshmi flowing on her rocky bed takes a serpentine course in the town. The stream has been bridged at three different places as the town extends on the left bank at Adarsha Pada of the town.

Balangir town has a population of 98,948 according to 2011 census. Balangir town is an important trade centre in western Odisha and is well connected with many cities of India through railways. The headquarter town has bus connectivity with all parts of the district as well as other district headquarters. One of the oldest colleges namely Rajendra College was set up in the year 1944. There is a women's college in the town. One Government Ayurvedic College functions in Tulsinagar of the town. Presently the town has a private Engineering college, diploma engineering college, polytechnics, Industrial training institutes, many Odia and English medium schools, One central school (Kendriya Vidyalaya No-2) and a law college. Food Craft Institute functions as State Institute of Hotel Management with its own infrastructure. It has a Municipal Council. Construction of a medical college is also underway. Bar Association of

Balangir and other intellectuals have demanded setting up of High court bench in Balangir for quite some years keeping in view of the long distance from Odisha High Court at Cuttack.

Chudapali

A village on the Balangir-Patnagarh Road in Balangir Sadar police-station. It is situated twenty kilometer to the west of Balangir. The place is important for setting up of an Ashram School for education of the tribal students. Population of this village is 2,921 according to 2011 census.

Deogaon

A village in Tusra police-station on Balangir-Titilagarh Road, 18 kilometer south of Balangir. Different roads lead from here towards Tusra in the east and Muribahal Railway station in the west. Deogaon is located on the left bank of the Sonegar river which has been bridged. The bridge is named as Wheeler bridge after Sir Henry Wheeler, the then Lieutenant Governor of Bengal, who opened it at the time of his visit to the ex-Patna State during the rule of Maharaja Pruthviraj Singh Deo.

Deogaon as well as its surrounding area is very rich from the archaeological point of view. Many brick mounds and collapsed temple sites and a fortified township locally called Itagarh is found here.¹⁷⁹ In and around Yogisagar we found a number of sculptures ascribable to 7th and 8th century AD on systematic consideration. Deogaon finds mention in a record of 5th century AD when the Parvatadwaraka dynasty was ruling on the right bank of the river Rahul and Tel. Various antiquities in the shape of pottery, semi-precious stone beads, broken sculptures etc. have been found in its vicinity.¹⁸⁰ The sculpture of a royal personage with sword and shield in both hands is kept inside the Siva temple. It was believed to be the sculpture of a royal person belonging to the Kalachuri dynasty.¹⁸¹

There is a big tank here called Jogi Sagar with an area of 104.6 acres. Lotus flowers blossom luxuriantly in the tank. The population of the village according to 2011 Census was 2,138. It is a Tehsil headquarters with Block office.

Dhandamunda

A village in Khaprakhol police-station, situated on the Patnagarh-Harisankar Road. It is about 10 kilometer north-east of Khaprakhol and 12 kilometer south-east of Harisankar. On every Nrusimha Chatrudasi (fourteenth day of the bright fortnight of Baisakh) day, a large fair is held at

¹⁷⁹ OHRJ- XXXVI- Nos.3, 4, P. 40-43

¹⁸⁰ C.B. Patel. op.cit. P. 240

¹⁸¹ D.Chopdar- NAHO-VIII- P. 23

Harisankar and pilgrims on their way witness a festival called Harihara Bheta. Population of the village is 3,360 according to 2011 census.

Dharpagad

A village in Saintala police-station situated about 16 kilometer south-west of Saintala. It is an old village inhabited mostly by Dal Khonds, whose chief was formerly exercising the power of a Zamindar. The villagers point out an old papal tree that commemorates the settlement of the Chauhan family in the village. There is a big tank called Dasmati Sagar, covering an area of 119 acres, equipped with stone embankment and bathing ghats. The villagers believe the tank to be the habitat of some water nymph and as such considered sacred. The bank of the tank is studded with shrines dedicated to Chandi, Duarsuni, Samalai, Pataneswari, Siva and Vishnu, all of whom are worshipped by non-Brahmins. There are some Brahmin settlers in the village, who have come from Sonapur during the early part of this century. The Jagannath temple inside the village is managed by Brahmins. It is now a Gram Panchayat headquarter. Population of the village according to 2011 Census is 2,098.

Dudka

A village where Block office of Agalpur is situated. The road from Salebhata to Agalpur passes through Dudka which is eight kilometer from Salebhata and twelve kilometer from Agalpur. The village is situated on the southern bank of Ang river and is populated mostly by Agharia cultivators. It is noted for cotton and sugarcane cultivation. Population of the village according to 2011 Census is 3,137.

Ghasian

A village located on the right bank of the Suktel in Patnagarh police-station. Majority of the people are Gouda by caste. According to tradition, Maharaja Narasimha Deo awarded this village to one Ghasiani (Sweeper woman) for the service rendered at the time of confinement of the Rani. A pre-Chauhan inscription found near Someswara temple of Patnagarh reveals that king Someswara belonging to Telugu-Choda family (12th century A. D.) donated the village Ghasrani in Patna Dandapata for perpetual supply of flower garlands to God Someswara. The name Ghasian is believed to have been derived from Ghasrani. This indicates that the village is quite old and it existed long before the approach of Chauhans to Patnagarh. This village is now a Panchayat headquarter. The population of the village Ghasian according to 2011 census is 3,223.

Harishankar

A place of pilgrimage on the southern slope of the Gandhamardan hills which stand along Balangir-Bargarh border. It is located in Khaprakhol

police-station and is approachable by a road from Khaprakhol which is well-connected by roads with Patnagarh and Balangir in the east and Lathor on the Raipur-Vizianagram railway in the south. The Railway Station at Lathor bears the name Harisankar Road. Harisankar is 30 kilometer from Harisankar Road Railway Station. Harishankar is also approachable from Padampur in Baragarh district via Patnagarh or Dhandamunda.



Harishankar Temple

The Gandhamardan hills extend over several kilometers in east-west direction. On the northern side of the hill range inside Bargarh district is situated the famous Nrusimhanath temple. On its southern slope almost at the foot of the hills is located Harisankar. Harisankar and Nrusimhanath are linked by a difficult path across densely wooded mountainous tract. The track, about 16 kilometers in length, is rarely traversed except by pilgrims on the auspicious occasion of Nrusingha Chaturdasi. They consider a journey on the route to and from Harisankar as most sacred.

Harisankar has an additional charm of being a place of uncommon natural beauty, with a high range of hills serves as a background of forest clad surroundings with some perennial springs and successive water falls.

A perennial stream trickles down the slope of the hills and at one point forms a small waterfall called Papanasini (the destroyer of sin). Pilgrims enjoy a sacred bath in this waterfall. The fall does not attain any great height. A natural pool capable of storing 3 to 4 feet of water is formed here by a hollow in the liege granite bed. The surplus water rolls down the bed which descends like a flight of steps. Near the pool is installed a figure of dancing Ganesh.

The main temple of Harisankar built in the 15th century AD is dedicated to Lord Shiva which stands down the stream beside the flow. There is a myth related to the construction of the temple. Once an old man, belonging to Kandha tribe while digging out some roots in that spot came across a stone underneath which a spring was oozing out. That night he saw in dream Lord Siva's presence at the place where he found the stone. The Kandha narrated his experience before the Ruler Ramai Deo who himself had a similar dream. A temple was thereafter built there to enshrine Siva. Close to the main temple of Harisankar there are two small temples—one dedicated to Bhairavi, a form of Sakti of Lord Siva and the other, to Lord Jagannath. Inside the Bhairavi temple there is a stone image containing a small inscription in proto Odiya script.

N.K. Sahu has identified Gandhmardan hill with Po-lo-mo-lo-ki-li or Khandagiri of the account of Hueunhsang. The hill is considered as a reservoir of valuable medicinal herbs. Po-lo-mo-lo-ki-li used to be a great *vihara* of the Mahayanists and attained popularity as a centre of Buddhist learning due to the contribution of Nagarjuna and Arayadeva. The monastery is equipped with cloisters and fifty halls. The halls were in five tiers each with four courts with temples containing golden life size images of Buddha of perfect artistic beauty. By the side of the monastery there was a *stupa*.¹⁸² A Jain image is also found at Harishankar, however, with the increasing popularity of Saivism, Buddhism and Jainism gradually declined.

Numerous sculptures housed in the tiles shed near the temple are found at Harishankar and many of them on stylistic consideration can be assigned to a period between 6th-8th century CE. The present outer gate of the temple is heavily plastered suggesting its close resemblance with the gateway of Mukteswar temple of Bhubaneswar in design which shows that probably a temple existed here in early medieval period.¹⁸³ As stated by P.C. Rath the present temple at Harishankar built by Queen Durlabha Devi, wife of Baijal Deo of Chauhan dynasty (1413 CE) must have been built on the ruins of an old monument.¹⁸⁴

The name Harisankar signifies the confluence of the cults of Vaishnavism and Shaivism.

Harisankar is visited by pilgrims mainly on two occasions. As usual, Sivaratri attracts a fair gathering on the spot. But the most crowded festival here is on Nrusingha Chaturdasi (the fourteenth day in the bright fortnight of Baisaklut) when thousands of devotees from far and near throng the place. The day is also observed at Nrusinghanath temple where a greater number

¹⁸² Thomas Watters - Vol. II- P. 201

¹⁸³ C.B. Patel - Op-cit. P. 248-54

¹⁸⁴ J.K.H.R.S- Vol. I- P. 227-34

of people gather for performing religious rites and rituals. Many pilgrims consider it their duty to visit both the sacred spots on the same day and traverse the hills on foot.

