

CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

PRIOR to the ministry of Sir Salar Jung I, (1853) there was no well-organised police force in the ex-Hyderabad State, and the arrangements made in the different districts depended, to a large extent, on the revenue officers. In 1866, a regular police force was also raised and placed under the revenue authorities. In 1869, a special Sadar-ul-Moham was appointed for the State, and the district police force was placed under the First *Talukdar* of the district with a District Police Superintendent as his executive deputy. Subsequently, a detective branch was also organised under an officer. A system of identification of the accused by means of finger prints was introduced in 1898. The Imperial Gazetteer of India, Provincial series, Hyderabad State, published in 1909 has recorded that the then district of Bidar had 27 police stations and the police force in the district consisted of 446 constables, 75 subordinate officers, and 52 mounted police under 7 inspectors and there was also a small police force called *Rakhwali*.

During
earlier
period

The history of police administration in respect of Bidar district may be broadly divided into two district periods, the period prior to 1948 and that subsequent to it. Under the Nizam's rule, Gulbarga was the divisional headquarters comprising the four districts of Gulbarga, Bidar, Raichur and Osmanabad. There were two separate police forces functioning, *i.e.*, the *Diwani* Police and the Jagir Police. The *Diwani* Police force was of the Nizam's Government, while the Jagir Police force was of the individual Jagirdar Chiefs who had been allowed to maintain their own police establishments to administer law and order in their respective areas. The Jagir Police force was not properly organised and was more or less irregular. The *Diwani* Police in the old Bidar district had two sub-divisions, one at Bidar and the other at Udgir (now in Maharashtra), while there were *Jagir* Police units at Aurad,

Kamalagar, Basavakalyan, Bhalki, Devni, Chitaguppa, Janawada and the like places.

After the accession of the Hyderabad State to the Indian Union in 1948, the *Jagirs* were abolished and their entire police administration was taken over by the *Diwani* Police. Formerly, one of the two sub-divisional police offices was at Humnabad, the other one being at Bidar. In 1955, instead of Humnabad, Bhalki was made a sub-divisional police headquarters. On 1st November 1956 when the Hyderabad State was trifurcated most of the Kannada speaking areas of that State were integrated with the new Mysore State. Uniformity in the police administration through the new State was brought about by the Mysore Police Act, 1963 (Mysore Act No. 4 of 1964) which came into force with effect from 2nd April 1965. The functions, powers and administrative set-up of the police force are now governed by the Act.

Owing to an agitation in connection with an inter-State border dispute, there was some tension in a few border villages of the district in 1956. During the general elections in 1967, there were a few incidents of violent activity which was brought under control by the local police. In recent years, except for some sporadic incidents and agitation, the law and order situation in the district, on the whole, has been satisfactory. On 19th August 1972, the cycle-rickshaw men of Bidar took out a *morcha* in connection with a "land-grab" agitation and attempted to occupy certain plots of land in Gandhinagar of the place. Again on 30th March 1974, they held a demonstration demanding grant of *Gairana* land and supply of tyres, tubes and kerosene oil. During 1972-73, at Bidar and in every taluk place in the district, some political parties took out procession demanding immediate famine relief works and supply of foodgrains. In this connection, there were also some hunger strikes. There was tension at Humnabad, Bidar and Basavakalyan. From 21st October 1974 to 5th November 1974, the labourers of Bidar Sahakara Sakkare Karkhane Ltd. Hallikhed (B), went on a relay hunger-strike asking for payment of arrears of pay and dearness allowance. On the assurance by its Managing Director, it was taken back. Some Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students went on a hunger strike at Bidar in March 1973 demanding exemption of school and college fees and extension of hostel facilities during the summer vacation. They resorted to a hunger strike again in December 1973 and January 1974 on a political issue.

Law and
order situa-
tion

On 16th June 1973, about 1,500 agriculturists of Bhalki taluk marched to the Tahsildar's office at Bhalki and demanded supply of seeds to them unconditionally. The Tahsildar explained the

procedure and the rules for the same, but they attempted to assault him and another official and threw stones. They trespassed into the Community Development Block office and snatched away the keys of the godown in order to seize the seeds from it. They formed an unlawful assembly at Bidar also and committed breach of peace and assaulted some police personnel. The situation, which was serious, was brought under control by timely steps.

