

CHAPTER XI

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

There were mainly two administrative divisions of land during the period of Hindu rule in Orissa. The fertile alluvial zone between the hills and the sea was held directly by the crown and part of this was assigned in grants to the ministers and servants of the king. The rest was divided into circles called *Bisis* and *Khandas* with a *Biso* or *Khandapati* in charge who exercised chief control of the local affairs and supervised the police administration. Under him, there was the *Khandait* who was in direct charge of the village police, and an accountant whose duties were to maintain accounts of produce and cultivation, land records and to superintend collection of revenue. Several villages grouped together formed a fiscal division which, for all practical purposes, was considered the primary unit of administration. The village officials consisted of a headman and an accountant whose responsibility it was to render accounts for the revenue of the village to their divisional superiors.

HISTORY OF
LAND
REVENUE
SYSTEM

Hindu
Revenue
System

The hilly regions with some portions of the interiors were divided among the military chiefs on condition that they protected the country from foreign invasion and furnished contingent of troops when necessary.

Todar Mal, Akbar's general and finance minister, started with a regular settlement of all the Crown lands in 1581. The old division of the province was retained with a change of names, as henceforth military fiefs were called *garjats* and Crown lands were called *mughalbandi*. A verbal allegiance and nominal tribute were all that was demanded from the *garjats*. The Crown lands were managed through the old Hindu officers, though the names of the divisions and divisional officers were changed. The *Khandas* and *Bisis* were called *parganas*. The *Khandapatis* and *Bisois* were styled as *Choudhuris*. The accountant received the appellation of *Kanungo Wilayati*. The portions of the *parganas* under the immediate charge of each of these officers were called a *taluk* and the managers were called *Talukdars*. The territories of the great military chiefs were called *Killas* and for the Hindu title of *Bhuinya*, the title of zamindar was substituted.

Mughal
Revenue
System

Todar Mal paid respect to the provision made for the royal household and great officers of the Court under the Hindu dynasty and left 1,547 square miles (4006.5753 square kilometres) as the undisputed

territory of the Raja of Khurda and their dependants and thereby the Raja retained more than half of the present area of the district consisting of Khurda, Rahang, Sirai, and Chabiskud.

The fiscal officers of the *mugalbandi* or revenue paying tract had no proprietary right in the soil. Within little time to devote for the knowledge of the details of the administration, the Muslim rulers created a body of powerful middle men who were made responsible for enforcing the revenue demands through their power and local knowledge. The result was that the old fiscal officers of the Hindu system evolved as a very powerful body and by virtue of their power they lost the character as a staff of revenue officers and split up into a number of different landholders each with more or less of admitted proprietary right. They gradually become quasi-proprietors of extensive estates and divisional landholders. They, however, did not claim full ownership in the land.

Maratha
Revenue
System

The country passed into the hands of the Marathas in 1751 who did not change the old political division. The military fiefs were parcelled out among Rajas, Chieftains or Zamindars. The central plains that is the royal domain was divided into four *chaklas* or divisions, namely Cuttack, Bhadrak, Soro, and Balasore, each of which was sub-divided into about 150 *parganas*. The revenue administration of the whole area was entrusted to 32 officials called *amils*. Each *amil* was remunerated by grants of revenue-free land and by other amounts in the form of a certain percentage on collection. He was assisted by a Sadar Kanungo under whom were employed a number of *gumastas* or agents in each *pargana*. Each *pargana* was divided into a number of divisions classified according to the rank of the officers responsible for its revenue.

The object of the *amils* was to realise the revenue by any means. Only *Talukdars* who paid the revenue without trouble were recognised. This led to the weakening of the powers of the *Talukdars*. The *gumastas* being mere office accountants and collecting agents began to usurp the functions of the *Talukdars*. A noticeable instance of this process is afforded by the acquisition in 1775 of the zamindar's title to Kotdesh, Kalijori and Antrodh by Trilochan Patnaik who was originally an agent under the Faujdar of Pipli, but eventually succeeded in founding the largest zamindar family in the district.

Early British
Administra-
tion

The supremacy of the divisional officers during the Mughal administration and that of the village headmen during the Maratha resulted in a confusing state of claimants coming forward with conflicting titles. The correct position then was that the State had all along

owned the land but the divisional officers and the village headmen exercised such rights within their respective limits as they chose to assume so long as they met the demands made upon them. The principal Mukaddams or headmen with a hereditary right of collection but without any title to the land itself took upon them the self-assumed title of zamindar. Similar was the case with the fiscal officers like the Choudhuris and Kanungos. The whole body of different categories of revenue agents irrespective of their individual history, rights or origin were comprehensively styled zamindars in Regulation XII of 1805. The officers in charge of administration were asked to make the settlement of the land revenue with the zamindars or other actual proprietors of the soil, except only when the property in land was disputed, in which case it was to be made provisionally with the person in possession. But in absence of any well-defined right or title of different landholders and due to suppression of revenue records and documents it was difficult for the administration to arrive at a definite conclusion. Finally, therefore, engagements had to be taken from the parties in possession who had been responsible for collecting land tax and paying it into the treasury and all such persons irrespective of their previous designations and functions became landholders. This was the origin of Orissa zamindars. An intermediate proprietary body was thus created out of the various intermediate holders between the ruling power and the actual cultivators. The settlement for the Government land revenue in the greater part of Orissa was not of a fixed and permanent character but was made for a term of years only subject to an increased assessment at the end of every fresh period.

Some of the local chiefs during Maratha period did not even maintain the privilege of paying the quit-rent and they had gradually been reduced to the position of ordinary zamindars. Some of them offered resistance during British conquest but later they gave way and were pardoned. The tribute of seven such estates including Khurda and Marichpur of Puri district was confirmed in perpetuity by Regulation XII of 1805. This arrangement, however, was immediately upset in respect of Khurda, for the Raja rebelled and his estate was confiscated in 1805, since when it has been held direct by the Government.

The first settlement of the province of Orissa was for one year only. It was concluded early in 1805. This was followed by a number of temporary settlements. The history of these early settlements is an unfortunate record of assessment on insufficient enquiry and unauthentic rules for the realisation of inequitable revenues. The zamindars and the revenue officers combined to suppress all papers and the

PREVIOUS
SETTLEMENTS

Settlements
in old Puri
and Khurda
Subdivisions

Collector, therefore, was left with no reliable information except to proceed with a very rough estimate of the quantity of land in cultivation and on the reports of interested subordinates. The evils arising from such ignorance of the real circumstances of the people, from the general disorganisation of administration, and from the severity of assessment were aggravated by the stringency of the Bengal regulations and sale laws¹ which were more suited to permanently settled tracts with a low assessment.

In the early days of British administration the Bengal regulations were enforced with all the rigidity and the assessment became a fixed and invariable debt. Even frequent visitations of natural calamities like flood and drought could not relieve this burden. The consequences of this attempt to engraft the rigid administration of a permanently-settled province on a country and people wholly unsuited to it were disastrous². Accumulation of arrears became inevitable, and in 1806 began the system of putting up defaulting estates for sale in Calcutta, a policy which allowed the people of Bengal to buy valuable properties at low prices. Some of the oldest families of Orissa were ruined, their estates were sold up and passed on to the hands of Bengali adventurers.

Another distressing fact was that there was little incentive noticeable among the cultivators for improvement of the lands in their possession. Any improvement to the land was followed immediately by an enhanced rent and the cultivator, therefore, left as much uncultivated land as he safely could.

Another factor that added to the discontent was the abolition by the Company's Government of payment of revenue by *cowri* and compelling the people to pay it in silver. The market rate of *cowries* remained almost stationary during the first two years of British rule but went down considerably after this period.

Last, but not the least, was the Khurda rebellion of 1817. The estate of Mukunda Deva II, the Raja of Khurda, was confiscated in 1805 and he was arrested and confined in the Midnapur Jail. Immediately after the arrest of the Raja, Khurda came under the regime of Mr. Fletcher, a Madras Military Officer. "Major Fletcher, who had been placed in charge of the territories of Mukandadeva II", writes R. D. Banarjee, "is still notorious in Orissa for his incapacity and dishonesty. He was persuaded by his Bengali subordinates to resume the *Chakran* lands of the Khurdas *paiks*."³ O' Malley has given a

¹. P. T. Mansfield, Bihar and Orissa District Gazetters, Puri (1929), p. 227.

². Ibid, p. 228.

³. R. D. Banerjee, History of Orissa (Vol. II), p. 282.

true exposition of facts leading to the Paik rebellion. According to him, "Deprived of the lands which they had enjoyed from time immemorial, they were subjected to the grossest extortion and oppression at the hands of the farmers, *sarbarahkars*, and other undrlings to whom our Government entrusted the collection of the revenue, and also to the tyrannies of a corrupt and venal police"¹. The first settlement, summary in nature, was made by Major Fletcher in 1805 for Khurda estate. In this settlement he miscalculated the gross value of the crops at Rs. 5,75,000 though actually the crops could be valued not more than Rs. 2½ lakhs and determined that the whole was the revenue demandable by the estate. Since this settlement was found impracticable, Golam Kadir made a fresh settlement for the estate in 1806. The incident of rent per acre in this settlement was rupee one and the revenue obtained was Rs. 1,14,320. Since then there were frequent summary settlements leading to fresh and more assessments in every settlement in 1812-13, 1813-14, and 1816-17. This combined with resumption of the *jagirs* resulted in causing extreme hardship to the people.

"The Khurda rebellion of 1817 served to bring home to the authorities the deep discontent and real grievances of the Oriyas; and in Regulation VII of 1822 Government shortly afterwards proclaimed its intention of concluding a settlement based on a detailed investigation into the circumstances of the province and a determination of the rights of all parties. Preparations for this settlement were commenced as early as 1830, and it was held to run from 1837, although the proceedings were not finally completed before 1845. The settlement thus concluded was made for 30 years, and should therefore have expired in the year 1867, but the state of exhaustion in which the great famine of 1866 left the province rendered it inadvisable to undertake a resettlement"². Accordingly a 30 years extension to the settlement of 1837 was granted without any enhancement of revenue. The next settlement was concluded in 1899 beginning from 1897. Its term expired in 1927. Proceedings for resettlement began in 1923 and this revenue settlement was concluded in 1932 by W. W. Dalziel. This settlement ran from 1927 for 30 years. All these settlements were confined to the Sadar (Puri) subdivision of the district.

As stated earlier the first settlement for Khurda subdivision was made in 1805. This was of a summary nature being a mere valuation of produce. This was followed by another settlement in 1806 and many summary settlements thereafter. These

¹. Bengal District Gazetteers, Puri (1908), p. 51.

². P. T. Mansfield, Bihar and Orissa District Gazetteers, Puri, p. 228.

experiments with disastrous results continued up to 1817 when the rebellion of the Paiks completed the temporary ruin of the estate. Parts of Khurda were almost depopulated, large tracts of arable land were thrown out of cultivation and all revenue work came to a standstill. Shortly after the conclusion of the rebellion another settlement was made by Forester in 1818-19. After three years Wilkinson made a fresh settlement in 1821-22 of the Khasmahal. Wilkinson completed the first quinquennial settlement of the area in 1822-23. He also made a decennial settlement of Khurda in 1836-37. In this settlement survey of land was made with a standard rod of 14 dasti or 7 feet (2.13 metres). The next settlement was made in 1856. The first cadastral settlement was effected by W.C. Taylor in 1875-80. Khasra (plot index), Chakabandi maps (soil maps) and Khatians or Bhians (record-of-rights) were prepared in this settlement. On its expiry a resettlement was made by his son J. H. Taylor which was completed in 1897. For the first time plot numbers were recorded in Oriya. In this settlement a general enhancement of annas 3 (19 paise) a rupee was made except homestead. The new assessment came into force with effect from December 1897 and was sanctioned for a period of 15 years. A fresh settlement was again undertaken between 1912 and 1914 by Raisahib Sudarsan Das. Rents were enhanced by Rs. 0-2-0 (12 paise) per rupee and the new rents were fixed for 15 years. A Milan Khasra revision appears to have been done in 1929-30 in which an enhancement of rent at the rate of two annas (12 paise) to a rupee was made through 1,58,980 agreements. This was done in lieu of the operations known as Dalziel settlement. The term of this settlement was fixed for 15 years but actually continued till revised by the settlement of 1952-62.

settlements
in the ex-
state areas of
Khandapara,
Anpur,
Aspalla,
and Naya-
rh

For the first time an attempt was made for settlement in Khandapara ex-State in 1849. Field measurement was done by means of a standard rod measuring $10'5\frac{1}{2}"$ (3.19 metres) and certain records were prepared. Apart from homesteads, other lands were divided into six classes. There is no report of the settlement. It appears that no further settlement was made up to 1867 but new lands seem to have been assessed by *amins* specially employed for the purpose. Then came the settlement of 1910 of which no report is available. It is said that in this settlement the lands were classified on the basis of natural advantages. Lands were classified as *sarad* or *bajefasal* and further sub-divided according to single or double cropping. In this settlement an arbitrary increment of rates by four annas (25 paise), three annas (19 paise) and two annas (12 paise) per rupee of rental was adopted. The measurement of field was done with the standard rod. Another settlement was taken up in this ex-state during 1928 to 1931 which

continues to be in force. This settlement in which traverse and cadastral survey was made resulted in preparation of settlement records and maps. The occupancy status of tenants over the raiyati lands was recognized. All produce rents were commuted to cash in this settlement.