The Rulers of Ex-Patna state utilized this place as summer resort. In the summer when the temperature records above 42 degree Celsius, one finds Harishankar moderately cool. Near Harisankar there is an inspection Bungalow maintained by the Forest Department. Construction of Panthnivas of tourism department has also been completed. A revenue rest shed is also constructed there. A panthasala is maintained by Block Development Officer, Khaprakhol. To make the place more attractive for tourists Forest Department also manages a deer park near Forest Bungalow in Harishankar.

Jarashigha

The village is situated in Tusra police-station and is approachable from Tusra and Deogaon. Now it comes under the revenue jurisdiction of newly created Deogaon Tehsil. It is notable for the Patkhanda Jatra (fair) which is held during Dussehra festival. Jarasingha used to be a Khorposhdari Estate, created by Maharaja Ram Chandra Singh Deo (1765-1820). At the time of the Settlement of 1937, the estate comprised of 228 villages with an area of 242 square miles excluding reserved and protected forest. Jarasingha comes under Deogaon Block and Tehsil. It is a Panchayat headquarter and has an Office of Revenue Inspector, a college, a High school and other institutions. Population of this village according to 2011 census is 2,548.

Jogisarda

The village in Loisinga police-station, seven kilometer from Loisinga is famous for the temple of Jogeswar Siva. There is a beautiful tank called Deulabandha near the temple. The temple and the Bandha were constructed by the former Zamindars of Loisinga. Jogeswar Siva is widely renowned not only in Balangir district but also in the neighbouring districts of Bargarh and Subarnapur and devotees throng the place in large number to perform penance by fasting days together and lying prostrate on the floor of the temple with the hope of getting boons. The population of the village as per 2011 census is 1,562.

Kantabanji

This town came into existence soon after the railway line from Vizianagaram to Raipur was laid in the year 1937. It is a trade center with important railhead in Titilagarh Sub-division. The distance from Balangir is 85 kilometer by road and 50 kilometer from Titilagarh. Timber was being exported earlier from this place. Formerly, a locoshed was functioning in the

spacious area of railway department near railway station. The town is well connected to many cities like Raipur, Nagpur, Mumbai and Delhi. This town is administered by a Notified Area Council. It is a Tehsil headquarter with other offices like police station, Office of Executive Engineer, Road and buildings, a sub-treasury and office of Commercial Tax Officer. A court of JMFC also functions here. Population of the town according to 2011 census is 22,819. 92% of the population are hindus, 3% muslims and less than 1% population Sikhs living in the town.

Loisinga

A fairly big village with a police-station situated on the Bargarh-Balangir road 18 kilometer to the north of Balangir. It has a railway station on the Sambalpur-Titilagarh line. Loisinga is an old village. It finds mention in a Copper Plate grant of the Somavamsi king Janamejaya who ruled in the 9th century A.D. Loisinga, during later times, became the seat of an Adivasi Zamindar under the Chauhan ruler of Patna. At the time of the settlement of 1937, the Zamindari of Loisinga consisted of 51 villages with an area of 57 square miles excluding the reserved and protected forest. The Zamindari was abolished in 1952 under the Orissa Estates Abolition Act. Every year in the month of Margasir a festival called 'Kandado Jatra' is held here when on this occasion large number of Gonds flock to the place. Population of the village according to 2011 Census was 6,220. Loisinga is tehsil headquarter with a Panchayat Samiti Office, a college, and other institutions.

Mahagaon

Mahagaon is situated some 10 km away from Titilagarh in between Ranipur –Jharia and Titilagarh. There is one unique seated male figure in the posture *Yogasana* found in the western side of Mahagaon Siva Temple. It is of the height of 2' and breadth of 18". On the pedestal a bull is carved in the profile and in both sides there are two human figures. There is an oval shaped lotus petalled *prabhavali* behind his head. This figure has Kundals worn in his ears. In his raised upper left hand he holds a *Danda* while in his upper right hand, he holds an *akasamala*. Both his lower hands are placed on his thighs. It seems to be the yoga Dakshinamurti of lord Siva. Another sculpture of considerable importance found at Mahagaon is the dancing figure of a Bhairava with *Urdhalinga*.¹⁸⁵ It is a unique figure of the *Urdhalinga* (penis erectus) dancing Bhairava and has got much similarity with that of a dancing Bhairava enshrined in the pillared Mandap amidst the Chausathi Yogini at Ranipur –Jharia.¹⁸⁶ Circumstantial evidences, remnants of varieties of antiquities as well as our preliminary investigation suggest that there was possibility of human settlement in this region in the hoary past.

¹⁸⁵ OHRJ- Vol.XXXX, No. 1-4, P-66

¹⁸⁶ OHRJ- Vol.XXXX-No. 1-4, P-65

Further, Kharligarh, Asurgarh (where we find traces of human settlement) are not far away from the site. But a proper and thorough investigation is yet required to garner more knowledge on the matter and the historical significance thereof.

Muribahal

A village in Kantabanji police-station situated 18 kilometer north-west of Titilagarh. Roads from this place lead to Deogaon, Titilagarh and Bangomunda. It is also a Railway Station on the Raipur-Vizianagaram line and a business centre. Muribahal is a Tehsil as well as Block headquarter with a public Health centre, police out-post and other educational institutions including a plus two college. Population of the village according to 2011 Census is 2,801.

Patnagarh

Headquarter town of a subdivision of the same name is situated 40 kilometer west of Balangir. Roads from Patnagarh run in different directions to Lorambha, Khaprakhol, Belpara and Mandal. Patnagarh is well connected to Padampur, Paikmal, and Nrusingnath of Baragarh District. Patnagarh used to be the Capital town of the Kingdom of Patna under the Chauhan rule from its foundation in the middle of the 14th century A. D. till 1872 when Balangir became the seat of the Durbar Government. Patnagarh is long since known as Kaunri Patna or Kumari Patna after the seven Tantric maidens who lived in this township for some time and practised esoteric rites.

The fort area of Patnagarh is of archeological importance. On the east of the fort there was a high platform. The fort is a square one with mud ramparts surrounded by a moat. A ruined brick temple stood on a stone basement is found near the main gate facing north. The ruined brick temple which is of stellate plan is the oldest archaeological remains of the fort. Patnagarh or Kuanri Patna has enjoyed the status of an urban settlement and it has passed through the rule of many royal dynasties. The Kosalesvar Siva temple of Patnagarh consists of a *Vimana*, *Mukhasala* and *Nandi mandapa* in front of the *Jagamohana* hall. The design of an umbrella shaped semi-circular medallion in the inner side of the temple can be ascribed to early days of the Somavansi rule in this part of Odisha.¹⁸⁷

The town has some fine temples, notable among which are the temple of Someswara ascribed to king Someswara 11 of the 12th century A. D. and of Pataneswari, ascribed to Ramai Deo the first Chauhan king belonging to the 14th century A. D. The temples of Jagannath and Samaleswari were built by later Chauhan rulers. Close to the temples of Someswara and

¹⁸⁷ C.R.Das - Temples of Orissa, Delhi, 1982, P. 42

Pataneswari there is a raised platform with a flight of steps. It is reported that the throne of the Rulers of Patna was being placed on this platform and as such it is known as Simhasanavedi. On a smooth stone on the first step of the platform is found a small inscription which reveals the rule of the king.



Patneswari Temple, Patnagarh

It is now being managed by a Notified Area Council, and has few decent streets and fine buildings. The court building is probably the oldest one in the district. There is a College named after Jawaharlal Nehru, late Prime Minister of India. The town has a population of 21,024 according to 2011 census.

Ranipur and Jharial

They are in fact two adjacent villages in Sindhekela police-station approachable by a well-maintained road from Titilagarh. J. D. Beglar, who visited it during his tour in 1874-75 has left a graphic account of the place.

There are extensive ruins of medieval monuments at Ranipur-Jharial. There is an outcrop of fiat rocks on which large numbers of temples are perched. The out-crop forms a gently rising elevation of about 200 feet at its highest point. At the south-western side of the rocks a tank has been formed by embanking the valley. The existing ruins cover a space of about half a mile long and quarter of a mile wide. Beglar counted 57 temples on the spot near the bank of the tank in various stages of preservation. He recorded that there were in ancient times about 120 temples at that place. At present hardly 50 temples could be counted and most of them are found in decaying condition. The largest temple of the group is that of Someswara Siva, which

stands on the hank of the tank. It was constructed by a famous Saiva Acharya named Gagana Siva whose inscription is found on the lintel of the temple. At Ranod in Madhya Pradesh, we find an important inscription of a Saiva Acharya named Vyoma Siva, who may be identified with Gagana Siva of Someswara temple inscription at Ranipur-Jharia. Vyomasiva is variously named in the Ranod inscription, such as Gaganesa, Vyomasambhu and Gagana Sasimauli. So Gagana Siva may also be a variant of his name. In Someswara inscription, Gagana Siva is described as well-versed in all the Saiva Sidhantas and as the disciple of Isana Saivacharya, who was the head of the establishment of Valkeswara Karahata and was emigrant of Karanjakheta. Karahata has been identified with Karahad in Maharashtra and Karanjakheta is very likely the same as modern Karanjia in Mayurbhanj district. Gagana Siva calls himself as an imigrant of Teramba Griha which was situated to the North (Uttara Teramba Griha). Teramba Griha is mentioned as Teramba in an old inscription at Ranod. Some scholars have identified Terambi with Terahi in Madhya Pradesh. But it may be identified with the village Termra on the Tong Jor about seven miles to the north of Ranipur-Jharia.