During December 1974, some political parties observed "Bidar Bundh" to express their protest in regard to the inter-State border dispute. On 19th April 1974, some members of the Scheduled Castes of Bhalki, and from 3rd to 6th June 1974, some members of the Scheduled Castes of Hallikhed took out processions to ventilate a grievance. For two days from 14th February 1974 there was a hunger strike by P.W.D. labourers demanding more wages. Some persons of a community organised a procession on 19th July 1975 to give vent to their demand for permission to use for worship of a monument which was protected by the Archaeological Survey of India. For three days, from 7th September 1974, the teachers of a high school along with some political workers went on a relay hunger strike demanding establishment of a junior college and change of principal of the high school. From 11th December 1974 to 22nd December 1974, some teachers were on a relay hunger-strike protesting against transfer of teachers from primary school to high school and *vice versa*.

On 29th April 1974, some students and political workers attempted to organise a "Bidar Bundh" and took out a procession asking for establishment of a spinning mill at Bidar and opening of canteens for students for providing eatables, etc., at concessional rates. On 23rd November 1974, some members of the Scheduled Castes held a demonstration to press their demand for provision of a plot near Telephone Exchange, Bidar. On 25th October 1974 a religious association of Humnabad took out a procession demanding permission to instal a statue of a late leader on the National Highway No. 9 in front of the inspection bungalow at Humanabad. On 3rd June 1974, some youths held a demonstration at Aurad urging for establishment of a spinning mill and teaching of Kannada language in each and every school of the district. On 2nd January 1975, workers of some political parties and students attempted to organise a "Bidar Bundh" to protest against an alleged misbehaviour of some Government official. From 1st May 1975 to 4th May 1975, a relay hunger-strike was organised by a political party demanding to stop recovery of seed loans from small farmers. On 9th January 1975, a "Bidar Bundh" was organised by the Border Action

Committee consisting of several political parties as a protest in connection with an inter-State border dispute.

Cognisable offences under the Indian Penal Code have been classified into six different categories for purposes of investigation, viz., offences against State, offences against persons, serious offences against property, minor offences against persons and of property and offences not specified. The following table gives the number of crimes registered for some recent years :
recent years :

Cognisable crimes

Sl. No	Nature of crimes	1973	1974	1975
1	Offences against State, public tranquility, safety and justice	107	148	200
2	Serious offences against persons	244	273	321
3	Serious offences against persons and property or against property.	368	352	303
4	Minor offences against persons	63	61	102
5	Minor offences against property	504	594	534
6	Other offences not specified above	1,745	1,191	10
Total		3,031	2,619	1,470

Thus during the year 1975, the number of cognisable offences registered under classes 1, 2 and 4 showed an increase, while there was a decrease in respect of other categories. There was also an overall decrease in 1975 when compared with the figures of the earlier two years.

The numbers of grave crimes committed in the district during the years 1972, 1973, 1974 and 1975 were as follows :

Grave crimes

Sl. No.	Nature of crime	Number of cases			
		1972	1973	1974	1975
1	Murder	30	31	44	34
2	Dacoity	23	43	55	26
3	Robbery	5	14	15	10
4	House breaking and theft	1	6	9	12
5	Ordinary thefts	5	25	4	2
Total		64	119	127	84

There was thus an overall marked decrease of such crimes during the year 1975, when compared with the previous two years.

This was due to the famine in those earlier years. The following is the classification of murders according to the motives :

<i>Motive</i>	1972	1973	1974	1975
Property dispute	8	5	13	10
Murder for gain	..	2	6	2
Sexual causes	4	2	2	3
Sudden provocation	..	..	..	1
Other causes	18	22	23	18
Total	30	31	44	34

The number of cases of rioting or unlawful assembly registered during the year 1975 was 144 as against 133 in 1974 and 102 in 1973. The increase during the years 1974 and 1975 in these offences was due to petty quarrels and land disputes. Preventive action under Section 107 of the Criminal Procedure Code was also taken in this respect. The statement given hereunder shows the quinquennial yearly averages pertaining to various categories of crimes committed in the district during the period from 1966 to 1970 and 1971 to 1975 :

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Nature of crime</i>	<i>Quinquennial average</i>	
		1966 to 1970	1971 to 1975
1	Cognisable crime	644	1,222
2	Rioting	61	116
3	Murder	25	30
4	Kidnapping and abduction	4	6
5	Dacoity	17	36
6	Robbery	10	30
7	House-breaking and thefts	98	215
8	Cheating	5	12
9	Breach of trust	4	10

The figures indicate that there was an increase in the number of offences during the latter five-year period under all heads, and there was famine in the district during 1972 and 1973.