A summary settlement in the ex-State of Ranpur was made for the year 1877-79. Thereafter another settlement operation took place in 1880-81. Previous to this settlement "rent was being realised in kind and the Grain Department Officers used to harass the people by realising more and so there was a rebellion"¹. In this settlement the raiyats were made to pay $\frac{2}{3}$ th of the assessed *jama* in money and the rest in kind and the *paiks* had to pay $\frac{2}{3}$ th in money and rest in kind. But due to the oppression of the employees; there was an agitation and payment of rent in kind was altogether abolished in 1894. A fresh settlement started in 1896 and was completed in 1899. It was for a period of 20 years.

In both the settlements of 1880 and 1896 no cadastral survey was made. Measurements were made by a standard rod. In these settlements one Bhian (record-of-rights) and one Bhanuria (Khasra) were prepared. In the settlement of 1880 the Bhanuria and Bhian were prepared in palm leaf whereas in the settlement of 1899 the Bhanuria was prepared in palm leaf and Bhian in paper.

The next settlement due in 1919-20 could not be taken up due to the unwillingness of the Ruler. After his powers were withdrawn, the survey and settlement operations were started in the ex-State with the sanction of the Political Agent in 1943-44 and completed in 1952. The prolongation of the operation for nine years in a small ex-State like Ranpur was due to lack of proper co-ordination and scarcity of technical personnel. For the first time cadastral survey was done in the settlement of 1943-52 and up to date record-of-rights were prepared. The operation was conducted under the Bengal Survey Act, 1875 and the Orissa Tenancy Act, 1913. This settlement resulted in an increase in the rent-roll from Rs. 51,600-2-5 or Rs. 51,600.15 to Rs.72,538-10-0 or Rs.72,538-62.

There is no record to know the system of land revenue administration in the ex-State of Daspalla up to the last part of 19th century. In 1871, an attempt appears to have been made to record the rents paid by the raiyats. Thereafter two settlements were attempted but without any success. The first settlement was completed in 1897 in which the 'Padika' or a pole measuring 10'5 $\frac{1}{2}$ " (3.18 metres) was

¹. Final Report on the Original Survey and Settlement Operations of the Ranpur ex-State area in the District of Puri (1943-1952), p. 30.

used. The last settlement was made in 1921. In this settlement "sarbarakars were asked to indicate the boundaries of their villages by burying stones. A traverse was then made by plane table and compass; cadastral survey was made by chain. All villages of the State were traversed including Kondh villages but in a number of villages cadastral survey was not done as they were not being cultivated"¹. All rent seems to have been fixed in cash. Lands were classified according to single or double cropping as *sarda*, *pada* and *pal*. Each of these was divided into three grades. An arbitrary enhancement of about 2 annas (12 paise) an acre appears to have been adopted for the Oriya tract (as distinguished from the Kandha tract) of the ex-State.

The ex-State of Nayagarh was divided into 9 Zillas from a long time. These were perhaps the old fiscal divisions. In the settlement of 1932-33, these Zillas were reduced to 8 *parganas*. Besides, there were also 3 *mals* which were inhabited by Kandhas.

"Everything was in chaos prior to 1852 when Rai Haramohan Lala, Government Tahasildar on deputation, made a regular settlement. He settled the rights of the tenants, tenure holders and Jagirdars etc.

The cultivated area of the State according to his Settlement was 67,981 and the land revenue was Rs.36,940. The term of the Settlement expired after 5 years when Maulavi Rosan Mahamad, a Government Servant on deputation, made an 'Uthbati' Settlement of the reclaimed areas in the year 1857 during the minority of the late Raja Ladu Kishore Singh Mandhata. The result of his Settlement was that the cultivated areas came to 73,619 acres and the land revenue to Rs.39,415, during the interval of 5 years, 1852-1857, the increase in acres came to 5,632 and that in the revenue to Rs.2,475 i.e., 8.28 per cent increment in acres and 6.7 per cent in revenue. In the year 1870 the revenue of 1857 increased to Rs.51,501 by summary methods adopted when Babu Harikrishna Das, Assistant Superintendent of the Tributary Mahals, visited the State. Thus the increase in revenue was Rs. 12,086, i.e., by about 30 per cent after a period of 13 years.

During the time of Late Raja Ladu Kishore Singh Mandhata the assets of the State were reduced to Rs.40,000 from Rs.51,501 as some lands were granted by him as *niskar* to his favourites. This with the Jama paid since his death on reclamation till 1890 brought the net assets to Rs.43,673/0/9 (or Rs.43,673.05) till the last regular Settlement made by Government Agents Babu Ajoy Chandra Das and Rai Sahib Gour Syam Mahanti"².

¹ R. K. Ramadhyani-Report on Land Tenures and the Revenue System of the Orissa and Chhatisgarh States (Vol. III), p. 71.

² Revision Settlement Report of Nayagarh State (1918), p. 31.

Next settlement commenced on the 19th March, 1896, and continued for 10 years. The new rents were realised in the year 1902. The rent paying areas increased to 1,12,387 acres from 89,168 acres of 1890 i.e., increment of 23,219 acres or 26.04 per cent. 45 rates of assessment for wet cultivation were fixed as far back as 1852. In this settlement the number was reduced to 9 only. There were 23 rates of assessment for the homestead lands according to the settlement of 1852. This was reduced to four only.

Aniruddha Patel took up settlement in 1913 which was completed in 1918. It was a revision of the settlement and claimed to be better than the others. "Fields were measured in some detail and records prepared. The assessment was however made very crudely on the basis of a flat rate increase of 2 annas (Re. 0.12 paise) on all of the 9 rates which prevailed at the previous settlement. This amounted to 4 per cent increase in the case of the highest rates and 33 per cent increase in the case of the lowest rates; this flat rate was applied in spite of the fact that the settlement officer made an estimate of the profit from various kinds of land; the rates proposed show that the assessment was about 8 per cent of the profit on the best land and about 25 per cent on the worst land, an instance of how incapable settlement officers in the States have been of anything more than routine. The rates were however sanctioned by the Political Agent. There was no classification of villages. Homestead lands in this State were all assessed at various rates with the exception of lands granted free as *minha* at the previous settlements, but where these had been transferred, they were assessed at full ryoti rates; some poor people were allowed free homesteads"¹. After the expiry of this settlement, the 1928-33 settlement was taken up. This settlement was done on a scientific basis by traverse and cadastral survey. Maps were prepared. The traverse was by sightvane and compass and not by theodolite. The Mal area which was not surveyed before was taken up and record-of-rights prepared.

Formerly interests in land in the State were extremely complicated and varied with minor distinctions between rights of the different classes. But the series of settlements and tenancy legislations have gone a long way in reducing the number and variety. Before the enactment of different legislations relating to land reforms, the following kinds of interests were existing in the district:

(1) Proprietors of estates, who were directly responsible to the State for the revenue of the land they owned, (2) Revenue-free proprietors, holding the lands free of revenue in perpetuity,

HISTORY OF
INTEREST IN
LAND

¹ R. K. Ramdhyan; Report on Land Tenures and the Revenue System of the Orissa and Chhatisgarh States (Vol. III), p. 187.

(3) Sub-proprietors with semi-proprietory rights holding under the proprietors, (4) Tenure-holders having certain privileges as transfer and other rights, (5) Other tenure-holders, both temporary and permanent, without such privileges, (6) Raiyats i.e. the actual cultivators, sub-divided into various classes, viz., settled, occupancy and non-occupancy, (7) Chandanadars, (8) Jagir-holders and (9) Under-raiyats.

Revenue-paying Estates

In the old district of Puri the estate of Khurda with an area of 5,65,000 acres was directly held by the Government. This estate formed the greater part of the Khurda subdivision, the rest of which was composed of revenue-free Ekharajat Mahal and other small estates. The rent of this estate was collected by the Government through Sarbarakarars. In the Puri subdivision, two-third of the land revenue was derived from temporarily settled estates of Kotdesh, Krishnanagar, Rahang, Krishnachandra, Delang, Kokal, Kotsahi, Pipli, Rorang, and Golar. There were also two Government estates viz., Balukhand and Kodhar. The Balukhand estate comprised the valuable residential part of Puri town and a part of Kodhar estate was assigned for maintenance of the Uttaraparaswa and Jagannathaballav Matha on fixed quit-rents. Marichpur (now in Cuttack district) was the only permanently settled estate of the district.

Revenue-free Land and Estates

There were mainly two classes of *lakhrāj* or revenue-free land in the district. The first class included land originally assigned for the support of Brahmins, grants to mendicants and other poor Hindus, and *khushbash*. These were the absolute property of the grantee with the right of sale, mortgage etc. The other class consisted mainly of Debottar lands owned by temple, idol, monastery or saint and managed by trustees classed *sebait*, *marfatdar* or *mahant*. The most important of the revenue-free properties were the Jagir Mahals of Malud and Parikud and the endowments of the Jagannath temple. The latter included the Ekharajat Mahal and the Satais Hazari Mahal. In Khurda Khasmahal areas there were about 18,370 holdings with 21,766'045 acres of land under Baheldars and other subsisting intermediary interests¹. All these intermediary interests were holders of revenue-free lands and/or quit-rented lands. In the ex-State areas now forming part of the district also revenue-free lands were made of two categories; those held by personal right and those held by trustees. There were service grants and maintenance grants under various names and nomenclatures spread

¹ Final Report on the Revision Settlement of 1952-62 A. D. of Khurda, p. 62.

out on an extensive scale in the ex-States. Grants made for religious purposes and religious institutions known as *Brahmottar* and *Debottar* respectively were a common feature. Besides, there were also private lands of rulers, and their relatives and dependants generally known as *khanja* and *khamar*.

In the old subdivision of Puri there were sub-proprietors, privileged tenure-holders, Jagir-holders, Chandanadars, raiyats and under-raiyats.

Some Status
of Land in
old Puri
subdivision

The sub-proprietors were of two kinds, viz., the Tankidars on the one hand who paid a quit-rent fixed in perpetuity and on the other hand the sub-proprietors in the temporarily settled estates whose rent or revenue was assessed at each revenue settlement. Most of the Tankidars were the descendants of the Brahmins to whom grants of land were made by former Rajas. Originally these were grants assigned for the support of deities, priests, courtiers, members of the royal household and others who had claims to be supported from the public property. "At the time of the British conquest these people were paying quit-rents for their holdings, generally amounting to a few annas per acre; and in 1805 the British confirmed their right to continue to hold at that quit-rent, except in the case of some whose title was found to be vague. In subsequent settlements these *tankidars* were placed under the proprietors of the neighbouring estates and paid their rent or revenue through them"¹ Under the Orissa Tenancy Act, the Tankidars were classed as sub-proprietors.

Sub-Proprietors

The other sub-proprietors included the descendants of village headmen and minor revenue officials like *mukaddams*, *padhans* and *sarbarakars* who at the time of the British conquest were in enjoyment of a *de facto* proprietary right in the soil and were permitted to engage in this way. Up to 1803, the *padhans* acquired more than equality with their brother headmen in the Mughalbandi and their claim to be regarded as proprietary tenure holders were fully acknowledged at the settlement of 1837. Similarly the Sarbarakars, originally rent collectors of a higher grade, gradually acquired separate tenures.

Kharidadars and *bajyaptidars* were the two chief classes of privileged tenure-holders. "The former originated as follows. It was customary in the days of the Mughals and Marathas for the superior revenue officers to recognize a species of sale, by which those who engaged for the revenue transferred small areas of waste land and jungle to persons who undertook to bring it under cultivation

Privileged
tenure-
holders

¹ P. T. Mansfield, Bihar and Orissa District Gazetteer of Puri (1929), p. 237.

or to found villages. The areas were supposed to be small and worthless, but fraud was practised in many cases, and valuable lands were frequently alienated for a small consideration***. These were generally the *kharidadar* tenures.

The descendants of these persons who were holding land free of revenue or at a low rate at the time of the conquest of the province by the English were called *bajyaptidars*. Many of these grants were confirmed by the Regulation of 1805 whereas others were resumed (*Bajyapti*). The resumed lands were assessed either at half rates or at full rates, but in any case the assessment was very low. The chief privileges enjoyed by the *kharidadars* and *bajyaptidars* were that their rents remained much below the general level of rent and that their rights were permanent, heritable and transferable without the consent of the superior landlord.