If Gagana Siva is identical with Vyoma Siva, he may be regarded as the author of Vyomamati, a commentary on Prasastapada's Bhashya on the Vaisesika system. Famous scholars of medieval India like Gunaratna and Rajsekhar have referred to Vyomamati. The Editors of Kavyamimamsa (written by Rajasekhara) are of opinion that the author lived about 880-920 A. D. In the Ranod inscription Gagana Siva is compared with Sankaracharya who probably died in 820 A.D. So Vyoma Siva alias Gagana Shiva may be attributed to the middle of the 9th century A. D. and that is also the date of the Someswara temple of Ranipur-Jharia.

Gagana Siva belonged to the Matta Mayura School of Saivism which was once popular in Odisha. The genealogy of the preceptor of Matta Mayurantha, the propounder of this School of Saivism is stated below.

Kadamba Guhadhivasin (Inhabitant of Kadamba Guha)

Sankhamathikadhipati (The Lord of Sankha Matha) Terambipala (The protector of Terambi)

Amardakatiittha Natha (The Lord of AmardakaTirtha) Matta Mayura Natha

Some of the places associated with these Acharyas may be identified in Odisha. Kadambaguha may be the same as Kadamba Giri in Vaddadi (Koraput district). Sankhamatha may be identified with Puri which is called Sankhatirtha, Terambi or Teramba is the same as Tamra near Ranipur-Jharia and Amardaka Tirtha may be identified with Amarda in Mayurbhanj district. In the Ranod inscription, we find description of places called

Ranipadra which was the seat of a famous matha. This Ranipadra is probably no other than Ranipur-Jharial of Balangir district.

As a monumental site of antiquarian value, Ranipur Jharial is located on a rocky outcrop having great historical importance. No other place in Western Odisha is known so far to display such a large variety of temples and antiquities as these are observed in this monumental centre. Varieties of temples, sculptures, lithic inscription and antiquities ranging between 6th and 16th century AD establish an imperishable testimonial of the cultural efflorescence of Mattamayura, Saivism, Vaishavism, Saktism, Yogini cult, Tantric Buddhism and many other minor cults found in thick cluster in this place. In fact, it is a citadel of glorious cultural reminiscences of the district of Balangir.¹⁸⁸

The Someswar temple is a modest stone structure built on the edge of a rocky surface and there is an inscription on the lintel.¹⁸⁹ The inscription records the construction of the temple by Acharya Gagana Siva and paleographically the inscription belongs to 10th century. The temple with an approximate height of 25' shows a least modified and easy survival of Gupta norm in a single square *tri-ratha* sanctuary roofed by a curvilinear tower with buttressed stand on a low plinth and is divided horizontally into *pabhaga*, *jungha* and *Gandi*. The *Pabhaga* has a single projection. The *Parswadevata* niches are absent on *jungha* except on the West arm side. The Sikhara is without decoration. The *mastaka* consists of *beki*, *amalaka* and *Khapuri* but *Kalasa* and *ayudha* are missing. A narrow *antarala* connects the *garbhagriha* with *Mukhasala*. In the *Mukhasala* stand four pillars supporting the ceiling of the roof. The base of the central pillar is of a *Khura* design. The *Mukhasala* is also without decoration.

The temple of 64 yoginis is of special interest not only from the stand point of antiquity but also for its religious significance. This is a hypaethral temple with niches to enshrine 64 yoginis. In the middle there is a figure of three-faced Shiva embracing Parvati. Out of 64 yoginis only 48 are in site and the rest are completely broken or removed. The cult of yogini worship was prevalent in Madhya Pradesh and Odisha in the 9th Century A. D. At Bheraghat near Jabalpur as well as at Khajuraho we find similar temples of 64 yoginis belonging to the same period. In Odisha besides Ranipur-Jharial another hypaethral temple of 64 yoginis was built at Hirapur on the river Bhargavi in Puri district. Detailed description of the Yoginis of Ranipur-

¹⁸⁸ U.C. Majhi – History and Culture of Ex-Patna State: A Study (Unpublished Ph.D thesis, S.U., 1912,

PP – 282-285

¹⁸⁹ EI – XXIV. Ganjam Grant of Madhavaraja II(Sailodbhava dynasty) – PP – 207-209

Jharial can be found from the Report of Beglar given as Appendix I at the end of the chapter.

Another important monument of Ranipur-Jharial is the Brick temple dedicated to Vishnu. It is in a dilapidated condition, its *Jagamohana* being completely broken and although the top of *Vimana* is now gone, the present height of it is nearly 60 feet. The temple stands on a platform made of sandstone which according to Beglar was 90 feet long and 37 feet wide. The presiding deity of the temple is not found at present, but the images of Varaha, Narasimha and Hanuman are still to be seen on the outer walls of the *Vimana*. These sculptures indicate that it was originally a Vishnu temple. In the Vamana Purana we find reference to a sacred place (Thirtha) in Utkal known as Somatirtha, where Siva named Somasitala and Gopal were being worshipped. Somasitala is probably the same as Someswara whose temple as noted above was built by Gagan Siva and the brick temple very likely enshrined the image of Gopal. Somatirtha of Vamana Purana may therefore be identified with Ranipur-Jharial.

Saintala

A village on the Balangir-Titilagarh road situated at 21 mile to south of Balangir. It has also a railway station on the Sambalpur-Titilagarh line. The village is notable for an old Chandi temple which is now in ruins. The goddess who is a form of Mahisharnardini Durga has now been installed on the mound formed by the ruins of her former temple some sculptural pieces and the broken door jamb with the figures of Ganga and Jamuna have been preserved and they indicate a high standard of workmanship of the old temple. Two broken images of Vishnu surrounded by his ten incarnations have been discovered in the village and those have been attributed to the 9th century A. D. The fact that the ideology of ten incarnations of Vishnu was known in this part as early as the 9th century A. D. is very significant especially because such ideology had not been developed in the coastal region of Odisha in that period. Saintala has a police-station and a P. W. D. Inspection Bungalow.

Salebhata

A village in Loisinga police-station on the Bargarh-Balangir road situated 20 mile north of Balangir. It is situated on the right bank of the Ang where the river is spanned by a beautiful bridge. It being the border village of the ex-Patna State, toll was being collected here during Durbar administration. On the bank of river Ang, there were two medeaval temples, one dedicated to Chandi and the other to Sun God. The Chandi temple is now non-existent, while the temple of Sun has been completely renovated and a marble stone image of the god was installed inside it. Close to this temple stands a broken image of twenty armed Mahishamardini Durga

beautifully chiselled out of red sand-stone. It is a unique piece of sculpture and is being worshipped on ceremonial occasions. An Inspection Bungalow is located on the bank of Ang river. Population of the village is recorded 3,571 in 2011 Census.

Sindhkela

A village with a police-station in Titilagarh Subdivision two miles north of Under river. A road from Kantabanji leads to this place via Bangomunda and proceeds further to meet the Bhawanipatna-Khariar road south of the river. The village is a trade centre of local importance. It has a High School and a rest-shed. Population of the village according to 2011 Census is 5,734.

Sountpur

Sountpur is a small village located some 10 km away from Balangir town is of considerable importance. The Jatesingha Dunguri plates mention about the Santovaradi Khanta which is identified with Sauntpur which is not far away from Kisarkela (located between the river Suktel and rivulet Nivritti, in the east of Balangir Town).¹⁹⁰ In the outskirts of the village there are remnants of temple pillars, one broken Nava graham panel, elephant motif, temple doorway, motif with lotus scroll, base moulding of temple pillars as well as loose sculptures of Arddhanarisvara, Bhairava, Ganesa, Trivikrama Vishnu etc. Here we find the existence of Vaisnavism, saivism and Saktism.¹⁹¹ Further, a broken four handed Ganesa is found to be seated in ardhaparayankasana is found in southern *parsvadevata* niche of the Mahagaon temple, The Ganesa is without any ornamentation which signifies that it is an early representation of Ganesa from the econographic point of view. In the Mahagaon temple one panel containing *Astagraha* is kept in the open room attached to the sanctum sanctorium. This seems to be the only *Astagraha* panel in the upper Mahanadi valley of Odisha.

Titilagarh

Headquarter town of a Sub-division of the same name located 66 kilometer south-west of Balangir, with which it is connected by both rail and road. Titilagarh is a railway junction, being the meeting place of the Raipur-Vizianagaram and the Sambalpur-Titilagarh lines. This town is one of the important commercial centres of the district. Few industries like GKW Powmex Steels, Rasbah Mining Private Limited are established near Titilagarh town. This Place like Kantabanji also connects to many important cities of India. Being a Sub-divisional headquarter, other Government

¹⁹⁰ E.I XXII. Mahakosala Historical Society, Plate Kusarkella Mahabhivagupta PP 135 -138

¹⁹¹ J.K.H.R.S- Vol. II, No. 2, Sept 1947, PP 12-13

offices, Subdivisional hospital and educational institutions are there in Titilagarh. It has a Municipal council.