Un-natural deaths

Un-natural deaths have to be reported under the law to the police, so that the real causes of the same can be determined. The police have to send the dead bodies for post-mortem examination. Inquest proceedings are held when witnesses are called to testify to the facts of the case. After this, the dead bodies are handed over to the relatives. The suicides were mainly due to dejection in life or

family quarrels and ailments. The table given below shows the incidence of un-natural deaths during some recent years :

Sl.No	Category	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
1	Accidental drowning	78	85	86	79	107
2	Suicidal drowning	25	28	34	40	22
3	Suicidal hanging	46	46	47	43	22
4	Snake bites	38	27	15	8	20
5	Burns	11	24	8	..	8
6	Electric shocks	6	4	11	..	9
7	Lightning	2	1	..	1	5
8	Motor accidents	20	13	14	23	22
9	Fall from height	..	13	8	3	5
10	Crushed by weight	..	..	..	1	..
11	Gunshot	1	1	..	..	..
12	Poisoning	8	6	9	25	25
13	Other cases	4	31	46	38	98
Total ..		239	279	278	261	343

The number of cases put up for trial in respect of offences under the Motor Vehicles Act was as follows in some recent years :

Motor vehicle offences

Sl.No.	Category	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
1	Over-speeding	59	59	34	..	24
2	Violation of Traffic signals	..	..	..	4	..
3	Defective vehicles	210	346	215	205	286
4	Using routes without permits	27	7	9	16	8
5	Driving without Driving Licence	8	5	3	38	32
6	Non-payment of tax	2	..	10	2	1
7	Over loading	124	123	89	160	108
8	Miscellaneous	1,060	1,148	314	597	570
Total ..		1,490	1,688	674	1,022	1,029

The amount of fines collected during 1972, 1973 and 1974 was Rs. 11,467, Rs. 39,512 and Rs. 31,657 respectively. The subjoined table gives figures of motor accidents for the past few years :

Category of vehicles	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
Motor cars	2	2	8	4	5
Motor buses	13	13	11	6	19
Motor lorries	1	2	13	20	31
Motor cycles and Scooters	14	9	6	8	21
Jeeps	4	11	10	5	6
Other vehicles	2	3	30	31	14
Total	36	40	78	74	96

Traffic control is done by the fixed duty pointsmen at all important locations in Bidar and other towns. Excessive speed of the vehicles is checked and traffic offences are booked under the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act. The number of persons killed and injured in road accidents during those years was as follows :

<i>Particulars</i>	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
Persons killed	24	30	14	23	20
Persons injured	42	99	55	57	96

Detection of cognisable crimes

Crime detection involves perseverance, scientific approach and production of fool-proof evidence. It is natural to assume that not all cases put up by the police end in conviction. The percentages of detection of cognisable crimes during the years 1971, 1972, 1973, 1974 and 1975 were 80, 50.3, 52, 44.2 and 49.1 respectively. The percentages of detection of grave crimes for some recent years were as given below :

<i>Sl.No.</i>	<i>Type of crime</i>	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
1	Murder	88.5	46.7	86.3	78.5	80.8
2	Dacoity	30.0	23.3	72.2	85.0	45.4
3	Robbery	62.2	47.6	45.8	76.0	61.3
4	House-breaking and theft	28.9	44.1	35.0	34.0	26.0
5	Ordinary theft	58.5	48.9	49.0	42.2	40.6
6	Cattle theft	73.1	52.3	39.7	57.1	40.0