The other tenure-holders were those who had taken leases of the zamindari right, or portions thereof, either permanently or temporarily, and who enjoyed no special privileges such as right of free-transfer and who had not been recognised as a class entitled to a low rate of rent.

Raiyats

The term raiyat implies one who takes land to cultivate it himself. The great bulk of rural population consists of raiyats.

“At the British conquest it was found that the cultivated lands of the Mughalbandi were tilled by two classes of raiyats—*thani* or resident cultivators, and *pahi* or non-resident cultivators. The *thani* raiyat had a hereditary right of occupancy in his lands, while the *pahi* raiyat was a mere tenant-at-will. The advantages enjoyed by the former were briefly as follows. He held his homestead and garden land rent-free; his lands were the best in the village; and he had the preference in the reclamation of new lands. He had communal rights to pasture, fire-wood and thatching grass; he had a hereditary right of occupancy; and he could not be ousted so long as he paid his rent. The possession of these advantages increased his importance in the eyes of his neighbours and strengthened his credit with the money-lender. On the other hand, his rent was much higher than that paid by the non-resident raiyat and he groaned under the extra contribution and impositions exacted from him by his landlord*** These demands were often so excessive as to swallow up all the profits of cultivation, and the *thani* raiyat, reduced to despair, was often compelled to abandon his home and the doubtful advantages of his position. The *pahi* raiyat paid a much lower rate of rent, but on the other hand, he was liable to be turned out of his holding at any moment.

*. P. T. Mansfield, Bihar and Orissa District Gazetteer of Puri (1929), p. 240.

"After the settlement of 1837, the *thani* rents remained almost unchanged, while the rents of *pahi* raiyats, which for years were not regulated by law, rose as the competition for land became keener. At the settlement of 1897 the rents of the two classes were brought approximately to the same level, and as the law now does not distinguish between the rights of the two classes, the names have become obsolete; the *pahi* raiyats have now acquired the status of settled raiyats, with all the privileges which that confers"*.

The Chandanadars were the shopkeepers, artisans and labouring classes who had no arable land in village but paid rents for homestead land only. They were given a definite status in the Orissa Tenancy Act.

Chandanadars

There were two kinds of Jagir-holders in the subdivision of Puri. The Jagir-holders of the first kind were those who held lands rent-free. The carpenters, barbers, washermen and others who serve the village community in return for their services come under this class. At the settlement of 1897 the Jagirs of Paiks, Khandayats and village Chowkidars were resumed and assessed to rent. The other kind of Jagir-holders like ploughmen and labourers were holding lands rent-free for services rendered to the landlord. The holdings held by servants of the landlord were valued at the prevalent rate for land and the landlord was to pay revenue on the valuation.

Jagir-holders

Consequent upon the abolition of intermediary interests under the Orissa Estates Abolition Act, personal service Jagirs have been extinguished and the Jagir-holders have been enabled to acquire raiyati in their land. Communal service Jagirs had not been affected by the Orissa Estates Abolition Act.

Raiyats who were debarred from cultivating the land themselves either due to caste restriction or otherwise leased out their holdings to the neighbours either on produce or cash rent. These were called under-raiyats.

Under-raiyats

Raiyats were of various kinds, like Chirasthayi Jama (raiayat at fixed rate). Sthitiban (Settled raiyats), Dakhhal-Satwa-Bisista (occupancy raiyats), Dakhhal-Satwa-Sunya (non-occupancy raiyats), Bajyapti Sthitiban (settled raiyats after resumption) and Bajyapti Dakhhal-Satwa-Bisista (occupancy raiyats after resumption). Most of the settled raiyats were the descendants of those who were there at the time of the British conquest and who entered into agreement for the first time in 1820. Homestead lands were either of Chandana category or of Minha category. The formers were rent

Some Status of Land in old Khurda subdivision Raiyats

*. P. T. Mansfield, Bihar and Orissa District Gazetteer of Puri (1929), p. 242.

paying holdings of village labourers and artisans which had only homesteads and no agricultural land. The latter was rent-free homesteads of a variety of persons, agriculturists and non-agriculturists alike.

Jagir-holders

There were a number of Jagirs held rent-free in Khurda sub-division. Some of these were Gram Sevak Jagir, Sarbarakari Jagir, Dalai Jagir, Tandakar Jagir, Paik Jagir, Anugrahi Jagir, Kumbhar Jagir, Kamar Jagir, Dhoba Jagir, Kothi Barika Minha Jagir, Ghata Majhi Jagir, Taratuthia Jagir, Hinayat Jagir, Kothi Chowkidar Jagir, Chhatia Jagir, Panji Kuha Jagir, Jyotisha Jagir, Jamidar Diake Jagir. The Jagir-holders were performing certain services in lieu of rent. They were liable to ejection for failure to perform such service or when such service was no longer required. The Jagir-holders had right of occupancy on payment of rent in the homesteads because of resumption or dismissal.

Sikim Raiyats

Before the passing of the Orissa Tenants Protection Act, 1948, and the Orissa Tenants Relief Act, 1955, Sikim tenants holding land under settled raiyats were perhaps intended to denote under-raiyats as understood under the Orissa Tenancy Act, 1913. In the revision settlement of 1952-62 of Khurda Khasmahal, there were about 13,676 Sikim holdings.

Interest in land in ex-State areas now forming part of the district

Prior to the merger, different systems of land management and land administration were prevalent in the ex-States of Ranpur, Naya-garh, Khandapara and Daspalla now forming part of the district. They were mostly governed by the executive orders and instructions issued by the *darbar* administration from time to time. There does not seem to have been any codified tenancy law in existence in these ex-States.

By and large, the ex-State authorities placed restriction on the transfer of lands by their raiyats, though the restraint was not equally rigorous in all areas. In Ranpur, for instance, the raiyats enjoyed comparatively unrestricted right of transfer.

Status of land in the ex-State areas were many and they had proliferated on the basis of the varieties of tenures created by the ex-Rulers on various occasions. Intermediary tenures as well as service Jagirs existed on a large scale. As mentioned earlier, there were existing private lands of the Rulers and their relatives and dependants. There were also grants made for religious purposes and for religious institutions. Sub-infeudations had inevitably taken place under these tenures over a period of years. A system of personal rule almost wholly characterised the land administration in the ex-State areas.

An account of different interests in land in these ex-States is given in the following paragraphs.

In the ex-States of Daspalla, Ranpur and Khandapara there was no zamindar. In the Nayagarh ex-State, except a few villages shown as held by a special tenure-holder known as Khalikot Jagirdar and few Debottar villages, all the villages were held direct. In Daspalla and Khandapara, there was no entire village held by tenure-holders. But in the Ranpur ex-State, there were villages held on tenures consisting of *debottar*, *brahmottar* and *khanja* grants.

There were existing numerous *debottar* grants meant for temples or religious institutions in all the ex-States. These grants were held by various deities at headquarters and at other places in the ex-States. In the ex-States of Nayagarh and Ranpur, the deities outside the State were also allotted many lands. Most of the *debottar* grants inside the ex-State areas were either managed directly by the respective rulers or by the Debottar Departments. In the Daspalla ex-State, there were committees to look after the deities installed outside the headquarters of the State. In this ex-State, tenants holding *debottar* lands for more than 12 years continuously were granted occupancy right. In other cases the lands were either leased out to *sanja* or assessed to nominal quit-rent. In the ex-States of Khandapara, Nayagarh and Ranpur, there were some *debottar* grants managed by the *sevaks* or *sebaitis*. In the Ranpur ex-State, there were also *mathadhikaris* in charge of some *debottar* lands. All the *debottar* grants were not rent-free. Some were paying quit-rents. In the ex-State of Nayagarh, the grantees had right over trees of unreserved species, right to fisheries and right to cultivate waste land recorded in their name. The right was heritable and partible with permission. In the Ranpur ex-State, the *debottar* grants were not transferable.

To perform worship daily and to offer benediction for the rulers, the Brahmins were granted lands as *brahmottar* grants. In the Daspalla ex-State, there were tenants with occupancy right in *brahmottar* lands. Some of them were paying small quit-rents. In the ex-State of Khandapara, written sanction of the authority was required for sale, mortgage or sub-letting etc. of these grants whether permanently or temporarily. Some of the lands were held free and others were held on quit-rents. In the ex-State of Nayagarh, *brahmottar* grants sold to a Brahmin other than a *namaskarnia* Brahmin were liable to assessment and transfer fee. Like *debottar* grants, the grantees of *brahmottar* grants also enjoyed right over trees of unreserved species, rights to fisheries and right to cultivate waste lands recorded in their names. In the Ranpur ex-State, there

were whole *brahmottar* villages. Lands held by Brahmins were transferable; sales permitted to Brahmins only. Otherwise the grants were held practically unconditionally.

Khamar

There were personal lands of rulers and members of their families in the ex-State of Daspalla known as Khamar. The lands were held free of rent and cesses. In the ex-State of Daspalla, the lands under the grant were given to cultivators on lease from year to year on *sanja* system. Grants were held subject to good behaviour in addition to the condition of the Sanad. The grantees were not allowed to transfer the lands by mortgage, sale, gift or will without the written permission of the ruler. In the Khandapara ex-State, the lands held as State Khamar were either cultivated directly by the chief or let-out to cultivators on *sanja* system. In the Nayagarh ex-State, the Khamar lands belonging to the ruler, the Ranishaheba and the Rajamata were cultivated mostly through lease of 5 years. Surrender of Khamar lands was not allowed during this period. In the Ranpur ex-State, there were numerous Khamar holdings. These lands were either cultivated on *sanja*, or on *bhaga* or share cropping.

Maintenance
Grants

The maintenance grants included grants like *khanja*, *anugrahi*, *rak-tapata* etc. In all the ex-States there were *khanja* grants. The *khanja* grants were made mainly for the relatives of the Rulers. In the Khandapara ex-State, concubines and illegitimate children of former Rajas were also holding *khanja* grants. The *khanja* grants were rather complex in the Ranpur ex-State. In this ex-State, the *khanjadars* were usually the Sarbarakars of the whole villages. There were also *khanjadars* in the villages in which there were no Sarbarakars. There were even more than one *khanjadar* in a village. In some cases also the Debottar Department of the ex-State was holding *khanja* grants. In this ex-State the *khanjadar* was allowed to transfer by sale etc. only the lands under his personal cultivation (*nij-jot*). The raiyat under a *khanja* grant had the same right as in villages under direct management. Members of the Raj family were holding the grant at the pleasure of the ruler. The temple *khanjas* were supposed to have proprietary rights. In the ex-State of Daspalla, the *khanja* grants and other grants like *dutta-anugraha* and *raktapata* which were granted to show favour or as a reward were heritable with the sanction of the State. Under most of these grants, there were tenants with occupancy rights. Some of the grantees were paying quit-rent. In the ex-State of Khandapara, the *khanja* lands were *khorauposak* grants made for the maintenance of the holders which in any case reverted to the State on failure of male heirs. The Khanjadar had no right to village waste or trees. The raiyat under a *khanja* grant was paying 50 per cent more rent than other raiyats and cesses in

proportion. In the Nayagarh ex-State, the *khanja* grants (except the Khallikot Jagir) were allowed to be held for life only, and in practice they were assessed to 25 per cent of the rent on each succession. The Jagirdar of Khallikot enjoyed the right of a zamindar and paid no rent to the State. He had power to cultivate waste land recorded in his name. Other *khanja* grants and grants like *raktapata*, *anugrahi* etc. which were given for maintenance were not heritable and partible except where specified. *Raktapata* and *anugrahi* grants were heritable but not partible. Some *khanja* grantees were paying quit-rent.

There were numerous service *jagirs* in all these ex-States. The service *jagirs* were divided into two kinds, those rendering service to the ruler and those rendering service to village communities. Among the former were Paiks, cooks, musicians, dancing girls, tailors, physicians etc. of the Daspalla ex-State; dancing girls, pipers etc., of the Khandapara ex-State; and umbrella bearer, dancer, Pradhani Charcha Behera of the Nayagarh ex-State. Before the settlement of 1943-52, there were Jagirdars like physicians, door keepers, conch blowers, flag carriers, sweepers, singers, sculptors, painters etc., who were rendering service to rulers in the Ranpur ex-State. The Chowkidars enjoying *jagirs* in all the ex-States were most important among the village servants. There were other service Jagir-holders of whom mention may be made of astrologers, artisans etc. There were also in the Nayagarh ex-State Sarbarkars and Dakuas holding service *jagirs*. In the Daspalla ex-State, no person under service *jagir* was granted occupancy right. In the Khandapara ex-State many of the service *jagir*-holders were paying quit-rent. In the Ranpur ex-State, the service *jagirs* were resumable at the pleasure of the ruler and lands were not alienable.