It is one of the hottest towns in summer. The temperature rises beyond 45 degree Celsius. Rising in temperature in the town is attributed to intopography. Titilagarh and nearby areas have many hillocks of Granite, rocky surface and depletion of forests led to rise in temperatutre during summer.

Titilagarh is a very old town. Its antiquity dates back to the days of Panini, the famous Gramarian of 5th century B. C. who refers to Taitila Janapada of which Taitila or the modern Titilagarh was one of the headquarters.

The cave temple, described by Beglar has a pillared hall in the front, a construction of about 1900 A.D. This hall is 38' 7" by 28'7". In front of the hall, there is a 'Jupa Stambha' with remains of a sacrificial pit (Homa Kunda).

To the north-west of the cave temple is a newly built temple wherein a Sati-pillar is worshipped as Chandi. On the crest of the Kumuda hill is a temple called Rangi Deur with images inside. Sivaratri festival is observed at Kumuda for a week when a large Mela (fair) is held at the place. Population of the town according to 2011 Census is 34,067.

Turekela

The village is in Titilagarh Sub-division and is headquarter of the police-station. It is connected by roads with Patnagarh, Kantabanji and Harisankar road which is the nearest railway station. The place is beautifully located amidst a dense forest. Turekela is a block headquarter. Population of the village according to 2011 Census is 2,184.

Tusra

A village in Balangir Subdivision with a police-station. It is situated near the western bank of Tel and is connected by separate roads with Balangir, Deogaon, Saintala and Belgan. Tusra possesses some traditions about its former glory. Local historian Erroneon sly connects the name of the village with Tosali or sometimes with 'Tamasulia' of Hathigumpha Inscription and claims the place to be the capital of Kalinga. About five mile from this place is a village called Kharligarh, which is claimed as the degenerated form of Kharvelagarh or the fort of Kharvel. Antiquity of Kharligarh comprises a large medieval fort of burnt bricks of larger sizes, now in ruins. It is reported that the fort walls originally were about 90' wide and 70' high. The history of the fort is not known. Tusra is noted for its local trade. A weekly market is held here on every Friday when people from Baudh, Kandhamal and Kalahandi

districts assemble to carry on business. Population of the village according to 2011 Census is 4,823.

Chausathi Yogini Temple

The circular and the hypaethral Yogini temple in Ranipur – Jharia is perched upon a rocky floor. The exterior circumference of its wall is measured 169' – 3" in length while its inner circumference is measured 145' – 11". A small *mandapa* roof is perched upon the rocky floor at the centre of the Yogini temple. This pavilion exhibits on its surface image of Nataraja Siva with three faces, eight hands and erectus penis. The image holds by his two hands a serpent and by the other six hands a rosary, a skull, a trident, a pot etc. and the image of Ganesa. Nandi and eight handed parvati are also found there. The hypaethral Yogini temple exhibits on the inner side of its circular wall 64 niches and they are poised to start their dance with the divine dancer (Siva). Each of the niches is measured 1'6" in breadth and 3'2" in height. Presently, 48 niches contain images. Ranipur – Jharia was the ancient Someswara Linga- Adipitha depicted in Yogini tantra. The term Adipitha or Primal centre in the Yogini tantra must signify the first place for the tantric veneration of the Yoginis.¹⁹² The temple could be dated to 10th century AD.¹⁹³



Chausathi Yogini Temple

¹⁹² R. P. Mishra – Fragments in Indian culture – PP – 425-426

¹⁹³ C. L. Fabri – History of the art of Orissa, 1974 – P – 76, V. Dehija – Jogini Cult and temples. 1986, P – 11

Indralath Brick Temple

The most unique specimen of post-Gupta brick structure of the site is the Indralath brick temple. It is *Pancharatha* in Plan and has voussoir arch.¹⁹⁴ This temple closely resembles with the Lakshmana temple at Sirpur, Savari Temple at Kharod, Keutan temple at Pujaripali. From stylistic consideration and height the temple at Ranipur – Jharia is the tallest among all brick temples. It represents the swan song of a once vigorous tradition transplanted on Odishan soil.¹⁹⁵ The temple consists of a *vimana* and a *Jogamohana*. The stone door frame used in the temple is of the same type of Lakshmaneswar temple at Sirpur. The door frame was of carved stone, similar to the door frame of the brick temple in the central provinces.¹⁹⁶ The *garbhagriha* stand supported by four stone pillars. Ceiling carved with a beautifully designed lotus is found in the sanctum. There is no well-marked division between the *bada* and *Gandi*. The *mastaka* portion is completely damaged. Fine themes of Indian epics and puranas are found on the exterior wall of this temple. In the opinion of K. N. Mahapatra as all other temples of this place belong to Saivism, it may be taken as the only Vaishnava monument, which is called the temple of Gopala in the Vamana Purana.¹⁹⁷ There is close resemblance between the Indralath brick temple and Vishnu temple of Bhitargaon.¹⁹⁸



Indralath Brick Temple

¹⁹⁴ P. K. Agrawal – Gupta Temple Architecture – P – 49

¹⁹⁵ T. Donaldson – “Decorative Programme of the Super Structure on the Orissan, Rekha Deul”. Sidelights on the History and Culture of Orissa. M. N. Das (ed), P – 586

¹⁹⁶ ASI – 1908 – 09, P – 14

¹⁹⁷ O.H.R.J – Vol. XXIII, Nos – 1 – 4, P – 91

¹⁹⁸ J. Fergusson – History of Indian Archaeology – Vol. I, P – 327 ff

Another brick temple (Chhelia temple) of eight angled star is found near Ranipur – Jharial. At present only the base upto the plinth level exists. There are no sculptures available to be associated with the shrine. This temple seems to be of the same period of the Budhi Komna temple.¹⁹⁹

Bhima Dunguri

It is located in a scenic place. There are some places of interest at the hill (Dunguri) itself. One of them is called Baba Math where Bhim Baba is worshipped. This is also a good picnic spot. Large number of visitors gather here.

Bhimdunguri is situated in Deogaon Block under Tusra Police Station which is hardly 20 Km away from the district headquarter. The Dunguri is famous for its natural beauty as well as caves lie scattered at different places of the hilly area. The panoramic view of this area is unparalleled during the spring season, the beautiful landscape being a special attraction for tourists. Some images of deities are found at various part of the hill and this might be a ritual spot associated with the cult of mother goddess. We found few antiquities and potteries as well as a broken brick structure in a dilapidated condition nearby the cave. A linear representation of an unknown figure is found which is placed around 30 ft from the main passage. The upper portion of the cave in Bhimdunguri is engraved with linear grooves, geometrical patterns and other marks like square, rectangle, cross, circle etc. but the most dominant is the mark resembling female genital engraved in a stone. We also found some stone sockets, ring stones etc. in the area. There is also evidence of megalithism in some stone boulders in one part of the hill top of Bhimdunguri. Other important findings include remains of hearth with reed marks, hand stone and mullers, perforated stones, burnt bricks (18" X 8"X5") etc. Further, from Gudvella to Arjunpur there is a chain of hills with numbers of caves, forts etc.

Local people here celebrate Girigobardhan Puja during the month of Kartika purnima every year with great pomp and gaiety. Side by side Mela and Sankirtan are also organized on this auspicious occasion. There is also a good all weather motorable road connected to this place from Balangir town. This place has been identified as tourist centre in the district by Department of Tourism & Culture. The place, however, needs further development in terms of connectivity and accommodation.

¹⁹⁹ N.K. Sahu – OP. Cit. P – 41

Kusangai Temple

The Temple of Kusang is *Pancharatha* in plan. The entire structure is divided into three parts *Bada*, *Gandi* and *Mastaka*. It is standing on a stone platform. The *pabhaga* looks like a broad moulding. The *Raha* section in the east, west and south sides are converted into *parsva devata* niches. The *Bandhaba* portion consists of two mouldings of *Khura* and *Pata* which occur in between lower and upper *Jangha*. In the *Raha* portion *Vyala* figures are placed on three sides on projected platform. The *Gandi* is surrounded by a *Pancharatha Bisama* consisting of *Beki*, a huge *amalaka*, a *Khapuri* and one *Kalasa*.²⁰⁰ In the northern outer wall of the Jagamohan is fitted a panel depicting the *Bhoga Murti* of Vishnu. In design Kusangai Temple is a proto type of the Nrusinghanath temple near Padampur Subdivision and has got much similarity with the Lingaraj temple of Bhubaneswar. The Kusangai temple can be placed in the last part of the Somavansi rule. Remnants of different varieties of antiquities as well as preliminary investigation suggest that there is possibility of human settlement in this region in distant past.

Kumuda Pahad

Another major tourist attraction is Kumuda Pahad in Titilagarh town. Kumuda Pahad is a natural splendorous place of great tourist interest. As its name suggest, it is a hilly area where Lord Dhableswar is embodied in a very big natural spacious caves measuring an area of 80 feet by 40 feet. There are also 3 other caves nearby. The temple is located 40 feet above from the foothill. It is a small temple in its kind but a most famous one in this area due to its religious significance. Large number of visitors visits the temple with a hope to get blessing from Lord Dhableswar who is believed to be the most benevolent and merciful to his devotees. Thousands of visitors pay visit to the temple during the month of Shravana and Shivaratri.