Investigation was refused under Section 157(1) of the Criminal Procedure Code in respect of six cases in 1974 and five cases in 1975, as the properties involved were either unidentifiable or of trivial nature. The position in regard to sessions cases as at the end of 1975 was as indicated below :

<i>No. of pending cases carried forward</i>	<i>No. committed to sessions in 1975</i>	<i>Total</i>	<i>Convicted</i>	<i>Percentage of convictions</i>	<i>Acquitted</i>	<i>Pending trial</i>
26	39	65	11	23%	32	22

Properties lost and recovered

The total value of properties lost and recovered after investigations during some recent years was as noted hereunder :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount (in Rs.)</i>		
	<i>Value of properties lost</i>	<i>Recovered</i>	<i>Recovery Percentage</i>
1964	1,48,023	59,072	39.9
1972	2,98,914	55,451	18.5
1973	4,69,985	85,467	19.0
1974	4,92,279	1,95,204	39.2
1975	5,54,389	1,31,920	23.8

The nature of disposal of prosecuted cases during the past few years was as follows :

Disposal of cases

<i>Particulars</i>	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975
No. of cases decided by courts	584	462	859	962	2,577
No. of cases which ended in conviction	289	232	601	552	3,132
No. of cases ending in acquittal or discharge.	196	120	125	173	232
No. of cases compounded	70	96	88	188	174
No. of cases otherwise disposed of	29	14	44	49	39
Percentage of convictions	49.6	50.2	70.8	58	82.6

Security Cases.—The number of security cases put up in the district during 1975 was 232 under Section 109, and 71 under Section 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

The Karnataka Restriction of Habitual Offenders Act, 1962, is in force in the district. Persons sentenced to substantive terms of imprisonment on not less than three occasions for any of the offences indicated in the Act are classified as habitual offenders. There were six such habitual offenders in the district at the end of 1975.

Habitual offenders

The Prohibition Act and Rules had been brought into force in Bidar district with effect from 1st July 1959. The Karnataka Prohibition Act, 1961 (Act XVII of 1962) was introduced in the district in July 1962 and the same was lifted on 1st July 1968. The following tables show the nature and number of cases booked and fines levied and realised in the district during some years prior the discontinuance of prohibition :

Prohibition

TABLE I

<i>Year</i>	<i>Illicit distillation</i>	<i>Smuggling</i>	<i>Drunkenness</i>	<i>Others</i>	<i>Total No. of cases booked</i>
1964	421	149	397	90	1,057
1965	360	37	250	158	805
1966	83	98	514	545	1,240
1967	61	87	550	521	1,219
1968 (upto 1st July)	47	19	301	198	565

TABLE II

<i>Year</i>	<i>Amount of fines imposed</i>	<i>Amount of fines realised</i>
1964	17,619	11,702
1965	15,432	14,424
1966	16,272	12,690
1967	20,948	19,680
1968 (upto 1st July)	1,039	1,039

**Suppression
of Immoral
traffic**

The Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1955, is in force in the district. No separate or special staff have been appointed to deal with the offences under this Act. The Deputy Superintendents of Police of Bidar and Bhalki have been authorised as special officers for the work of dealing with offences under this Act. The following statement shows particulars of cases booked and convicted under this Act during some recent years :

<i>Year</i>	<i>No. of cases booked</i>	<i>No. of cases ended in conviction</i>	<i>No. of cases acquitted</i>	<i>No. of cases pending trial</i>
1971	31	31	..	..
1972	18	18	..	..
1973	11	10	1	..
1974	17	14	..	3
1975	21	21	..	..

**Mobile Food
Squad**

There is a Mobile Food Squad at Bidar. It consists of a Sub-Inspector, a head constable, two constables and one driver with a jeep. It is charged with the duty of detection of smuggling of foodgrains, by moving throughout the district since the Bidar district shares borders with some districts of two other States. There are five Food Check-posts at Chandakapur, Ambewadi, Lakhangaon, Kamalnagar and Ekamba, under Basavakalyan, Hulsoor, Bhalki, Kamalnagar and Aurad police stations respectively. Each check-post has a strength of two head constables and three police constables.