Service
Jagirs

In the ex-State of Daspalla, there were *thani*, *pahi* and *chandana* tenants. The *thanis* were resident of the village of cultivation whereas *pahis* were non-resident raiyats. In fact, there was no difference between the rights of *thani* and *pahi* tenants. The Chandana tenants only possessed a house site. In this ex-State, the tenants paying rent regularly were not liable for eviction. The sanction of the State was required for transfer by sale, mortgage etc. of the raiyats land. Court was empowered to put to sale the tenants land apart from homestead for arrears of rent. Mutation fee was charged on transfer of land. The tenants were allowed to relinquish the land on payment of all dues before the end of the year. In the ex-State of Khandapara, though there were two classes of tenants viz., *thani* and *pahi*, there was practically no difference between the rights enjoyed by both the classes. There were Chandanadars enjoying homesteads only. A tenant in possession of a new holding for 12 years continuously was

Raiyats

acquiring occupancy right. While new land was given on payment of *salami*, with certain restrictions transfer of land was permitted. A raiyat was not allowed to sell a portion of his plot. Rent-free homestead or a portion of it was not allowed to be sold unless the entire raiyati holding was sold with it. Occupancy holdings were heritable and partible. A raiyat failing to cultivate land for three continuous years was liable for eviction. He was also liable for eviction for disloyalty, for failure to pay rent and for conversion of his land for non-agricultural purposes. A raiyat failing to reclaim waste land granted to him for 5 continuous years on lease was liable for ejection. Sub-lease was permitted from year to year. Only for the recovery of State dues or for the execution of decrees with the sanction of the Ruler, the sale of land by court was permissible. The raiyat enjoyed fruits and dead wood. But for appropriating the reserved species of trees on his land, he had to pay half royalty. In cases of surrendered land, the land was resettled on payment of a *salami*. There were *thani*, *pahi*, and *chandana* raiyats in the Nayagarh ex-State. Besides, there was a class called *chandanachas* which meant a raiyat possessing a small area of wet cultivation near his homestead. Paiks whose lands were assessed and converted into raiyati were called *paikan* raiyats. Like previous two ex-States, there was no difference between *thani* and *pahi* raiyats in this ex-State also. Every tenant had a right of occupancy in the lands assessed in his name. An occupancy raiyat had right not to be evicted except for arrears of rent for three consecutive years and disloyalty. Sale with certain restrictions was permitted. Sale of land to an outsider required the sanction of the State. A portion of a plot or a plot with less than Rs. 6 rental was not allowed to be sold. No sales were permitted to other than a cultivating raiyat or a person who did not cultivate himself. Sanction was required to sell to a person who was already in possession of more than 30 *mans* of land. There were restrictions for transfer by gift or will. Only usufructuary mortgages by the raiyats for a limited period of 5 years were allowed. A raiyat had right to fruit trees on his homestead and *bari* land but he had no right to trees on the agricultural land. The court was empowered to put to sale a raiyat's holding for the State dues. The raiyats of Ranpur ex-State had permanent rights and were holding a position superior to that of the raiyats of other ex-States. All the settled raiyats had been recorded as *shhitiban* and had acquired occupancy right over their land. Their holdings were hereditary, alienable and partible. There was no difference between *thani* and *pahi* raiyats in this ex-State.

ikim or
nder-raiyats

There were Sikim or under-raiyats in all the ex-States. They were generally given occupancy right on the basis of 12 years possession.

In the ex-State of Ranpur, under-riyats holding land continuously for 12 years had acquired the occupancy right and were recorded as Sikim Dakhal-Swatwa-Bisistaa and those having less than 12 years possession were recorded simply as Sikim in the settlement of 1943-52. In the Khandapara ex-State, the Sikim riyats were not granted occupancy rights in service holdings. In Nayagarh, under various tenure-holders such as *debottar* and *brahmottar*, the sub-tenants were recorded as occupancy tenants of the tenure-holders.

There were rules to protect the interest in the land of the aboriginals in each of the ex-States of Daspalla, Khandapara and Nayagarh. Transfer of land by sale, mortgage etc. by aboriginals to non-aboriginals were either prohibited or needed the sanction of the State. Even the courts were not authorised to attach or sell the land of an aboriginal unless the degree holder was an aboriginal. In the Khondmal areas of the Nayagarh ex-State, persons other than Kandhas were not allowed to settle or hold land without sanction. In this ex-State there was even rule prohibiting transfer of land to non-resident Kandhas. In the Khondmal areas of the Ranpur ex-State, the Kandhas were practising shifting cultivation and were not paying any rent. They were paying only certain produce to the ruler. Till the settlement of 1943-52, there was no survey or settlement of Khondmal area.

Protection of
Interest in
the land of
aboriginals

Sarbarakari system prevailed in all the ex-States. Generally there was one Sarbarakar appointed for one village. But there was also one Sarbarakar holding more than one village, and there were villages with more than one Sarbarakar. The main function of the Sarbarakars was to collect revenue from the riyats on behalf of the States or intermediaries of the States like Khanjadars, Jagir-holders etc. In return they were allowed either to hold *jagirs* or to enjoy *bhogra* lands or to appropriate a percentage of the collected revenue as commission or to get all or some of the benefits simultaneously. The posts were not hereditary. In the ex-States of Daspalla, Khandapara and Nayagarh the Sarbarakar's term extended till the end of the next settlement. When an appointment was made, preference was usually given to the previous Sarbarakar's son. In the Ranpur ex-State, appointment of Sarbarakars was usually made by the ruler on the report of the Dewan. Sarbarakars in the ex-States were liable to be fined, suspended or dismissed and arrears were recovered from the movable or immovable property belonging to them or their heirs. Sarbarakars when appointed paid *salami* to the State.

Sarbarakari
System

Bethi and Begar existing from time immemorial were abolished in all the ex-States towards the last part of the thirties of this century.

Bethi and
Begar

**The Present
Settlement
Operations**

The Orissa Survey and Settlement Act, 1958 (Orissa Act III of 1959) which was enacted to consolidate and amend the laws relating to survey, record-of-rights and settlement operations in the State of Orissa has been enforced in this district. But as the survey operations in parts of Puri district were started prior to the enforcement of this Act, the survey conducted in those areas were according to the provisions of the Bengal Survey Act and the Orissa Tenancy Act.

**Khurda
Settlement**

The unhappy condition of revenue administration after Independence brought home the realisation that it was impossible to conduct the day to day revenue administration without up to date maps and land records. Accordingly in November 1951 the Government ordered for survey and preparation of record-of-rights in Khurda Khasmahal of Puri district. The settlement was conducted during the period 1952-62 and took ten years for completion.

The operation covered 1390 villages spread over an area of 881.28 sq. miles (2282.43 sq. km.) mainly in Khurda and Bhubaneswar subdivisions, and also partly in Puri subdivision. The method of survey followed in this settlement is technically known as Blue-print method of revision. The rent settlement operations were conducted. As against the existing rent of Rs. 5,04,782.50 the settled rent came to Rs. 6,47,117.44

In the Khurda settlement operations of 1952-62 a portion of Mauza Badagada known as West-Badagada was left out, as West-Badagada was carved out of original Badagada to form a part of the New Capital, Bhubaneswar. Thus West-Badagada which was surveyed in 1877-78 was not surveyed in 1912-13. The corrections were made in the maps on account of mutation by merely subdividing plots of 1877 and giving Bata numbers. The survey was started in 1952, Kistwar and Khanapuri were completed and Parchas distributed. At this stage further operations were stopped. A fresh survey settlement operations were taken up in 1974. They are at present continuing.

**Ekharajat
Mahal
Settlement**

The survey and settlement operation of Ekharajat Mahal commenced in 1953. It continued up to 1965. Survey was made by plane table method on blueprint maps of 32"=1 mile (or 0.8128 metres=1609.344 metres) scale. In some sheets survey was done 64" (or 1.6256 metres) scale. The record-of-rights operation was conducted under the Orissa Tenancy Act, 1913 and records were finally published in 1962. As this was a private estate it took a long time to decide the rent settlement. Lastly the rent settlement operations were taken up and was completed in 1965. In this settlement, assessment

of rent was taken up for the first time under the provisions of the Orissa Survey and Settlement Act, 1958, after classifying the villages and lands and by co-relating the rent with the produce of the lands on a rational basis. The total rent of the entire Ekharajat Mahal comprising 156 villages was Rs. 43,469.00 in the settlement of 1922-32. In this settlement, the rent of 139* villages was fixed at Rs. 1,40,794.78.

The survey and settlement operations in the remaining areas of the district are now under progress. In addition, it was decided by the Government to take up the survey operation of the Capital Police Station area afresh as the survey of this area was not done in accordance with the Town Survey Rules during last Khurda settlement. The work has been taken up since 1972. For the purpose of survey etc. the district has been divided into following six blocks :

Progress of the settlement in other parts of the district

Name of the Block	Name of the Police Stations included in the Block
Block—B— 605 villages. 405.34 sq. miles.	Puri Sadar, Satyabadi, Brahmagiri, Baliana.
Block—C— 815 villages. 475.72 sq. miles.	Balipatna, Nimapara, Gop, Kakatpur.
Block—D— 35 Units. 10.41 sq. miles.	Puri town and the Balukhanda village of Puri Sadar Police Station which is included in Puri town.
Block—E— 621 villages 379.94 sq. miles	Nayagarh, Sarankul, Odagaon, Nuagaon.
Block—F— 736 villages 348.44 sq. miles.	Daspalla, Gania, Khandapara, Fategarh.
Special Block 36 Units. 24.46 sq. miles.	Bhubaneswar N. A. C. (Capital Police Station).

As discussed earlier the survey and settlement operations have been completed for Ranpur ex-State, Ekharajat Mahal and Khurda Khasmahal.

By now the record-of-rights in respect of the police-station areas of Ranpur, Khurda, Begunia, Bolgarh, Tangi, Banpur, Jatni, Chandaka, Bhubaneswar, Krushnaprasad, Pipli, and Delang are finally framed and published. The up to date block-wise progress of survey and settlement operations in the remaining parts of the district is given in the following paragraph.

*. The survey and settlement operations of the rest 17 villages now forming part of Puri subdivision are under progress.

Rent settlement operation has been completed in block 'B' and Safai work is in progress. Blocks 'C' and 'D' are in the stage of attestation. In block 'E' Bujharat and attestation are in progress. The traverse operations have been started in block 'F'. In the special block comprising the Notified Area of the New Capital, the preparation of preliminary record-of-rights (Khanapuri) has been taken up.

Present
Method of
Survey

The survey and settlement operation in the remaining parts of the district has been taken up under the provisions of the Orissa Survey and Settlement Act, 1958. The method of survey now followed here is of two types. The first type is known as the Blue-print method of revision. Under this method the blue-print copies of the maps prepared in the last settlement are supplied. On the basis of these maps, trijunction stones are checked first. Thereafter quadrilaterals are formed and plotting of boundaries of the individual fields are done by drawing sikim lines in each quadrilateral. Plotting of field is done by taking off-set from all field bends within one chain in both sides of the sikim lines. Then comparing the blue-print line with the present plotting it is decided whether detailed Kistiwar or Latha Kistiwar (Kistiwar check by pole measuring 20 links) or by implication mixed method to be followed. Actually villages are plotted in details on the blue prints. The plottings are done by plane table method of survey. This method has been adopted in block 'B' of the district, i. e., Puri Sadar, Satyabadi, Brahmagiri, and Baliana police-station areas.

Another blueprint revision survey method has been adopted in the district which varies from the method explained above. By this method, blueprint maps are supplied and on the blueprint maps the traverse boundaries are checked and quadrilaterals are formed and detailed survey of all the plots are done by the help of taking off-set on both sides of sikim lines. Unlike the first method, two sikim lines are not given but required number of sikim lines are given and detailed survey is done according to the existence of plot boundaries in the field. This method has been adopted in block-C, i. e., Kakatpur, Nimapara, Gop, and Balipatna police station areas.

Another method which has been followed in Nayagarh area in block-E is that the traverse frame of the village boundary was prepared on the blank square sheets out of the *sabik* original maps and supplied. Survey was done by plane table method on this traverse frame by preparing quadrilaterals and drawing sikim lines.

The second method of survey followed in this district is that traverse of the village boundaries done by theodolite and traverse frame is supplied to the field for detailed survey of plots by plane table method.

This is original survey as approved to revisional survey on blue-prints.

Instruments used in plane table survey consist of plane table, gunters chain of 66 feet (20.12 metres) having 100 links, sight vane, optical square commonly known as right angle, gunia of 2'' (0.0508 metres) length graduated to represent 10 chains, diagonal scale and divider.