²⁰⁰ S.S. Panda – Namastasyei (Odia) PP 53-57, Balangir, 2007

The place bears great religious essence due to existence of Lord Shree Ram Temple in its vicinity. A small reservoir on the top of the hill adds to beauty of the hilly landscape. There is also a reservoir covering a large area where water sports activities can be performed. This is an ideal place for weekend leisure tourists. Kumuda Pahada is 0.5 km away from Titilagarh town. Some reasonable priced hotels and stay homes are available here. The place has also been declared as a tourist place by the Department of Tourism and culture recently.

Travel and Guide

Travel facilities to main tourist centers like Harisankar and Ranipur Jharial are available from the towns of Balangir, Patnagarh, Titilagarh and Kantabanji. Apart from regular bus travels, other modes of transport such as hiring small vehicles like car, jeeps, and cabs are also available from all these places. Local guides are available for tourists at both the places.

Hotel Facilities

Hotels are available in Balangir, Titilagarh and Kantabanji. Tourists can stay at these places and visit Ranipur-Jharial and Harisankar.

Panthanivas

One Panthanivas has been constructed at Harisankar but it has not yet started functioning. Another panthasala is available which is under the control of the Block Development Officer, Khaparakhhol who may be contacted in advance for a stay in the panthasala. A Forest rest house is available for tourists in Harisankar. DFO, Balangir can be contacted in advance for accomodation in this forest rest house. In Ranipur-Jharial, no such accommodation is available for tourists. Tourists can stay in hotels either in Kanatabanji or Titilagarh town.

Tourist Centres Identified by Department of Tourism, Government of Odisha

Sl.No	Name of Tourist Centre	Importance	Brief Description	Year of Identification
1	Harishankar	Religious Centre- Shrine of Lord Hari and Shankar	It is situated in the Patnagarh Subdivision at a distance of 81 kms from Balangir & 43 kms from Patnagarh.	1973
2	Jogisarada	Religious Centre- Shrine of Jogeswar Pataneswari	It is situated in Balangir district at a distance of 25 kms. 4 kms from Buruda Chowk and 5 kms from Loisingha	1973
3	Patnagarh	Religious Centre- Shrine of Goddess Pataneswari	It is the subdivisional headquarters of Patnagarh at a distance of 35 kms from Balangir	1973
4	Ranipur Jharial	Chausathi Yogini Shrine	It is situated in Titilagarh subdivision under Bangomunda block at a distance of 104 kms from Balangir	1973
5	Saintala	Religious Centre- Shrine of Goddess Chandi on Mahisamardini form	It is situated in Titilagarh subdivision at a distance of 32 kms from Balangir and 34 kms from Titilagarh	1973
6	Tureikela	Scenic Spot- Forest and Wild life	It is situated under Bangomunda block in Kantabanji Tehasil at a distance of 95 kms from Balangir and 15 kms from Kantabanji	1973
7	Balangir	District Headquarters and strategic point to visit the places of Tourist interest in the district	District headquarters, 320 kms from Bhubaneswar	1994
8	Gaikhai MIP	Scenic Spot-Hill & Water mass	It is situated under Loisingha block at a distance of 26 kms from Balangir	1998



APPENDIX I

RANIPUR—JHARIAL²⁰¹

By J. D. Beglar

The ruins at Ranipur-Jural, in the southern portion of the Patna State, close to Temra on the Tong Nagla, or Tong-jor, are of much greater extent and greater importance than those at Patna; they are traditionally ascribed to a Rani, but her name has been forgotten.

The modern village is situated in the fertile plains immediately to the south-west of the large out crop of flat rock on which the temples are perched; at the south-western foot of the out crop of rock is a tank formed by embanking the valley, and there is another close to it nearly dry; the out crop of rock forms a large gently rising elevation, which may be about 200 feet high at its highest point. Near its north-eastern end it is divided into two parts by a valley which runs northwards, and which had once been formed into a large tank, and is now formed into a succession of small ones for irrigation by embankments thrown across; to the east of the ruins, near its south-eastern end, is a small hamlet, and to its north-east is the village of Malgasura on the east bank of the Tong-jor, the whole of the existing ruins cover a space of about half a mile long by not even a quarter mile wide, but within this small space they lie in thick clusters. I will enumerate them from the west end.

The first group situated on the south-west and consists of 17 temples which face east and west still standing, the remains of two others, and the outline of the foundations of a third, marked on the rocky surface with chisel marks. These temples are all exclusively of cut stone, the stone being evidently the same as the rock on which they stand, and from which they have been quarried. The temples were evidently built of stone cut to shape, but the final smoothing of the exteriors were performed after the temples were finished, as the chisel marks on the rock were evidently made in cutting to shape the outside of the lowest course of blocks; this remark once made is applicable to everyone of the stone temples in the place.

The second group consists of five temples perched higher up on the elevation, to the east of the first group and near the southern limits of the rocky outcrop; of these, two face north and three face east. There are besides the remains of three others, making a total of eight, all of small size and all of cut stone. The third group, to the west of the first group; consists of four temples; one large and three very small, all of which face east; there is the ruin of another near the edge of the tank. "The fourth group, which is so

²⁰¹ Archeological Survey of India Vol. XIII No. 49 Ranipur-Jural

close to the third group that they may almost be regarded as one group, consists of twenty-four temples standing and in ruins, some large, others small. Of the large ones, the northernmost one is a plain cell 13 feet square, ornamented with pilasters along the walls and roofed by long slabs resting on the side-walls, the clear span being first diminished by corbelling out several courses; the roof is pyramidal exteriorly, as may be seen in the photograph, and is a curious instance of the occurrence in the same place of the purely Dravidian and the upper Indian forms of roofing, for the other temples are roofed in the usual style of the north of India tower roofs. The temples face east and are Saivic.

To the south of this are two small temples, also with pyramidal roof and also facing east; opposite these is a small one facing west, also with a pyramidal roof, and one very small example of the tower-roofed class; behind these are two others, one large and one small, both facing east and both having tower roofs, the larger one being ornamented exteriorly with plain lines of mouldings, and with chambers along the edge of each block forming the tower; facing these, and consequently facing west, are three temples (two of which are small, with tower roofs) and the remains of a fourth and of a fifth and sixth near the edge of the tank. Such of these temples whose object of worship can be ascertained with certainty or probability were Saivic, but this is not the case with the largest temple of the entire group, which is clearly Vaishnavic, judging from the figure of Lakshmi over the entrance, with elephants pouring water over her head.²⁰² If, however, we carefully examine this temple, it is found to have once been Saivic also like the others, for the inscription²⁰³ over the entrance to the Sanctum (the only inscription in the whole of the innumerable temples here), it is found to open with an invocation to Siva, while, to increase the confusion, a figure of Buddha is seen sculptured on the Jamb of the entrance. Lying about within three mahamandapa of the temple are figures of Parvati, Nandi, and an Argha with a lotus sculptured in the centre, also a statute of a Nagni while in the cell, the floor of which has been dug into most probably for buried treasure in the cavity into which the Argha, now in the mahamandapa, evidently fitted. This gives us some help in clearing up the

²⁰² The figure is of Gajalakshmi, which adores the lintel of Saivite as well as Vaishnavite temples in Orissa. Mr. Beglar's observation about its vaisnavite feature is not well founded.

²⁰³ The temple to which the inscription belongs is Someswara, Siva. The inscription, incised by a Yogi Gaganasiva Chariya, records devotion to the deity Someswar Mr. Beglar's is observation about conversion of the temple thus untenable.

mystery, for it is clear that the existing statues are those which were objects of worship last, and consequently the temple was originally either Buddhistic or Vaishnavic. It is of note, too, that the inscription, though deeply and boldly cut, is cut right through the centre square boss of the architrave over the entrance, which is usually occupied by sculpture, and through which it could never have been the intention of the builders of the temple to carry the inscription. It is further of note that the inscription records the name "Sameswara Deva" as "Bhattaraka Parameswar" remembering that the title of Bhattaraka is generally affected by Buddhists (although I can see no reason why it should be so affected by them alone), it seems to favour the supposition that the Sameswara of the inscription, who was evidently the Raja of the country, was a Buddhist, and consequently that the temple was a Buddhist one before its conversion into a Saivic temple; but as it is evident from the unimpeachable testimony of the figure over the entrance that it was also Vaishnavic (Unless, indeed, we assume the figure to be itself also Buddhist-supposition by no means impossible, for such figures are to be found among the Bara hut Buddhist sculptures), it follows that the temple was first Vaishnavic, next Buddhist, and finally Saivic.

The occurrence of so many temples at this spot is sufficiently accounted for by the inscription which records the existence here of a Tirth, or place of pilgrimage, and I have no doubt about careful perusal and translation of the inscription, which consists of four long lines and two short ones, would throw much light on the ancient importance of this spot and identity of one of the many ancient Tirths mentioned in the Hindu sacred literature. The characters of the inscription would place it as early as the ninth century; and as then the object of worship within had been changed, at least once and probably twice, I think the latest date which we can assign to the building of this temple must be the eighth century of our era and this, supposing, as I do, the temple to have been originally Vaishnavic, would correspond with the flourishing period of Vaishnavism in other parts of the district, as shown from the remains at Patna (*vide ante*).