**Organisation
of police
force**

In order to manage efficiently the police administration of the State, the districts are grouped into police ranges and the Bidar district comes under the North-Eastern Range which has its headquarters at Gulbarga. The Superintendent of Police, Bidar, is the head of the District Police Force. He works directly under the control of the Deputy Inspector General of Police, North-Eastern

range, Gulbarga, who is responsible to the Inspector-General of Police in Karnataka, Bangalore. The Deputy Commissioner of the district is the executive District Magistrate and in that capacity, he is responsible for maintenance of law and order on the district. He has control over the police in so far as law and order matters are concerned. He has to enforce law and order through the police, and secondly, he has to take regulatory and penal actions. The Superintendent of Police is responsible for all matters relating to the Department's internal management and economy, maintenance of discipline and regular and punctual performance of all police duties in the district. He has to ensure investigation and detection of crimes and has to see that the staff posted under him are properly trained and kept efficient. He is competent to transfer the Sub-Inspectors, Assistant Sub-Inspectors, head constables and constables from one place to another within the district in cases of defaults.

For the purpose of police administration, the district is divided into two sub-divisions with headquarters at Bidar and Bhalki respectively. Each sub-division is headed by a Deputy Superintendent of Police. The Bidar sub-division has one circle, Bidar. The Bhalki Sub-division has three circles, (1) Bhalki, (2) Aurad and (3) Humnabad. The Deputy Superintendents of Police are competent to impose minor punishments on head constables and constables of their sub-divisions as per rules. A Circle Inspector of Police is in charge of each circle which comprises three to four police stations. The Circle Inspectors have to guide and supervise the work of Sub-Inspectors of Police who are in charge of the Police Stations. They have to investigate personally grave crimes occurring in their circles. The Sub-Inspectors, who are responsible for the efficient working of the police stations (which number 16 in the district), have to maintain law and order and also to attend the prevention and detection of crimes in their respective jurisdictions. Next in the hierarchy are the Assistant Sub-Inspectors, head constables and constables. There were in 1976, in all, 18 Sub-Inspectors of Police, 16 being in charge of police stations, one in charge of the Special Branch and another in charge of the District Crime Record Bureau.

The police stations are located at the following places :

<i>Circle</i>	<i>Police Stations</i>
Bidar ..	Bidar town, Bidar rural, Gandhi Gunj, Bagdal, Janawada.
Humnabad ..	Humnabad, Chitaguppa, Mannaekhalli, Basavakalyan.
Bhalki ..	Bhalki, Hulsoor, Dhanura, Khatak Chincholli
Aurad ..	Aurad, Kushnur, Kamalnagar

Five of the police stations have in all six out-posts as detailed below :

<i>Police Station</i>	<i>Out-posts</i>
Bagdal	Marballi
Humnabad	Mudbi, Hallikhed
Basavakalyan	Matala
Dhanura	Nittur
Kamalnagar	Hokrana

Strength
of police
force

The Superintendent of Police has to inspect annually headquarters offices of the districts, police sub-division offices, circle offices, police stations and out-posts, and offices of the District Armed Reserve Force and Assistant Public Prosecutors. The Deputy Superintendents of Police have to inspect twice in a year all the circle offices, police stations and out-posts in their sub-divisions. The Circle Inspectors in their turn have to inspect all the police stations and out-posts in their jurisdictions twice a year.

The sanctioned strength of the district's police force (permanent and temporary) including the District Armed Reserve is shown in the statement given below :

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Designation</i>	<i>As on 31st December 1975</i>		
		<i>Permanent</i>	<i>Temporary</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	Superintendent of Police	1	..	1
2	Deputy Superintendents of Police	2	..	2
3	Circle Inspector	4	..	4
4	Sub-Inspector	18	2	20
5	Assistant Sub-Inspector	1	..	1
6	Head Constable	70	14	84
7	Constable	398	36	434
Total		494	52	546

There is an Armed Reserve Police Force at Bidar which has to attend to emergency duties, escort of criminals and treasury remittances, etc. The strength of armed reserve police force was as follows :

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Category</i>	<i>Strength</i>
1	Police Inspector	1
2	Police Sub-Inspector	4
3	Police Assistant Sub-Inspector	4
4	Head Constable	16
5	Police Constable	155
Total		180