Maps have been prepared on different scales of 16''=1 mile (0.4064 metres=1609.344 metres), 32''=1 mile (0.8128 metres=1609.344 metres) and 64''=1 mile (1.6256 metres=1609.344 metres). Generally cadastral maps are prepared on 16''=1 mile (0.4064 metres=1609.344 metres) scale. Higher scales are adopted for congested areas and towns.

After the preparation of maps during Kistiwar and Khanapuri stages the same are checked and compared in the office. The village boundary is compared in all cases with *sabik* maps. After that not-final maps are printed by the Deputy Director of Survey and Map Publication, Orissa, and supplied for use in Attestation Camps. The changes made from time to time are incorporated on the original maps in the office before final publication.

The Orissa Tenancy Act contains necessary provisions for survey and settlement operations. On the introduction of the Orissa Survey and Settlement Act, 1958, the relevant chapters of the Orissa Tenancy Act have been repealed and at present the survey and preparation of record-of-rights are done under the provisions of the Orissa Survey and Settlement Act, 1958, and rules framed thereunder.

Acts and
Rules in
force

Besides, other Acts and Rule followed in the preparation of up to date record-of-rights are the Orissa Estate Abolition Act (mainly the Sections 5, 6, 7 and 8), provisions of the Orissa Tenancy Act which are not repealed by the Orissa Survey and Settlement Act, 1958 (mainly the chapters relating to tenants, occupancy raiyats, non-occupancy raiyats), the Orissa Land Reforms Act, the Hindu Religious Endowment Act, the Indian Succession Act, Puri Shri Jagannath Temple Act, the Orissa Prevention of Land Encroachment Act, the Government Land Settlement Act, 1962, the Orissa Merged States (Laws) Act, 1950, the Orissa Bhoodan Yagna Act, 1973, the Urban Land Settlement Rules, the Orissa Cess Act, and the Principles for reservation of Government lands in rural areas, 1966.

Principles for fixing fair and equitable rent have been laid down in the Orissa Survey and Settlement Act, 1958, and rules thereunder. The rent is related to different classes of land situated in a village.

Assessment
of Rent

For this purpose villages have been classified to 1st class, 2nd class and 3rd class during the current operation. Rate of assessment is first approved by the Government. This approval contains the rent policy of the Government for a particular area. Important factors considered for rent structure are existing rent, rent-free lands, lands held on favourable rates of rent, lands held under different status, results of crop cutting experiment in course of current settlement operations, market rate of produces of lands and productivity of land. After the rent calculated on the basis of the rent policy is incorporated in the record-of-rights, the records are draft published and objections are invited to be received within 60 days from the date of such publication. After objections are disposed of, the rent is confirmed for each village by the confirming authority who is the Settlement Officer under the Act and the confirmed rent is finally published.

Collection

The staffing pattern in the Tahsils of the district have been made uniform consequent upon the vesting of the estates and taking over of the responsibility of the collection by the State. The responsibility of collection mainly devolves on the Tahsildar who is the revenue officer of the rank of the Deputy Collector. Under him Revenue Inspectors are posted in charge of specified areas. Each Revenue Inspector is assisted by a Collection Moharir. Officers designated as Revenue Supervisors have also been posted under the Tahsildars to supervise collection of land revenue by the Revenue Inspectors. The district has been divided into eleven Tahsils, viz., Puri, Khurda, Bhubaneswar, Nayagarh, Banpur, Daspalla, Khandapara, Krushnaprasad, Nimapara, Pipli and Ranpur. Each Tahsil has a number of Revenue Inspector circles. It has been made obligatory on the revenue collecting staff to pay utmost attention to the question of collection and to ensure collection of current revenue within the agricultural year as accumulation of arrears cause difficulties to the raiyats, leads to corrupt practices and up-sets the government budget. Maximum emphasis has been laid on extensive contact with the raiyats and to avoid taking recourse to certificate procedure for collection of arrears. The collecting agencies are to make their Demand Register up to date and keep it ready for *kisti* collection. Receipts in prescribed form are granted for all sums received by them. All sums collected are duly accounted for and are remitted to the Tahsil Officer, treasury or sub-treasury, as the case may be, by the collecting agent himself. Interest at a uniform rate is charged on all arrears of land revenue. Coercive measures are taken to recover the arrears from tenants who evade or refuse payment notwithstanding personal contacts. Certificate cases are ordinarily filed if the payment of arrear is delayed.

Collection of land revenue was abolished from the 1st April, 1967. Only cess, miscellaneous revenue and loans were being collected through the Revenue Inspectors. In the meantime the Orissa Land Revenue (Re-imposition) Act, 1975, has been enacted and the provisions of the Act came into force from the 1st April, 1976 by the Revenue Department notification No. 78256, dated the 3rd October, 1975. A statement showing the collection figures for the last five years ending 1973-74 is given in the Appendix.

In some of the larger estates like Kotdesh, Krishnanagar, and Delang the relationship between the landlords and the tenants was good. But most of the petty landlords of the district were ignorant, ill-educated and exhibited little public spirit. They were generally divided among themselves and involved in debt. They did very little for the improvement of the conditions of their tenants or estates. They denied to their tenants in many cases, their legal rights of occupancy in land. They commonly exacted various forms of *abwab* or illegal additions to the rent. They also exacted more than the legal fee for giving consent to the transfer of an occupancy holding. The tenants on the other hand were backward and ignorant and exhibited little power of resistance to the various oppressions of the landlords or to the low paid and insufficiently controlled estate officials. After the abolition of estates, the landlords as a class have vanished.

Relation
between
Landlords
and Tenants

In earlier discussions it has been indicated how the defective land policies during early British period prepared the ground for the Paik Rebellion of 1817. During the last part of the 19th century there were serious discontentment among the inhabitants of Daspalla and Ranpur ex-States due to the levy of excess rents by the rulers which either depopulated the area or led to agitation. In 1938, the Prajamandal movement started in the ex-State of Ranpur demanding the abolition of Bethi and Begar and for getting more rights on the lands. The movement took a sad turn when on the 5th January, 1939, Major Bazelgette, the Political Agent, was murdered by a furious mob. There was a trial in which Dibakar Parida and Raghunath Mohanty were hanged and 11 others were transported for life. This apart, no agrarian agitation worth mentioning has taken place in the district except a few popular oppositions against the increase in land rents at different times.

Agrarian
Agitation

The history of agrarian reforms of any agricultural community connotes the gradual unfolding of land rights in a direction where only one type of tenant, viz., the owner-cultivator may stay on the land with no tenure-holder intervening between him and the State. A study of the progress of land reforms in Puri district at present would

LAND
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encompass the account of land rights of its tenants both in the erstwhile area of the district, as it existed prior to the merger of the princely States, as well as in the ex-State areas of Nayagarh, Ranpur, Daspalla and Khandapara, which were integrated with it after Independence.

The
Beginnings

In the stride of history from the times of the Hindu Rulers up to the British conquest, the revenue system and the land revenue administration of the area have undergone vast changes in form and content. Puri district, as it stood on the date of the formation of the province of Orissa on the 1st April, 1936, came under British control in 1803. In the succeeding years various Regulations were passed by which permanently settled status was conferred on the zamindars of the ancient Killas. It was thus that the Jagir Mahals, including Parikud, were confirmed in perpetuity. The resumption of Khurda came thereafter when it was converted into a Government estate. The Ekharajat Mahal was carved out of it in 1858 for the maintenance of the temple of Lord Jagannath at Puri. The remaining area of Puri district (excluding the ex-States) was not brought under permanent settlement but was subjected to annual or triennial settlements until 1822.

The Permanent Settlement Regulation of 1793 and the Regulations brought thereafter did not, however, place the tenantry on a sound footing, though they aimed at protecting the tenants and at the same time also secure the rent demand of the landlords. The original contemplation that these objectives could be achieved by exchange of *patta* and *kabuliyats* between the proprietors and the raiyats failed to materialise. The proprietors exercised unrestricted powers of distraint on the property of the raiyats in the event of their failure to satisfy the rent demand. The latter were invariably the victims of distress.

These conditions naturally gave rise to agrarian discontent. To ameliorate the situation, the Rent Act X of 1859 was passed which for the first time provided a definition of occupancy right and laid down the law for landlords and tenants. The Rent Act X of 1859 marked the evolution of a legislative system, directed towards the eradication of rack-renting and oppression of tenants. The law, however, had many deficiencies and did not confer the intended benefits on the raiyats in full measure. Agrarian discontent which followed in its wake paved the way for the Bengal Tenancy Act, 1885. This Act sought to remove the defects in the Rent Act of 1859 and meet the long cherished needs of the tenantry. But, the Bengal Tenancy Act of 1885 was not extended to Orissa at a time and hence the Rent Act of 1859 continued to operate in Orissa except where it was inconsistent with the provisions of the Tenancy Act.

The Orissa
Tenancy Act,
1913

After the formation of the Bihar and Orissa province a separate agrarian law for Orissa was brought into force in the form of the Orissa Tenancy Act, 1913. This Act constitutes a landmark in the chronicle of land legislation in the coastal districts. It defined the rights and obligations of all kinds of tenants and made complete provision in respect of all matters governing tenancy relationship. Apart from securing the rights of occupancy raiyats in their land and undermining rack-renting, the Act for the first time introduced the concept of "land to the tiller" in the tenancy system, which in later years, was accepted as the basic ideology of land reform measures. It gave substantial rights to the lessees under big landholders as the latter could be treated as tenure-holders and the lessees could then be treated as raiyats and take advantage of the twelve years rule for right of occupancy. Its other effect, however, was that it inevitably led to large sub-infeudations under the proprietors and complicated the land tenure system considerably.

The Act also made express provisions to meet the situations where landlords could bar the accrual of occupancy right in favour of their raiyats and thus nullify the benefit of the twelve years rule by obtaining Kabuliyats from them to that effect. Unlike the Bengal Tenancy Act, 1885, it provided that consent of the landlord to the reclamation by a raiyat of any waste land not included in his tenancy was to be presumed if the tenant was in possession of such land for four continuous years, and the landlord had not applied to the Collector for his ejectment. This provision was made to safeguard the interest of genuine tenants who could then approach the competent authority for settling the reclaimed land with them on fair rent.

Elaborate provision was also made in the Act for enforcing the rights and liabilities of tenants (including recovery of rent) and it postulated that suits to be instituted in that regard should be taken cognizance of by Revenue Courts. In order to provide effective enjoyment of rights to the landlords and tenants, the Act also empowered the Government (on the same lines as in the Bengal Tenancy Act) to take up survey and settlement operations in any given area either suo-moto or on application of the parties. The Orissa Tenancy Act laid down the bed-rock on which future legislative measures in agrarian reforms were to rest.

After the formation of the Orissa province in 1936, various measures were taken by the Government to provide credit facilities to the cultivators by amending the existing legislations governing agriculturists loans. Some new legislations were also introduced for the provision of credit through Co-operative Land Mortgage Banks and preventing the

Formation
of the Province
of Orissa
and After

evictions of small holders from their land and attachment and sale of their movable property. The Orissa Act III of 1938 and the Orissa Act III of 1939 were important legislative measures taken in this direction. Besides, some of the existing tenancy laws were also amended to confer better rights on the cultivators.

The Act VIII of 1938 was passed with a view to bringing important amendments in the Orissa Tenancy Act, 1913. Two significant amendments made by it were conferment of full right on occupancy tenants on the trees standing on their land and enabling them to transfer their land without payment of fees to the landlord. Necessary provision for carrying out mutation of landlords' papers was also made. The right to sub-let or mortgage occupancy right was also stipulated as a necessary concomitant.

Further amendments in the Orissa Tenancy Act were brought about by the Orissa Acts III and IV of 1944, the Act X of 1946, the Act XV of 1947, the Act XXXII of 1947 and the Act XVIII of 1950. These obliterated the necessity of serving notice of transfer of raiyati lands on the provincial government; granted security of tenure to the tenants in their homesteads; provided the same protection to Chandanadars in respect of their homesteads as given to other tenants and gave the benefit of settlement of service tenures with service tenure-holders if they ceased to perform the service assigned to them. But such benefit was not stipulated for the service tenure-holders under the Government, nor those under religious and charitable institutions or those liable to render service to the community.

The various amendments stated above brought about significant changes not only in the agrarian structure but also in the fabric of social life in the rural areas. The persons adversely affected by them were generally big landlords and estate-holders, but the wind of change presaging the advent of new situations was already blowing and the legislative amendments became part of it.

After the country achieved independence, elimination of intermediary interests in land was decided upon as a matter of policy. Merger of the princely States was also round the corner. There was already a general awakening amongst the tenantry, and the zamindars and the intermediaries could not subject them to extortion as before. On the eve of zamindari abolition, therefore, there was an inclination on the part of some intermediaries to dispose of communal and forest lands comprised in their estates for augmenting their income. This could not naturally be looked askance by the Government and hence steps were taken to prohibit the disposal of such lands. This explains

how the Orissa Act VIII of 1947 and the Orissa Act I of 1948 come to be passed and enforced.