The style of the building is very massive, the pillars and pilaster within being extremely heavy and perfectly plain, and the general massiveness of the building being intensified exteriorly by a plain heavy tower roof over the sanctum, and an extremely flat pyramidal roof over the mahamandapa; the whole temple is built of cut stone, but curiously enough, bricks also occur in the pyramidal roof over the mahamandapa. I presume they formed a sort of screen over the stone roof inside and were plastered over to keep out rain.

Facing this temple is the ruin of a small one, lying outside which is a Sati pillar, half buried and uniscribed, representing on its sculptured compartment a man and one woman.

To the south of the large temple is a small temple facing south, with a plain pyramidal roof and the remains of a very small one, and behind the great temple are the scattered remains of some ten temples of which two were large ones, and the partially standing ruin of a small one.

To the west of these and near the local top of the flattish outcrop of rock on which temples stand, are the quarries whence stone for building the temples were obtained.

There are accordingly no less than 57 temples on or near the banks of the tank in various stages of preservation and decay but there must once have existed brick temples also, as numerous brick-bats are lying about scattered on the banks of the tank; of these even the sites are unknown; and they must have been dismantled and the materials carried off long ago to the adjacent village.

The central cluster is perched on and about the highest point of the rocky plateau; on the highest spot are the ruins of a modernised temple of brick and stone of no special²⁰⁴ interest; facing it and to its east is a small mound, the ruins of a temple of cut stone, and lying near it are several fragments of sculpture, one of which represents Vishnu on Garud, and another is a seated figure of Buddha, to the west of the central mound is a group of three temples, all standing, one facing east, one north and one west, all small, and all of the tower roofed pattern with single square cells, to west of these, and on a commanding, though not the highest point of the plateau, is an open circular in closure enshrining the sixty-four Joginis and a highly indecent three-headed and eight-armed figure of Siva, in the middle, under a Chhatri on four pillars; to the west of this are the remains of some temples of no particular interest.

The interesting and unique temple or inclosure of the sixty-four Joginis deserves a detailed description beyond what can be furnished by the plans and sections. Of its antiquity there can be no doubt, and as in style of work and execution it approaches closests to the great inscribed temple which I have already assigned to the eighth century of our era, I cannot assign it to a later date than the ninth century, or about the same period when a similar temple to the same sixty-four Joginis was built, of which the ruins now exist at Bhera Ghat near Jatalpur, and to which period also I would assign the Chausat Jogina temple of Khajuraho. Entering by the east entrance and going round in the direction of the hands of a watch, there are—

²⁰⁴ Another such temple of similar plan, dedicted to sixty-four Joginis is at Hirapur near Bhubaneswar

- 1st— A three-headed two armed dancing female, holding a trident
- 2nd— A two-armed female with a lotus in each hand, dancing; on the pedestal are seven horses
- 3rd— A two armed female broken and lying on the ground; one hand holds a mace.
- 4th— A two-armed female, one hand at her naval, in the attitude of Buddha, the other arm broken
- 5th— A lion-headed female, two-armed, trident in one and a cup in her left hand
- 6th—A stout flabby female with breasts hanging down, holds a noose, and is represented as dancing
- 7th— A four-armed female; all hands broken
- 8th, 9th and 10th— These three are missing
- 11 th— A two-armed dancing female, left hand on her knee; right broken
- 12th— A three-headed four-armed figure, holding the trident, the rosary, and an hour-glass; the fourth-arm missing
- 13th— A skeleton figure seated en her hands
- 14th— A six or eight-armed female, with one pair of hands she is pulling wide her mouth, with the remaining unbroken ones she holds an hour-glass, a sword, a cup, and she is dancing on a prostrate male figure
- 15th — Missing
- 16th— A lion-headed four-armed figure; one of the unbroken hands holds a native lamp (chirag), the other holds a frog which she is eating; she is represented dancing
- 17th— A horse-headed dancing female, four-armed, holding in her unbroken hands a club, an hour-glass, and a rosary
- 18th— A goat-headed dancing female, holding in her unbroken hands a mace, a trident, and a pestle
- 19th— A horse-headed four-armed dancing female holding a sword, a bow and arrow, one hand being broken
- 20th— A lion-headed four-armed dancing female figure; two hands at her breast like the figures of Siva at Secninarayan; two broken
- 21st— A goat or other animal-headed eight-armed dancing female figure, one hand at her navel as if holding up something; the rest of her unbroken hands hold a sword, a rosary, a mace, and a vajra

22nd— An elephant-headed four-armed dancing female, holding in her one unbroken hand a club

23rd— A boar-headed four-armed female; two hands hold up her breasts, two others hold a club and a rosary.

24th— A cow-headed horned four-armed female; all hands broken

25th— A four-armed dancing female figure; one hand on her knee and one at her breast, the others hold a club and a cup

26th— A four-armed female; two hands engaged in putting on her anklet one holds a rosary, what the other holds cannot be identified

27th— A bear-headed four-armed female; the two unbroken hands hold a rosary and a lotus

28th— A serpent-headed four-armed figure; one hand on her knee, another at her breast, the others hold an alms dish or cup and a trident

29th— A two-armed female, holding in her existing hand a trident

30th— A two-armed figure, holding a cup and a trident

31st— A two-armed figure; one hand holds a trident the other broken

32nd— Missing, but a four-armed skeleton figure is lying broken on the floor in front of the niche, and near it a seven-headed two-armed standing male figure

33rd— A two-armed female, holding a trident in one hand

34th— A two-armed female, holding a trident and a cup

35th, 36th and 37th— Similar to the last

38th— A four-armed female, holding a trident, an hour-glass, a cup; the fourth hand broken

39th— A two-armed female, holding a rosary and an hour-glass

40th— Missing, but a two-armed female is lying on the ground

41st— Missing

42nd— A stout two-armed female, holding a trident (one hand broken)

43rd— A two-armed female, holding a sword and having a child on her knee

44th— A horse-headed female, four-armed, one of which holds a trident, one other what looks like bags or pestles; the objects held by two other hands are not recognizable

45th— A two-armed buffalo-headed figure, holding a trident and a noose

46th— A four-armed female; two hands joined over her head, two others joined near her navel

47th— An antelope-headed female, two armed, holding a sword in one hand

48th— A two-armed female; one hand on her knee, the other holds a trident

49th— A two-armed female; one hand on her knee, the other displaying some object

50th— Missing

51st— A two-armed female, in an indecent posture; she is rubbing her teeth with a finger of one of her hands for a tooth-brush, the other hold what may be either a mirror or a cup

52nd— A two-armed female; holds a club in one hand, the other displays some object

53rd— A two-armed female, holding in her hands a sword and a cup

54th— A four-armed female; one hand at her chest displaying something, the other holds a club

55th— A four-armed female; holds a bow, an arrow, and a bunch of something which looks like flowers or fruit; the fourth hand is broken off

56th— A two armed female; holds in the existing hand a pair of pincers

57th— A two-armed female; holds a noose in one hand. VI at she holds in the other I cannot recognise

58th— Missing, but on the floor in front lies a female with her hands at her navel

59th— A two-armed female, holding a club and a cup

60th— A two-armed female; one hand raised to her fore-head, the other holding an almond-shaped hollow article

61st— A two-armed female; holding a club and stick

62nd— Missing, but on the floor in front, lies a female, two-armed, one hand holding a club

63rd and 64th— Missing

In the century of the circular in closure is a small chhatra on four pillars enshrining an eight-armed and a three-headed male, holding in two of his hands a snake and in the others a cup, an hour-glass, a rosary, a skull, a trident, and an indistinct object. He evidently represents Siva, and has Nandi for her symbol on the pedestal; Ganesa stands at her side, the figure is outrageously indecent, and probably for this reason in particular attracts the

worship of the devout more than other figures; there are some smaller figures also, among them Parvati, eight-armed, and a few fragments, but the whole Saivic.

It appears the inclosure had its principal opening originally at the south side, which is now shut up and converted into a niche, enshrining the large figure described as No. 14. Subsequently the small door to the east was substituted in place of it; but why this change was made I have been unable to determine or even guess. I can only point to a similar change in the original position of the principal entrance in the temple at Bhera Ghat as a curious coincidence.

On the northern rock, which is separated from the one just noticed with its remains by a valley formed by embankments in to a succession of tanks, are the remains of several temples; first is a group of two temples facing east, and to east; of these, about 50 yard off, two others, also facing east; opposite to and facing these two are two others, and one more, which also faces west. There are besides these seven temples ruins of some ten others, mostly in such a state that only the sites can be said to exist. None of these temples are or were large except two, which unfortunately are mere heaps of cut stone at present; none were sculptured, and none probably inscribed, so that there has not been much loss in their destruction.