District Crime Record Bureau.—There is a District crime Record Bureau at Bidar under the control of the Superintendent of Police. It is functioning with a staff of one Sub-Inspector and three head constables attached to the District Police Office, Bidar. The Bureau serves as the agency to collect particulars about criminals and crimes and to disseminate the information to police officers in and outside the district. Finger-prints and foot-prints are photographed in house-breaking and theft cases and other offences and they are sent to the State Finger Print Bureau, Bangalore, for necessary development and records. There is no separate staff for finger-print work in the district. There is a branch of the Finger Print Bureau at Gulbarga which functions under the supervision and control of the State Finger Print Bureau, Bangalore.

Crime
Record
Bureau

Special Branch.—A Unit named as the District Special Branch is attached to the District Police Office. It is directly under the control of the Superintendent of Police. It has to collect intelligence regarding certain types of activities. It has to prepare *bandobust* strategy during agitations and festivals etc. In this section, there are one Sub-Inspector and seven head constables.

Mobile Squad.—There is a Mobile Squad consisting of one Sub-Inspector and three constables. A jeep is allotted to this Squad which moves throughout the district and books cases of contravention under the Essential Commodities Act and such detected cases are reported to the police station concerned for investigation and legal action. The Deputy Superintendents of Police will send such reports to the Superintendents of Police by quickest possible means and on receipt of such reports, the information is sent to the higher authorities concerned by radio messages. This Squad also books cases of offences under the Motor Vehicles Act.

All police stations, except Bidar rural, Gandhi Gunj (Bidar), Dhanura, Bhalki taluk and Hulsoor, Basvakalyan taluk have two lock-ups each, one for men and the other for women. The lock-ups are of Hyderabad-type design, except those at Humnabad, Mannaekhalli and Kamalnagar which have new Karnataka-type lock-ups. All these lock-ups are a part of the police stations.

Police
Lock-ups

There is an anti-corruption squad at Bidar working separately under the State Vigilance Commission, Bangalore. The Divisional Commissioner, Gulbarga Division, Gulbarga, is the superior authority concerned in the division in this respect. There is a Remand Home at Bidar with a separate staff, set up with the objective of rehabilita-

ting delinquent, victimised destitute, or orphan children. (see also Chapter XVII).

**Civil Rights
Enforce-
ment Cell**

'Untouchability' offences are treated as grave crimes requiring an officer not below the rank of an Inspector of Police to investigate. Every police station in the State has been instructed to maintain in a register a list of Harijan colonies. All beat constables and head constables have been asked to visit the Harijan colonies periodically for making enquiries of occurrence of incidents, if any. Senior officers including the Superintendent of Police have been also asked to visit the Harijan colonies periodically. In 1974, a Special Cell called the Civil Rights Enforcement Cell was created in the State Criminal Investigation Department in the office of the Inspector-General of Police, for strict enforcement of the Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955, and for dealing effectively with cases of harassment of Harijans.

Equipment.— The armament of District Police Force consists of 581 rifles of 303 bore, 99 muskets of 410 bore, 35 revolvers, three 9 MM. pistols, 7 TMC of 45 bore, 7 V.L. pistol, 15 guns of 22 bore, one DBBL gun and six gas guns. Five rifles of 22 bore have been allotted for training of civilians in rifle shootings. The District Police Force has in all 24 vehicles consisting of one station wagon, one motor car, ten jeeps, three motor cycles and nine vans. These vehicles are utilised for purposes of investigation, detection, *bandobust* duties and for quick mobilisation of the police force when needed.

Wireless sets.— For quick communication purposes and for conveying confidential and urgent orders, wireless sets are being used by the District Police. At present, there are two wireless stations, one at Bidar and the other at Humnabad. Their staff consists of one Assistant Sub-Inspector, three head constables and six constables. A V.H.F. tower of 102' has been installed at the District Armed Reserve Headquarters, and four V.H.F. sets are to be installed for use at Bhalki, Basavakalyan, Aurad and Humnabad. The Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Police, head constables and constables are now given washing/clothing/dress allowances at uniform rates of Rs. 6 in cities and Rs. 4 in mofussil places, per month. For the Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors, an annual uniform allowance of Rs. 100 is paid.