Pressure on land was already heavy in the coastal districts and economic changes unleashed after the Second World War had aggravated the land hunger in the rural areas. Encroachments on communal lands were on the increase. In the revision settlement operation in Puri district (1922-32), some lands were recorded as Rakhit (protected) and communal. But their continuance as such could not be ensured. The passing of the Orissa Communal Forest and Private Lands (Prohibition of Alienation) Act, 1948 (Act I of 1948) sought to bring about an improvement in the situation, but the availability of communal lands in the villages still fell short of the requirement. The Orissa Tenancy Act, 1913, was therefore amended by the Orissa Act XII of 1948, empowering the Collector to provide sufficient land for communal use in the villages by resorting to the provisions of the Land Acquisition Act.

Following the Second World War, the trend had set in for the movement of agricultural population to towns and urban areas. This gave rise to a situation where raiyati lands were let out to the rural population on produce rent. A new class of temporary tenants thus arose who undertook cultivation of the lands of their absentee landlords on payment of produce rent. These tenants were usually known as Bhag Chasis and were wholly at the mercy of their lessors. The first step for the protection of these tenants against arbitrary eviction and excessive levy of rent was taken by enacting a law known as the Orissa Tenants Protection Act, 1948. This Act was subsequently repealed by more progressive legislation known as the Orissa Tenants Relief Act, 1955. Ultimately the Orissa Tenants Relief Act, 1955, was repealed by a comprehensive legislation for land reforms enacted in the year 1960 which is known as the Orissa Land Reforms Act, 1960. The Land Reforms Act not only provides for security of tenure of tenants and their protection against rack-renting but also enables them to acquire better right in their land. The latter provision marks the culmination of a long process of legislative measures taken in the State for basic reforms in agrarian economy.

A very important change in the administration of Khasmahals was also brought about in the year, 1948. The collection of rent in the Khasmahal of Khurda used to be the responsibility of Sarbarakars. It was abolished with effect from the 1st April, 1948. Naib Tahsildars now called Revenue Inspectors were appointed in their place to collect revenue. During the abolition of Sarbarakari system in Khurda Khasmahal an extent of 33 acres of Jagir land was settled

Temporary
Lessees and
Tenants

Abolition of
village offices (Sarbarakars) in
Khurda
Khasmahal
and ex-State
Areas

with each of the Sarbarkars. Subsequently, the Sarbarakari system prevailing in the ex-State areas now forming part of the district of Puri was also abolished under the Government notification no. 21496/Rev., dated the 31st March, 1965.

Abolition of Estates

By far the most important legislation passed in the post-independence period which demolished the age-old barrier between the State and the raiyats and brought them in direct contact with each other was the Orissa Estates Abolition Act, 1951. The Act provides for the abolition of the intermediary interests of all kinds and the vesting of all non-raiyati lands in the vested estates in the Government. At the same time, it also provides for the settlement of homesteads and agricultural lands in *khas* possession of ex-intermediaries on the date of vesting with them on fair and equitable rent and Jagir lands with personal service tenure-holders on similar assessment. All persons who were in possession of land as tenants before the date of vesting are deemed to be tenants under the State Government and allowed to hold land in the same rights and subject to the same restrictions and liabilities as they were entitled or subject to immediately before the date of vesting.

After the enactment of the Orissa Estates Abolition Act, several amendments were made in it to facilitate its working. An important amendment for the protection of trust estates from vesting was made in 1963 by inserting a new chapter in the Act as Chapter-II-A. Prior to the said amendment, the Act did not make any difference between various classes of estates for the purpose of abolition.

After the enactment of the Orissa Estates Abolition (Amendment) Act, 1963, another important Act that was passed, was the Orissa Land Revenue (Abolition) Act, 1970. By passing of this Act, the land revenue payable by raiyats and tenants to the Government was abolished. This exemption was, however, not available to the raiyats and tenants in the estate areas, including those declared as trust estates and excluded from the purview of vesting. The raiyats and tenants in the estate areas therefore clamoured for the same benefits of exemption from payment of land revenue as their counterparts under the Government.

In this background, a further amendment was made in the Orissa Estates Abolition Act by the Amendment Act of 1970 by which Chapter II-A of the Act which was inserted by the Amendment Act of 1963 was repealed. The repeal did not, however, affect the estates already declared as trust estates or those whose claims for such declaration were pending before the Tribunal for adjudication on the date of its commencement. The Amendment Act of 1970 provided

a proviso to sub-section (3) of Section 8, by which the personal service Jagirholders under an intermediary of a trust estate which is vested on or after the date of coming into force of the Orissa Estates Abolition (Amendment) Act, 1970, will not be discharged from the conditions of service. The Jagir-holders will continue to render service even though the trust estate is vested.

The Orissa Estates Abolition Act has been further amended in 1974 to achieve the following objectives. For carrying out the purpose of the trust efficiently and to ensure proper performance of traditional rites and rituals in the religious institutions; after vesting of trust estates in the Government it is considered necessary that trust estates may retain so much of the waste land and such of the tanks in the possession of the intermediary which were being exclusively used for religious purpose on the date of vesting; and that any land or building (being part of the trust estate) vested in the Government may be settled in certain circumstances with the person who immediately before such vesting was an intermediary in respect of such land or building.

All estates of Puri district including those declared as trust estates and the others whose claims for such declaration were pending before the Tribunal have been abolished by the Revenue Department notification no. 13699-R., dated 18-3-1974.

For the payment of compensation to the ex-intermediaries Compensation Courts have been set up at Puri, Khurda, and Nayagarh. The Compensation Court at Nayagarh has since been closed after the completion of its work. By the end of December 1975 payment of compensation in the district has been completed in about 86.59% cases.

In several cases a notable problem that came to notice after the abolition of estates was that of temporary lessees. They were inducted into the land prior to the vesting of estates on payment of produce rent to their erstwhile landlords, the ex-intermediaries. After the abolition of estates, they continued as such on the same terms and conditions. The rent paid by them in terms of produce was, however, very high and in order to ameliorate their condition the Government refixed the rates of rent payable by them in cash. These rates are Rs. 10.00, Rs. 7.00, Rs. 4.00 and Rs. 3.50 per acre for Class I, Class II, Class III and Class IV respectively. These temporary lessees of vested estates have also been enabled to acquire occupancy right in their land under Section 4(2) of the Orissa Land Reforms Act, 1960.

Temporary
lessees in
vested estates

Ex-State
Areas

The district of Puri includes the ex-State areas of Ranpur, Nayagarh, Khandapara and Daspalla. These ex-States merged with Orissa on the 1st January, 1948. The administration of the ex-States was taken over under the provisions of the Extra Provincial Jurisdictions Act, 1947.

After the merger of the States, the Central Government issued the Orissa States (Application of Laws) Order, 1948, applying a number of enactments on the subjects included in the Central list to the ex-State areas. The Government of Orissa also issued the Administration of the Orissa States Order, 1948. A number of enactments were extended by this order to the ex-State areas.

Para. 10 of the Administration of the Orissa States Order specified modifications in the tenancy laws of the ex-State areas which were of far-reaching effect. The main implications thereof were as follows. Notwithstanding anything contained in the tenancy laws of the States—

- (a) Occupancy tenants were given the right to freely transfer their holdings; to have full rights over all kinds of trees standing thereon; to use the lands comprised in the holding in any manner which did not materially impair its value or render it unfit for the purpose of tenancy and presume that the rent payable by them was fair and equitable until the contrary was proved.
- (b) Where the rent of the occupancy tenants was payable in cash, it could not be enhanced except in accordance with the tenancy laws in force in the State concerned.
- (c) An occupancy tenant could not be ejected from his land except in execution of a decree for ejection.
- (d) The interest of an occupancy tenant in his holding was transferable by inheritance of survivorship in accordance with his personal law.
- (e) A Sukhbasi, i. e., a person holding only homestead lands was entitled to the right of an occupancy tenant over his homestead notwithstanding anything in any law or custom to the contrary.
- (f) The only restriction that was placed on the right of raiyats to transfer their land freely was that raiyats belonging to aboriginal tribes could not transfer their land to a member of non-aboriginal tribe without previous permission of the Subdivisional Magistrate. These limited provisions of the

Administration of the Orissa States Order, 1948, later found expression in a more elaborate way in the Orissa Land Reforms Act, 1960. It was, however, significant that the 1948 Order for the first time granted total security of tenure to occupancy tenants in the ex-State areas. Even Sukhbasis were not excluded from it.

Following the Administration of the Orissa States Order, 1948, the State Merger (Governors Provinces) Order, 1949 was passed in July 1949. Para 4 of the said Order provided that all the laws in force in a merged State or in any part thereof immediately before the commencement of the said Order, including the orders made under Sections 3 or 4 of the Extra Provincial Jurisdiction Act, 1947, would continue to be in force until repealed, modified or amended by a competent Legislature or other competent authority.

The Orissa Merged States (Laws) Act, 1950, which repealed the Orissa Merged States (Laws) Ordinance, 1949, was passed in March 1950. This Act not only extended certain Acts and Regulations to the ex-State areas, but also paved the way for the acquisition of better rights in land by tenants and Jagir-holders. The most important provisions of the Act in this regard are contained in Section 7. So far as the rights of occupancy raiyats are concerned, they are nearly the same as those provided in the Administration of Orissa States Order, 1948. Some new provisions are, however, made in clauses (g) and (h) of Section 7. Clause (g) provides that where land is held as service tenure either under the Ruler or any member of his family, the liability of the holder of such tenure to render service for the use and occupation thereof shall cease and he shall acquire occupancy right therein on payment of fair and equitable rent. Clause (h) deals with the holders of private lands of the Ruler. It provides that when a person holds Khamar, Nij-jote or any other private land of a Ruler, which has been recognised as such by the State Government, he shall not be liable to ejection but acquire occupancy right on it, on payment of fair and equitable rent.

A number of Jagir-holders of the ex-State areas of Puri and the holders of private land of the ex-Rulers have been benefited by the aforesaid provisions of the law. Those who did not avail of the benefit, have been subsequently treated as raiyats in respect of the lands held by them by the operation of the provisions of Section 4 (1) (g) of the Orissa Land Reforms Act, 1960.

All intermediary interests in Puri district have been abolished. The abolition has resulted in general levelling of tenurial rights. The consequences of abolition under the Act have taken effect in the

ex-State areas in the same manner as in the other areas. Their implications have been discussed before. The Jagirs in the ex-States have been enfranchised and the Jagir-holders have been given the facility of acquiring occupancy right in their Jagir lands.

Bhoodan

A new concept of land legislation was introduced by the enactment of the Orissa Bhoodan Yajna Act, 1953. This legislation heralded a revolutionary change in the idea of land ownership and land distribution. Unlike any other Act, it provides for the establishment of Bhoodan Yajna Samitis in favour of which donations of land may be made by land owners. Distribution of the donated land is made through the Samitis in the prescribed manner. Certain restrictions are, however, placed on the allottees in the matter of transfer and disposal of the allotted lands. This legislation achieved popularity in Puri district.

The origin of Bhoodan work in the district can be traced back to 1952 when on the 13th February, 1952, the Bhoodan work was given the first impetus in the meeting at Puri in the presence of late Gopabandhu Chaudhury. The first donor to Bhoodan in this district donated land to a total extent of 563.26 acres. Distribution of donated land was made for the first time in Pratappurushottampur village on the 6th June, 1955. An extent of 9.71 acres of land was distributed among 13 landless families in this village.

The total extent of lands donated to the Orissa Bhoodan Yajna Samiti in the district up to the end of August 1975 was 22,645.00 acres, out of which 6,690 individual donors donated 13,660.93 acres and the balance of 8,984.07 acres were donated by 782 donors as Gramdan gifts. There were 73 Gramdan villages in the district, all in Nayagarh subdivision, out of which 6 were in Odagaon Block, 37 in Nuagaon Block, 4 in Daspalla Block, 25 in Ranpur Block and one in Nayagarh Block.

The total extent of lands distributed up to the end of August 1975 was 16,214.46 acres. Of this, 9,222.00 acres were under Bhoodan and 6,992.46 acres under Gramdan. Bhoodan lands were distributed among 10,549 landless grantees and Gramdan lands among 11,378 grantees. The total extent of land for which 941 declarations with distribution lists were filed before the respective Revenue Officers for disposal under Section 10 of the Orissa Bhoodan Yajna Act, 1953, was 11,243.61 acres. Land to the total extent of 2,076.85 acres of 133 declarations were confirmed by the Revenue Officers, and 1447.04 acres of 37 declarations were rejected. 745 declarations involving 7,249.17 acres were pending with Revenue Officers for disposal. Financial assistance to the extent of Rs. 18,482 has so far been given to the Bhoodan and Gramdan grantees by the Bhoodan Yajna Samiti for purchase of bullocks, reclamation of lands and sinking of wells, etc.