A short-distance from these temples is a single temple of brick on a high raised platform; at present there exists only the sanctum and its attached antarala, but there can be little doubt, from the great extent of the terrace in front, on which the temple stands, that it once had a large mahamandapa of some kind in front. The temple is of brick, and not particularly remarkable in any way, but it is clearly of the northern type of architecture, and although it is not possible with any certainty to assign its age, there can, I conceive, be little doubt that it must be placed a century anterior to the numerous small plain stone temples which dot the bare rock above noticed. The basement mouldings are plain, but massive, and devoid of the elaborateness which became a principal feature in later temple architecture, and the existence in particular of the kumbha-shaped moulding (the Greek ovolo) goes far to support the antiquity which I would assign to it. The temple faces south, the cell is only 10 feet square but the walls are massive, and the platform on which it stands is more than 90 feet long by 37 feet in width; the material is exclusively brick, wall shaped and wall burnt, 13 inches long by 9 inches wide and 2 thick; the architraves are naturally of stone, as is also the inner roof of the sanctum, which is constructed in the usual style of intersecting squares. At the time of my visit there was an accumulation of bats dung in the chamber to the depth of fully 4 feet. The opening in front is not in the usual style of a tall triangle, so that taken altogether the temple is a specimen of the Sirpur style of brick temples;

details of the plan, Section, & c., will be more easily obtained by a reference to the plates and photographs than by any description.

No legends or traditions exist regarding this temple. At a short distance from the temple are extensive ruins of buildings which were doubtless! palaces or welling-houses; they are not of any special interest, as they clearly belong to a past Muhammadan period, but they are of importance as showing that the place was the seat of some grandee, if not of the Raja himself, till within about 300 years at least. I suspect the name Ranipur Jural is derived from these palaces, having been built by, or having been the residence of, the Queen for the time being, as the ruins are universally said to be ruins of a mahal. Jural means, so far as I could gather, a valley or rather a fertile cultivated valley and the name would therefore mean the fertile valley city of the Queen, a perfectly appropriate name.

CHAPTER XVI

MISCELLANEOUS

Balangir is located about 330 km west of the state capital, Bhubaneswar. Despite having some mineral reserves, the district is characterized by poor natural resource endowments and infrastructure. Poverty is still a concern, with over 60 percent of households estimated to fall below the poverty line. Literacy rate of the district has increased significantly over the last decade which is estimated to be 64.72 per cent. Male literacy is 75.85% and female literacy is 53.50%.

Balangir is characterized by poor soils, has very limited irrigation infrastructure, and suffers from recurrent droughts. Farmers often grow more than one crop every year in fertile lands located in lowland areas and with high water retention capacity, but these comprise only about one-fifth of the total cultivated land.

A very unequal landholding structure also contributes to the high levels of poverty and vulnerability in agricultural sector. One-third of agricultural holdings occupy two-thirds of total agricultural land. Scheduled tribes and castes are particularly disadvantaged in terms of access to land who comprise over 35 percent of the district population but cultivate only a few percent of the total agricultural area. However, in predominantly tribal villages scheduled tribes tend to have better access to land. Land distribution is likely to worsen over time as a result of land sales and mortgages by the poorest which are becoming increasingly common in times of distress. Land alienation is largely linked to indebtedness. Rice is the major harvesting crop in the district. Maize is cultivated mostly for home consumption. Millet is still grown in the area but has lost the importance it once had as a staple food. Oilseeds are also grown in small quantities. Vegetable cultivation in homestead gardens is becoming increasingly popular, and while most of the produce is consumed by the farming household, vegetable growers with access to wells tend to operate on a more commercial scale. Cotton cultivation, in drought affected pockets in Patnagarh and Titilagarh subdivision has raised hope among farmers to boost their economy.

Balangir stands out as one of the most important districts in Odisha in terms of non-timber forest produce collection. It ranks highest as producer of kendu leaves used in the manufacturing of bidis (traditional hand-rolled cigarettes). Mahua flowers and seeds, used in food and edible oil production are another important forest produce. Non-timber forest produce collection is especially significant for the poor and the women, and despite the very low

returns associated with this activity, it provides an important source of income during the lean agricultural season.

Non-farming enterprises in Balangir district consist essentially of small units which use mostly family labour and cater to the demand of the local markets. The district comprises only one large scale industrial unit producing defense equipment and four medium-sized enterprises. The remaining industrial units are classified as small-scale.

Another major concern of the district is migration from Balangir district. A large number of poor people migrate from the district in search of wage employment. This is intimately linked to indebtedness. Some of the moneylenders in the villages and local towns also act as agents for labour contractors in the brick kilns of Andhra Pradesh and Telengana receiving a commission on a pro-rata basis for every labourer supplied in addition to a share of the value of their production. In this context, migration is often resorted to as a way of repaying outstanding loans, with the advances normally paid by contractors being fully or partially to settle their debt. Migrants who travel outside the state normally stay in the destination area for periods of three to eight months. In the irrigated areas of the state the period of stay tends to be shorter. After repaying the advances used to fund travelling and living expenses, migrants are generally left with little or no savings to bring home back.

Significant public investment in agriculture is essential for direct and indirect employment generation, and the overall development of Balangir district. There is potential to develop irrigation infrastructure especially in the lowlands, and this is an area that deserves urgent attention. Major irrigation project like Lower Suktel Irrigation project is under way and needs its completion for irrigation in Balangir Subdivision. 110 villages of Titilagarh subdivision will be irrigated by Lower Indra Project in Nuapada district. Mega lift irrigation project by drawing water from the river Tel in villages of Saintala and Gudvella will be another venture in irrigation sector.

This district is not endowed with rich minerals like iron and coal. However, there is a potential for small industries. Through Agricultural based industries such as food processing, live stock based industries can be set up. Bolangir has seen considerable improvement in the last three decades. The problem of widespread abject poverty has been addressed to a great extent. However, skill development is the key to bring in sustainable development in the livelihoods of the people. The development machinery needs to identify the skill gaps by proper assessment of the market requirements. Improvement of skills by clear identification of the backward and forward linkages and resulting in significance economic returns. The

entrepreneurs with such renewed skills should have access to bank finances.

Balangir is one of the prime districts in poultry farming. The district is second in production of eggs in the state. Investments should focus more on live stock sector and Horticulture.

Government and civil society take initiatives to improve the working conditions of migrants in destination areas and to mitigate the negative consequences for the households involved which could have a very significant impact on their present and future standard of life. Migration in Balangir district is often associated with exploitative practices and health hazards. Areas that deserve special attention include compliance with minimum wage and child labour legislation, working schedules, housing conditions, provision of health services, the role of labour contractors, and the health risks associated with male workers' involvement with sex workers. Government institutions and NGOs with responsibilities in these areas need to work closely with employers to avoid undermining work opportunities for migrant labour. Timely implementation of works programmes like MGNREGA will ensure employment generation in the lean period. In health sector, shortage of doctors and other infrastructure facilities cause a problem in providing better services. In the absence of this, people of this district go outside for better treatment. Apart from eradication of poverty, infrastructure development in education and health sector in interior areas needs immediate attention for an all round development of the district.

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GLOSSARY

Aksamala	: A string of beads, a rosary
Amalaka	: This is one of the constituent parts, 'cogged-wheel' stone crowning of the shikhara, in the Nagara type of Indian temples. It resembles the seed of an amalok (amalaka in Sanskrit). It is circular in shape and is symbolically placed at the apex of the shrine.
Antarala	: An intermediate space in a temple; an antechamber or vestibule between the main shrine and the ardhmandapa; usually found in North Indian temples.
Argha	: A small copper pot in the shape of yoni, popularly used to offer padjal to the deity or to worshipper.
Asana	: Seat or throne; the leg position or sitting postures assumed by deities and religious practitioner.
Ayudha	: Emblem or sacred weapon of deities; generally we come across the Trishula and the Chakra.
Bada	: The wall of a temple as separate from the tower above it.
Bandhana	: Series of horizontal moulding on wall
Baranda	: Moulding, single or multiple, serves primarily as a cushion or base for the soaring gandi or trunk of curvilinear spire.
Beki	: The recessed circular portion on the top of the tower on which the amalaka rest.
Bhoga Murti	: The idol of offerings
Bisama	: Top moulding of the Gandi, generally undecorated.
Chaitya	: A sacred spot, sometimes associated with a relic, funeral pyre, or burial. It may be marked by a tree or mound, and surrounded by a sacred railing or vedika. A stupa is a type of chaitya.
Chaitya Window	: In order to light up the interior of chaitya caves, horse shoe-shaped arch windows were constructed, and came to be called as such.
Danda	: A staff or mace

Gandi	: An architectural term meaning a trunk pyramidal roof above the bada, Shikhara.
Garbhagriha	: Sanctum sanctorum of a temple. The inner, principal compartment of a temple in which the major image or linga is placed and, as such, the container of the seed of manifestation.
Homa Kunda	: Sacrificial pit
Jagamohan shrine.	: Odishian architectural term for a mandapa; hall in front of a shrine.
Jungha	: Vertical portion between pabhaga and the baranda.
Kalasa moulding.	: "Pitcher"- a crowning member of the sikhara; also a half-round moulding.
Khapuri	: Skull slightly curved stone slab covering the roof.
Khura	: Lowermost moulding used in pista or pabhaga
Kirtimukha	: A decorative device in the form of a lion or demon mask placed above doorways and niches of temples or at the top of the halo or back-slab of sculpted images. It is intended to drive away evil and protect the devout.
Lingam	: Lingam is the symbol of Shiva. It is a phallus, almost always standing on the female genital organ, and it is deified in Shiva temples. The worship of a Shiva Lingam continues from the days of the Indus Valley Civilization about 3000 BCE, when genital worship was a form of ensuring fertility and productivity.
Mahamandapa	: A large mandapa, usually with many pillars, preceding the central shrine area.
Mandapa	: The hall or porch-like area, usually pillared, in a religious structure. A mandapa may be attached to the shrine area directly, or may precede a transitional space, before the shrine, or may be completely detached from the portion of the temple that contains the shrine. It may also be entirely enclosed, partially enclosed, or open without walls.
Mastaka	: The head or crowning elements above the spire or gandi of a Hindu temple tower.
Mukhasala	: The frontal porch or Jagamohana