**Police Wel-
fare**

A police *Kalyan Mantapa* was built in the Police colony at Bidar in 1964 by the policemen themselves with the co-operation of civilians. It is used for marriages, other functions, etc. There is a Police Welfare Centre at Bidar, which provides training in tailoring to the needy female members of policemen's families. A lady instructor has been appointed and four sewing machines have

been provided. There is a co-operative consumers' society consisting of 474 share-holders at the District Police Headquarters, where food-grains and other essential commodities are made available at reasonable prices. A vegetable garden is being maintained at the police headquarters. Vegetables grown here are sold to policemen at reasonable rates and the sale proceeds are being credited to the accounts of the Police Benevolent Fund. A Police Canteen is also being run at the police headquarters on no profit and no loss basis. A Police Health Centre is also functioning there for the benefit of policemen and their families. It has a doctor, a pharmacist and other staff whose salaries are paid by the Government. Bidar has a police primary school which has I to V standards in Kannada and Urdu. It is housed in the police *Kalyan Mantapa*. Training in sports is also provided to children of policemen by engaging a head constable, at the D.A.R. parade grounds. There is a Police Officer's Club at Bidar, which is a registered body. It provides also suitable facilities for lodge and boarding for police officers coming on duty from other places.

There was a Police Recruiting School at Bidar which had been set up by the erstwhile Hyderabad Government in 1950. The police recruits (civil and armed) were being given training here before being posted for duty. In 1964, this school was shifted to Channapatna in Bangalore district. The men recruited for the civil police force are now sent to Channapatna for their training, while those recruited for the Armed Reserve are sent for training to the City Armed Reserve Centre at Bangalore.

Cost of police force.—The amount of expenditure incurred for maintenance of the police force in the district during some recent years as was follows :

<i>Year</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
	Rs.
1970-71	15,83,431
1971-72	17,93,790
1972-73	21,62,164
1973-74	24,27,440
1974-75	26,13,947

The State Directorate of Fire Force is not maintaining any fire-fighting unit in the Bidar district. There is a fire-fighting unit of the I.A.F. at Bidar, which helps the public whenever necessary.

**Home
Guards**

A Home Guards Unit was started at Bidar on 1st September 1963, and by 1975, the district had six units, of which five were in taluk headquarters, and the sixth one at Kamalnagar. The enrolment in the units is voluntary. The position as in 1975 is shown by the following statement :

<i>Sl. Unit at No.</i>	<i>Date of establishment</i>	<i>Home Guards trained</i>
1 Bidar	1- 9-1963	174
2 Humnabad	1-11-1967	100
3 Aurad	1-11-1968	59
4 Basavakalyan	1-12-1969	42
5 Bhalki	1- 4-1970	100
6 Kamalnagar	1- 2-1972	100
Total		575

The Home Guards organisation imparts training with a view to instilling discipline and a sense of service in its members who are from different walks of life. They are trained in physical education, drill with arms, use of weapons, civil defence, fire-fighting, first aid, flood rescue work, traffic control, security duty, and leadership in such work. The Home Guards of the district assist law and order authorities in maintaining peace and order on occasions like general elections, Independence Day and Republic Day celebrations, festivals, etc. They have helped in extinguishing fire and saving lives and properties and rendered service in traffic control, during the strike of the railway workers, in verification of ration cards, etc. There is a Commandant of Home Guards at Bidar, who is assisted by an Instructor, two Assistant Instructors and office staff. The expenditure on the Home Guards Organisation in the district during the years 1973-74 and 1974-75 was Rs. 60,908 and Rs. 63,562 respectively.

Police Patels

Each village or a group of villages has a Police Patel. He has to collect information about suspicious strangers and convey the same to the police. He has also to give information to the police about any offence committed in his jurisdiction and is required to assist the police generally in preventing and detecting of crimes.