Following these basic measures of land reforms, a comprehensive legislation envisaging better rights for the weaker sections of the tenantry and ceiling fixation on the holdings of surplus land owners was enacted in the year 1960. This legislation is known as the Orissa Land Reforms Act, 1960. According to its preamble, it purports to be a progressive legislation relating to agrarian reforms and land tenures after the abolition of intermediary interests. Its main objects are : introduction of uniformity in land rights, conferment of better rights on temporary lessees, share croppers and under-tenants; conferment of occupancy right in homestead lands, settlement of disputes between landlords and tenants, regulation of rent, protection of the Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste raiyats from illegal alienation of land, resumption of land for personal cultivation and determination of the non-resumable area of tenants, and ceiling fixation on land holdings.

The Orissa
Land
Reforms
Act. 1960

Chapter II of the Act which deals with raiyats and tenants was brought into force with effect from the 1st October, 1965. Chapter III relating to resumption of land for personal cultivation and determination of non-resumable lands of tenants was enforced subsequently with effect from the 9th December, 1965. Chapter IV, containing the ceiling law, was initially declared unconstitutional by the State High Court and remained locked up in litigation for a long time. After the disposal of the appeals by the Supreme Court it was brought into force with effect from the 7th January, 1972. The ceiling provisions of Chapter IV along with some important provisions of Chapters II and III were thereafter amended in 1973 and the revised ceiling law, incorporated in the Orissa Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 1973, was enforced with effect from the 2nd October, 1973.

Section 4 (1) of the Act specifies the persons, who may be deemed as raiyats, having permanent and heritable right in land. They include not only those who had acquired right of occupancy before the commencement of the Act and similar other categories, but also persons entitled to acquire occupancy right under clauses (g) and (h) of Section 7 of the Orissa Merged States (Laws) Act, 1950, and temporary lessees in vested estates in personal cultivation of lands and the persons in personal cultivation of land in respect of which they have been recorded as sub-tenants or under-tenants in the record-of-rights, provided they acquire occupancy right in their temporary lease-holds or under-tenancies, as the case may be, in the prescribed manner.

The provisions of Section 4 (1) of the Act have had far-reaching effect. While they have enabled the person in occupation of private lands of ex-Rulers and personal service tenure-holders under such

Rulers and the members of their families who were entitled to occupancy right under clauses, (g) and (h) of the Orissa Merged States (Laws) Act, 1950, to perfect their right under the present legislation. They have also provided opportunity to the weaker sections of the tenantry, like temporary lessees and under-tenants, to acquire better right in their land.

According to Section 4 (2) of the Act, temporary lessees under the personal cultivation of the land in the vested estates and persons holding under them, either mediately or immediately may acquire raiyati right on making application for the purpose within the prescribed period. According to Section 4 (5), under-raiyats, recorded as such in the record-of-rights may also similarly acquire raiyati right in their land if they apply for it within the specified time. The Revenue Officers have been empowered to confer occupancy right on the temporary lessees and recorded sub-tenants or under-raiyats by *suo-moto* action concurrently with the facility given to them to acquire such right by application.

The successors-in-interest of the temporary lessees and the recorded sub-tenants, and also the unrecorded tenants (including Bhag Chasis) have been made eligible to acquire occupancy right at par with their predecessors. Any tenant cultivating land under any trust or institution, which has ceased to be a privileged raiyat on a declaration made under Section 57-B of the Act, may within sixty days from the date of such declaration, file an application before the Revenue Officer for being declared to be a raiyat in respect of such land.

Under Section 7 (i) of the Act the right of a tenant in any land held by him has been made heritable but not transferable.

Section 26 (1) and 26 (2) of the Act lay down the procedure for resumption of land for personal cultivation by landlords and determination of non-resumable lands of tenants (whether they are recorded as such in the record-of-rights or not) respectively. Where the landlord or the tenant fails to apply for resumption or determination of non-resumable land, as the case may be, the Revenue Officer is empowered under Section 35 of the Act to take *suo-moto* action in that behalf, within the prescribed period.

Under the original provisions of the Act only half of the area in respect of the tenancy of a tenant could be determined as non-resumable, the remaining half being set apart for personal cultivation by the landlord. By the amending Act of 1973, however, this provision has been substantially altered. The new provision contained in Section 36-A stipulates that the tenant may make application for determination

of the entire land held by him as non-resumable within a period of two years from the date of commencement of the Orissa Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 1973. A new leaf has thus been turned by expanding the facilities provided to tenants to acquire occupancy right in their land.

Sub-lease of lands is prohibited under Section 6 (2) of the Act. Persons under disability, and privileged raiyats are, however, allowed to lease out lands to tenants.

Under Section 6 (1), the rights of raiyats in their land are deemed to be permanent, heritable and transferable. In order to put a check on the alienation of land by weaker sections of the tenantry, the amendment Act of 1975 has provided under Section 6 (a) that no transfer by a raiyat of any land settled with him for agricultural purposes under a permanent lease from the Government will be valid, if such transfer is made within a period of ten years from the date of the settlement without obtaining previous permission in writing of the Revenue Officer.

Section 4 (9) of the Act governs the rent payable by occupancy raiyats and provides for the commutation of kind rent, if any, payable by such raiyats.

Sections 12 and 14 specify the grounds for eviction of raiyats and tenants. There can be no eviction except in the due process of law.

Section 9 of the Act confers occupancy right on homestead land in specific circumstances. After the commencement of the Act, every person, who is a raiyat or tenant in respect of any land, but has no permanent and heritable right in respect of the site on which his dwelling house or farm house stands, is deemed to be a raiyat in respect of the whole of such site or a portion thereof provided it does not exceed 1/5th of an acre. The conditions precedent for the acquisition of raiyati right, in this manner, are that he should have obtained permission for the construction of his house from the original landlord and built the house at his own expense.

Sections 22 and 23 of the Act relate to alienation of lands by the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe raiyats, and restoration of lands alienated in contravention of the statutory restraints. The former Section invalidates the transfers made to persons not belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes except with the previous permission of the Revenue Officer and also prohibits the registering authority from registering any document of transfer unless it is accompanied by such permission. The latter Section provides for the restoration of lands alienated in contravention of the former. By

the Amendment Act of 1973, the limitation period for perfecting title over the transferred lands by adverse possession has been enhanced (from 12 years) to 30 years.

By a new Section inserted by the Amendment Act of 1973 (i.e., Section-22-A) preference has also been given to the persons belonging to the Scheduled Tribes in respect of the settlement of lands surrendered or abandoned by Scheduled Tribe raiyats.

Chapter IV of the Act (as amended by the Amendment Act of 1973) provides for ceiling fixation on land holdings. The statutory ceiling is applicable to the lands held by landholders as well as raiyats. But it is not applicable to the lands held by the Government of India or the State Government, or any university established by law in the State, the lands held by Bhoodan Yajna Samitis established under the Orissa Bhoodan and Gramdan Act, 1970, or any government company as defined in the Companies Act, 1956, or corporation established under any law in force, the lands under the management of any civil, revenue or criminal court prior to the 26th day of September, 1970, or to any area which the Government may from time to time specify as being reserved for urban, non-agricultural or industrial development or for any other specific purpose (Section 73). It does not also apply to the lands held by privileged raiyats; the lands held by industrial or commercial undertakings or comprised in mills, factories or workshops where they are necessary for the use of such undertakings, plantations and the lands held by an agricultural university, agricultural school or college or any institution conducting research in agriculture (Section 38).

The ceiling area for each person (i.e., a raiyat or landholder), as prescribed in the Act (Section 37-A) is 10 standard acres, which means 10, 15, 30 and 45 acres of Class I, Class II, Class III and Class IV lands respectively. These classes of land have been defined in Section 2 (5-A) of the Orissa Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 1974, having taken into account irrigated as well as non-irrigated lands. Irrigated lands, in turn, include those irrigated from the Government as well as private sources, the latter covering lift irrigation devices from any perennial water source operated by diesel or electric power. Continually water-logged and sand-cast lands are, however, not treated as irrigated lands.

For the purpose of ceiling fixation, the term "person" includes a company, family, association or other body of individuals, whether incorporated or not, and any institution capable of owning or holding property (Section 37). If the number of constituent members of the family exceeds 5, the law permits an additional area to be included in

the ceiling at the rate of 2 standard acres for each additional member in excess of 5, subject to a maximum of 18 standard acres (Section 37-A).

Homestead lands or tanks with their embankments or both to the extent of 3 acres in the aggregate, are excluded from the purview of statutory ceiling. Lands transferred by sale, gift or otherwise or partitioned after the 26th day of September, 1970 till the commencement of the Orissa Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 1973, that is, till the 2nd October 1973, and those in the possession of tenants or mortgagees are, however, included in the ceiling of the person originally owning them (Section 39). Under clause (b) of the Section 39, transfers or partitions made between the 2nd September, 1970 and the 2nd October, 1973 are void.

Compensation is required to be paid to the land-owners, whose surplus lands vest in the Government at prescribed rates (Section 47). The Act also provides for the settlement of vested lands in a defined order of priority (Section 51). 70% of the lands are required to be settled with persons belonging to the Scheduled Tribes or Scheduled Castes in proportion to their respective populations in the villages in which the lands are situated and the remaining lands with other persons. If, however, sufficient number of persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes or Tribes are not available in the villages, or, being available, they are not willing to accept the settlement of land, so much of the land reserved for them may be settled with other persons. For the purpose of settlement, the order of priority is prescribed as follows:—

- (a) Co-operative farming societies formed by landless agricultural labourers,
- (b) Landless agricultural labourers of the village in which the land is situated or of any neighbouring village,
- (c) Ex-service men or members of the Armed Forces of the Union, if they belong to the village in which the land is situated,
- (d) Raiyats who personally cultivate not more than one standard acre of contiguous land; and,
- (e) In the absence of persons belonging to any of the foregoing categories, any other person.

Ceilings are also applicable to future acquisitions made through inheritance, bequest, gift, family settlement, purchase, lease or otherwise. If as a result of irrigation provided by the Government, any land falling in Class II, Class III or Class IV subsequently falls in Class I or Class II, as the case may be, the lands held in excess of the ceiling area applicable to the class of land to which such land has fallen as a result of irrigation shall be deemed to have been acquired and held for the purpose of ceiling fixation. This, however, excludes the up-gradation in the classification of lands, arising out of irrigation provided through private endeavour.

The administrative machinery for implementing land reforms has also been conceived in Chapter V of the Act. At the apex there is a body known as the Land Commission comprising seven members, of whom three are officials and four non-officials, the Land Reforms Commissioner being its Secretary, *ex-officio*. According to the Section 54 of the Act, the Commission is required to review the progress of land reforms from time to time and publish a report atleast once a year. It is also required to advise the Government in all matters relating to land reforms.

At the district level the implementation of land reforms is reviewed by the District Executive Committee. They are constituted by the Government (under Section 55 of the Act) with three members, of whom Collector of the district is one. The other two members are non-officials nominated by the Government. The Revenue Officer of the district office functions as the Secretary of the Committee.

In order to make the land reforms programmes more broad-based, the Government have also decided (in the Revenue Department Resolution no. RE-160/73-60267R., dated 15.9.1973) to constitute watch-dog committee at the Tahsil level to keep watch over the implementation of various land reforms programmes in the rural areas. These committees have four members, of whom two i.e., the Subdivisional Officer and the Tahsildar are officials, and the other two are non-officials belonging to the weaker sections of the community. The constitution of these committees ensure greater participation of non-officials in the legislative schemes for agrarian reforms and also provides opportunity to the field officers to know the non-official point of view with regard to the problems of land reforms.

Further, to elicit public co-operation for the successful implementation of land reforms, the Government have decided to form a local committee at the Revenue Inspector level to assist the Revenue Officers in the disposal of Bhag Chasi cases and also for the preparation of draft statements of ceiling surplus lands. This committee will consist of four members of whom Revenue Inspector will be one, and the other three representing the weaker section of the society and also persons dedicated to land reforms measures will be nominated by the Government.