Nandi	: A bull and a Vahana (vehicle) of Shiva, Nandi is also found as a statue in front of Shiva temples. At times, independent Nandi shrines can also be seen.
Navagraha	:The nine planets Ravi, Chandra, Mangala, Budha, Brihaspati, Shukra, Shani, Rahu and Ketu worshipped in Hinduism for good luck or to overcome adversity, bad luck or misfortune arising from past karmas or birth related defects; They are found in most Hindu temples either grouped together on a panel or on a pedestal in commonly visible areas of the temple. Devotees usually propitiate these gods before offering prayers to the main deity in the sanctum sanctorum of the temple.
Pabhaga moulding.	: The lowermost zone of the wall (vedika) with its horizontal
Pancharatha	:"Five-ratha"; the side of a pedestal or a building that is offset so that its length is divided into five sections.
Parsvadevata	: A side-deity; secondary deities of an iconographic program, usually placed in subsidiary niches in a temple.
Pata	: Figure; Plain broad stone band
Pista	: In Odishian architecture, the platform or base comprising the lower portion of a temple.
Pitha	: Seat or throne. The pedestal of an image or linga.
Prabhavali	: An ornate piece, rich in flowery decorative details.
Raha	: The central projection in the shape of a broad off-set.
Ratha	: A cart or chariot. Sometimes used to refer to the temple that serves as the "chariot" of a deity, even though this is immovable. The term also refers to the pedestal of an image or the base of a building that houses an image. In form, the pedestal or base may be off-set, in which case, the ratha is defined by the number of its sections.
Shikhara	: The spire or tower over the shrine of a temple.
Stambha	: Pillar; frequently a free-standing pillar. Also known as a lath.
Stupa	: A crest or summit. It may be made in a miniature or votive form, but even its smaller versions often contain relics.

Triratha	: "Tri-ratha"; the side of a pedestal that is offset so that its length is divided into five sections.
Tirtha	: A holy site; a place of pilgrimage.
Urdhalinga	: Erected male genital organ, ascribed to Lord Shiva.
Vihara	: A monastery; may be either free-standing or rock-cut.
Vimana	: The shrine portion of a temple and its superstructure.
Yogasana	: Any of various bodily positions assumed in yogic practices.
Yogini	: A female yogi or ascetic who practices yoga. A female devotee, attendant of Durga, one of a class of sixty four goddesses.

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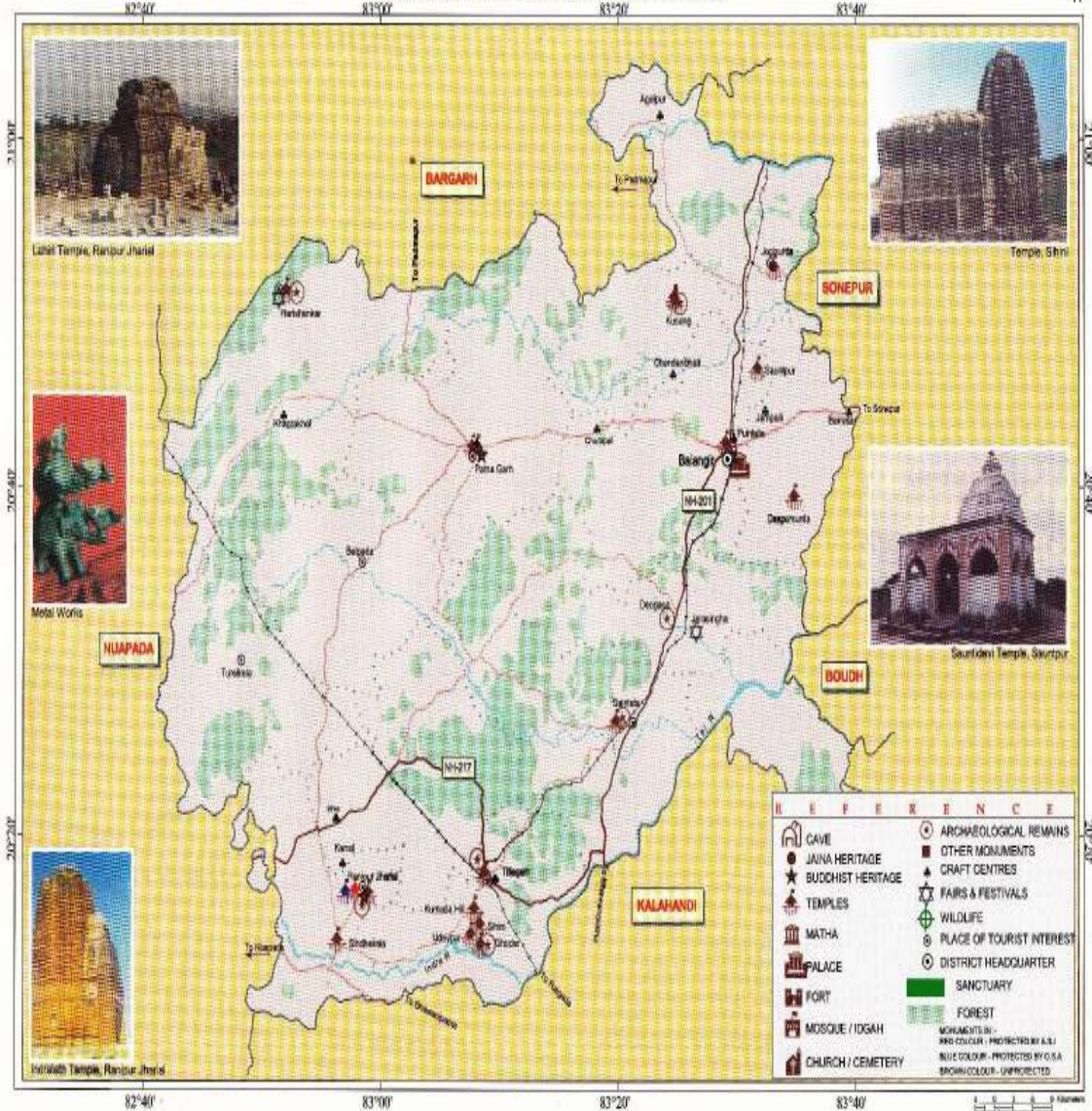
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DISTRICT CULTURAL MAP - BALANGIR



PHOTOS



Chousathi Yogini



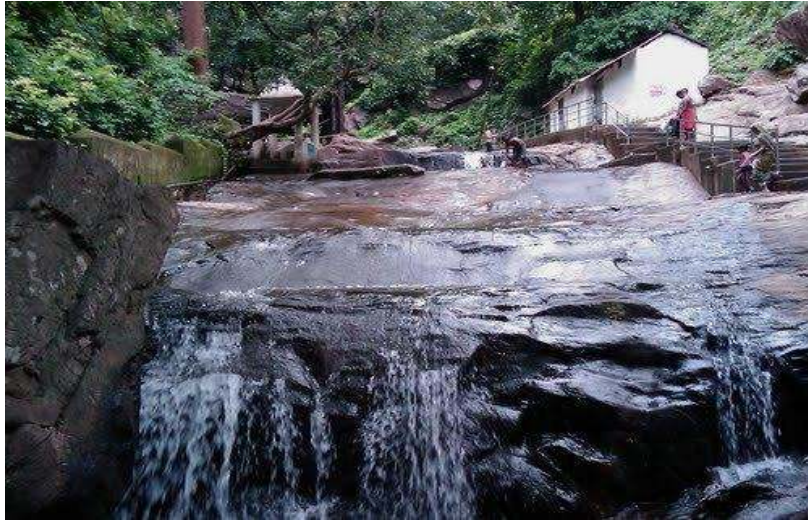
Ranipur Jharial





Harishankar Temple





Stream at Harishankar Temple





Siva Mandir, Surda



Siva Temple, Jogisurda



Siva Temple, Khujenpali



Duarsani- Sindhekela Chandi



Samleswari Temple, Balangir



Chutkuchuta



Dalkhai



Dulduli



Ghudka



Kalanga



Mailaajada



Nachnia



Rasarkeli







SURYA TEMPLE (EAST OF KUMUDA HILL)



SCENIC VIEW OF KUMUDA HILL AND DEOBANDHA (BELOW)



779. Triratha Style-Single-cell Temple (Sihna)



780. Triratha Style-Single-cell Temple (Sirkela)



753. Gold coins : Saintala



458. Sūrya : Sauntpur



619. Ladies carrying children : Santala



81. Ekajjala Bhairava, Saptamātṛkā, Anbhakānṛta vadha by Śiva
Rock-cut carvings, Chastar