As stated above, the important provisions of the Orissa Land Reforms Act relate to the acquisition of occupancy right by temporary lessees and tenants, conferment of occupancy right on homestead lands, settlement of disputes between landlords and tenants, grant of permission to Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste raiyats to alienate their land and restoration of illegally alienated lands, resumption of lands for personal cultivation

by landlords and determination of non-resumable area of tenants and ceiling fixation on land holdings. The progress of disposal of cases under these provisions in the district up to the end of January 1974 (except the ceiling provisions of the Act) is furnished below :

Section	No. of cases instituted	No. of cases disposed of	Balance
4 (2)—Acquisition of raiyati right by temporary lessees.	16,012	15,775	237
4 (5)—Acquisition of raiyati right by recorded sub-tenants and under-tenants.	18,270	18,114	156
9—Acquisition of raiyati right on homestead lands.	643	512	131
12—Settlement of disputes between landlords and raiyats.	16	13	3
14—Settlement of disputes between landlords and tenants.	165	151	14
22—Grant of permission to Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste raiyats to transfer their land.	2,485	1,336	1,149
23— Restoration of illegally alienated lands by Scheduled Tribe and Scheduled Caste raiyats.	50	27	23
26 (1)—Resumption of lands for personal cultivation by landlords.	4,201	4,135	66
26 (2)—Determination of non-resumable area of tenants.	8,447	8,435	12
35— <i>Suo-moto</i> action by Revenue Officers in respect of the cases under Section 26.	9,428	9,428	Nil

The revised ceiling law contained in the Orissa Land Reforms (Amendment) Act, 1973 was brought into force with effect from the 2nd October, 1973. After the expiry of the statutory period for filing returns of ceiling surplus land the Revenue Officer proceeded with ceiling fixation on the basis of the returns filed by the land owners and by *suo-moto* action, where necessary. The anticipated surplus lands in the district of Puri is reported to be 30,093.529 acres. By the end of July 1976, the Government have acquired 4400.425 acres of ceiling surplus land under the ceiling provisions of the Orissa Land Reforms Act, 1960. Out of this, 2291.171 acres of lands have been distributed to 3,108 persons. Under this Act also 2940.058½ acres of lands have been settled with 6,128 Bhag Chasis of the district on which they have acquired occupancy right.

Consolidation of holding

In a predominantly agricultural economy of the State of Orissa as a whole, the growing pressure on land has, through the years, resulted in continual fragmentation of agricultural holdings. This has led to loss of considerable land in ridges, increased overheads in cultivation, difficulties in water and crop management and frequent litigation. In effect, profits from agriculture has not been self sustaining. Among the various measures contemplated to improve the situation, the scheme for consolidation of holding has been taken in the State in selected areas from 1973. Necessary legislation to give legal validity to the scheme has been enacted. The law is known as the Orissa Consolidation of Holdings and Prevention of Fragmentation of Land Act, 1972 which came into force throughout the State with effect from the 10th August, 1973. Necessary statutory rules have also been prescribed and it is known as the Orissa Consolidation of Holdings and Prevention of Fragmentation of Land Rules, 1973.

The essential features of the scheme is aimed at allotting to land-owners, land in compact blocks by strategy of amalgamation and re-distribution of scattered bits of their agricultural lands. For this purpose, a system of exchange is worked out through the medium of a scientifically determined standard exchange ratio notionally expressed in paisa value of land based on productivity, location, availability of irrigation facility and other relevant factors. The scheme also aims at earmarking adequate land for different public purposes, necessary to provide the basic infrastructures to absorb optimum benefits of consolidation of land. Among these, provisions for service roads to *chhaks* and for other infra-village links, field irrigation and drainage channels, compost pits and pasturage are the main units of ancillary development which is kept in view before allotment of land in compact block is made on consolidation. In irrigated area, the lay-out of the alignment for such irrigation and drainage channels are determined and demarcated on the basis of necessary contour survey and taking level of land with the help of irrigation engineering personnel.

In Puri district, the operation has been started in 20 selected Grama Panchayats of Bhubaneshwar and Pipili police stations. The Grampanchayats are Dandamkundapur, Mangalpur, Teisipur, Jasuapur, Saraswatipur, Rupadeipur, Nuasasan, Hatasahi, Kanti, Poparanga, Pamsara, Govindapur, Laxminarayanapur, Basuaghai, Sisupal, Itipur, Padhansahi, Jamukoli, Aiginia, and Patrapada covering 265 villages with an area of about 32, 133 hectares. So far (end of 1975), enquiries into different land rights have been completed in respect of 174 villages in this area; this work was in progress in 45

villages more. Principles for carrying out consolidation work, which also contains proposals for earmarking various community benefit lands for the village, have been finalised for 66 villages; valuation of land, trees and other improvements on land has been done in respect of 161 villages, records and maps prepared after such enquiry have been published in case of 64 villages. This publication is a notice to the land-owners concerned to make objections, if any, on entries made in such records and maps so that after disposing of all such objections and consequent appeals, the records and maps would be finally prepared. The records would form the basis on which the consolidation scheme would be prepared. So far, work in 5 villages has reached this stage.

There are at present twenty Assistant Consolidation Officers posted in twenty Consolidation Camps working out the field operation with the assistance of subordinate field technical staff known as Consolidators and Amins. For immediate supervision, three Consolidation Officers of the Orissa Administrative Service specially trained for the job have been placed in position with convenient jurisdiction of 6 to 7 camps. One Deputy Director of Consolidation has been posted at Bhubaneswar for overall supervision of the operation.

Labourers are adequate in the rural areas of the district. Most of them are unskilled and depend mainly on agriculture for their livelihood. Some of them also find casual employment in various developmental works in their areas. A considerable number of rural male labourers migrate every year either to urban areas of the State or to other States during off-season. The women folk of the peasant class do not find ample employment. They work either in the field or sell vegetables or other agricultural produces in the rural markets. The village artisans like carpenters, blacksmiths, washermen, barbers and astrologers etc., are remunerated both in cash and kind.

RURAL
WAGES AND
CONDITION
OF AGRICULTURAL
LABOURERS

A detailed discussion on the subject finds place in Chapter IX, Economic Trends.

Encroachments on public property is a practice not only in Puri district, but perhaps in all countries of the world. The Revenue authorities had removed the encroachment in Bhubaneswar several times and they came back again. They even had to use bulldozers to pull down the masonry structures on encroached land. If the encroachment has a religious colour very few authorities will dare to take action. Bhubaneswar has a number of Trinath shrines right on public roads. An encroachment in Khandagiri in 1950 was so persistent that it needed a specially strong Collector to remove it. When

ENCROACHMENT ON
PUBLIC LAND

the police searched the tents of the encroacher they found sufficient materials to put him in jail. But he disappeared and has not been heard of since. Three persons claiming to be Digambar Jains, all naked, and a woman started occupying the caves of Udayagiri in 1948. When the police failed to remove them the Subdivisional Officer came from Khurda, had them bodily put into a truck and took into the lock-up at Khurda. After a few days they were released with a stern warning never to go to Khandagiri again. They have since disappeared.

In the district, there are some other sources from which the Government of India and the State Government also collect revenue. The Central revenue is realised from income-tax, central excise and central sales tax. The State Government collects stamp revenue, and imposes taxes on excisable commodities and sales of goods.

In 1957, one Income-tax circle was created for the district of Puri with headquarters at Puri. Before that the district was tagged with the Cuttack Circle. In September 1964, the areas covering Bhubaneswar Notified Area Council was made a separate circle. The head uarters of this circle was fixed at Bhubaneswar. The Puri Circle is managed by one Income-tax Officer, but there are two Income-tax Officers for the Bhubaneswar Circle. The Commissioner of Income-tax, Orissa, Bhubaneswar, controls both the circles.

The statement given below shows the demand, collection, remission and balance income-tax figures (in thousands of Rs.) for four years ending 1974-75.

Assessment year	Total Demand	Collection	Remission	Balance
1971-72	11,099	3,324	2,138	5,637
1972-73	7,704	2,228	1,659	3,817
1973-74	13,299	1,699	5,403	6,197
1974-75	13,111	4,458	3,422	5,231

The Central Excise administration was introduced in this district in 1943. One Inspector stationed at Bhubaneswar since 1968 manages the tobacco excise work of the district. Work relating to manufactured excisable commodities is looked after by the Superintendent of Central Excise, Cuttack. A separate Central Excise and

Customs Collectorate for Orissa started functioning at Bhubaneswar since the 1st July, 1975. The Collector is in overall charge of the customs and central excise administration in the State. The Airport at Bhubaneswar is declared as customs airport for handling international air-traffic:

The average annual central excise revenue collected from the district is Rs. 3,14,880.

Under the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956, the Commercial Tax Department of the State Government assess and collect Central sales tax on behalf of the Central Government. Central Sales tax

The collection figures of the tax for five years ending 1974-75 are given below: —

Year	Collection (In lakhs of rupees)
1970-71	.. 27.29
1971-72	.. 31.35
1972-73	.. 34.28
1973-74	.. 23.28
1974-75	.. 41.87

Since the formation of the district in the early part of the 19th century, the Excise Department is functioning in the district. Now the Superintendent of Excise stationed at Puri looks to the excise administration of the district. He works in subordination to the District Collector and subject to the general control of the Excise Commissioner, Orissa, Cuttack. He supervises the work of his subordinates which include 3 Inspectors, 14 Sub-Inspectors, 8 Assistant Sub-Inspectors and 53 Excise Constables posted in different parts of the district. He inspects all country spirit shops, distilleries intoxicating drug shops, foreign liquor shops, etc. The Range Inspector supervises the work of the Sub-Inspectors posted under him and also inspects graingolas or ware houses, if any, under his jurisdiction and all excise and drug shops. The Sub-Inspector looks after the up to date collection of excise revenue, and also helps in prevention and detection of excise crimes within his jurisdiction.

STATE
Excise

The table below shows the demand, collection and balance figures of excise revenue of the district for five years ending 1974-75.

Year		Demand including arrears (in Rs.)	Collection (in Rs.)	Balance (in Rs.)
1970-71	..	34,11,414	31,45,082	2,66,332
1971-72	..	37,90,122	35,26,112	2,64,000
1972-73	..	43,93,421	40,05,775	3,87,646
1973-74	..	44,54,502	40,77,215	3,77,287
1974-75	..	48,20,508	44,43,213	3,77,295

Commercial Taxes

The district has been divided into three Commercial Tax Circles, viz., Puri I with headquarters at Puri, Puri II with headquarters at Jatni, and Bhubaneswar Circle with headquarters at Bhubaneswar. Puri I is the oldest circle in the district which started functioning from the 1st April, 1947. Next was the Puri II Circle created on the 1st April, 1951, followed by the Bhubaneswar Circle on the 1st September, 1971. Each of the circle is in charge of one Commercial Tax Officer who is assisted by a number of Additional Commercial Tax Officers. These circles are working under the Range Officer, Puri. The function of the Commercial Tax Department in the district is to assess and collect sales tax, agricultural income-tax, motor spirit tax and entertainment tax, all for the State ; and the sales tax for the Central Government.

The statement given below shows the collection figures (in lakhs of rupees) of different State taxes by the Commercial Tax Department from 1970-71 to 1974-75.

Year		Orissa Sales Tax	Orissa Motor Spirit tax	Orissa Agricultural Income-tax	Orissa Entertainment tax
1970-71	..	94.14	13.02	0.85	5.90
1971-72	..	118.86	14.21	0.91	6.87
1972-73	..	163.56	18.66	1.89	8.96
1973-74	..	193.16	19.87	0.78	9.12
1974-75	..	234.12	19.06	0.35	14.34

Revenue is also collected from the sale proceeds of both judicial Stamps and non-judicial stamps.

The table below shows the stamps revenue earned in the district from 1970-71 to 1974-75 :

Year	Total sale of stamps	
	Non-Judicial (Rs.)	Judicial (Rs.)
1970-71	.. 18,28,501	6,65,178
1971-72	.. 28,85,286	7,31,843
1972-73	.. 25,55,379	8,60,620
1973-74	.. 28,92,443	6,64,946
1974-75	.. 29,14,732	6,88,041

APPENDIX

Demand and collection of rent and cess of the district from
1969-70 to 1973-74

Year	Demand			Collection		
	Arrear	Current	Total	Arrear	Current	Total
Rent						
1969-70	13,95,680	96,445	14,92,125	4,72,778	45,676	5,18,454
1970-71	10,51,142	1,02,518	11,53,660	1,46,521	52,163	1,98,684
1971-72	9,73,346	1,11,143	10,84,489	1,96,087	48,482	2,44,569
1972-73	10,30,620	1,08,327	11,38,947	1,34,806	40,737	1,75,543
1973-74	9,63,404	1,07,444	10,70,848	1,17,809	34,901	1,52,710
Cess						
1969-70	7,51,152	6,31,735	13,82,887	4,16,194	4,02,737	8,18,931
1970-71	6,24,389	9,77,845	16,02,234	2,52,425	7,06,590	9,59,015
1971-72	9,38,148	12,25,210	21,63,358	3,40,480	8,38,171	11,78,651
1972-73	9,83,124	12,69,692	22,52,816	5,10,908	7,38,816	12,49,724
1973-74	10,03,092	12,69,550	22,72,642	4,08,813	7,89,543	11,98,356