**Village de-
fence parties**

The village defence parties are constituted under the provisions of the Karnataka Village Defence Party Act, 1964, and the Rules made thereunder. They were begun to be formed in Bidar district from the year 1967 and by 1975, 267 villages had such defence

parties. The average number of members in each village defence party formed in the district is 30. The important purposes and functions of these bodies are (1) aiding the police in matters of internal security, watch and ward, patrolling and guarding, preventions of crimes, protection of persons and properties and maintenance of public order in the village, (2) assisting as an emergency labour force, the armed force, and other agencies responsible for the maintenance of communications and essential services, and (3) conveying timely information to the proper authorities about local events and occurrences of significance and about movements of any suspicious characters.

The jurisdiction of the Railway Police in Bidar district lies between Metalkunte railway station and Kamalnagar railway station. In addition to a railway police station at Bidar, there is a railway police outpost at Bhalki. The Railway Police force in Bidar district is headed by a Railway Police Sub-Inspector who is assisted by a Railway Assistant Police Sub-Inspector, three Railway Police Head Constables and 15 Railway Police Constables. The Railway Police Sub-Inspector at Bidar is responsible to the Railway Police Inspector whose headquarters is at Raichur.

**Railway
police**

JAILS AND JUDICIAL LOCK-UPS

The origin of the present system of jail management in the district of Bidar may be said to be dating from 1897, when the then Director-General of Prisons of the Hyderabad State, Mr. Hankin, organised district prisons, wherever needed and compiled a Jail Manual on which their day-to-day administration was to be carried on. Before that, the department was in a very backward condition. Several reforms were introduced in the management of prisons during Mr. Hankin's regime.

The District Jail, Bidar, was constructed in the year 1920. The area of this jail proper is 4,672 square metres. There is a big yard which covers six barracks for confining the prisoners. Under-trial prisoners, prisoners under jail punishments, new entrants, etc., are lodged separately. There is a separate arrangement for lodging female prisoners in the District Jail. Sick prisoners are lodged in a separate ward. The total accommodation of this jail is for 250 prisoners. Only 'C' class prisoners are lodged in this Jail, there being no provision for 'A' and 'B' class prisoners here. Death sentences are not carried out in this Jail. Such cases are transferred to the Central Jail at Gulbarga.

District Jail

An extent of about 1.13 hectares of land is set apart for growing vegetables by the prisoners who have to do gardening and

**Facilities to
prisoners**

other work. A prisoners' panchayat has been formed in the Jail to create a sense of reliance and responsibility among them. Facilities for indoor and outdoor games such as carom, volley-ball, *kabaddi*, have been provided for inmates of the District jail to make them cheerful. Physical training classes are also held for convicts. They are encouraged to sing *bhajans* and *lavanis*. Special diets are issued to inmates on occasions of festivals. Lectures and film shows are also arranged. Daily part-time adult education classes in Kannada, Hindi, etc., are conducted with the help of the Department of Public Instruction. The prisoners lodged in the Jail are permitted to have interviews with their kith and kin and to correspond with them. There is a small dispensary with a pharmacist attached to this prison. Prisoners with serious ailments are sent to the District Hospital for treatment. The inmates have complete freedom of worship and to practice their religion in their own way.

Administrative set-up

Formerly, the District surgeon, Bidar, was the *ex-officio* Superintendent of the District Jail. Now, the Jail is managed by the departmental staff. A full time Superintendent is responsible in so far as the management of the jail is concerned to the Inspector General of Prisons in Karnataka, Bangalore. He is assisted by one Chief Jailor, one Jailor, two head warders, 20 warders, one female warder and other officials. There is a board of visitors. The provisions of the Hyderabad Jail Manual are continued to be followed for the administration of this District Jail, at present.

Judicial Lock-ups

Apart from the District Jail, which is at Bidar, there are three Judicial Lock-ups or Sub-Jails located at Humnabad, Aurad and Bhalki. At present (1976), the Sub-Jails at Aurad and Bhalki are not functioning. The prisoners are produced for trial before the courts at Aurad and Bhalki through police escorts and are sent back the same day to the District Jail, Bidar, where they are lodged. The average number of prisoners lodged in a year during the five years from 1970-71 to 1974-75 was 190 and 180 at Aurad and Bhalki respectively. The average expenditure incurred during those five years was Rs. 1,400 and Rs. 1,200 per year for Aurad and Bhalki Sub-Jails respectively.

Sub-Jail at Humnabad

The Sub-Jail at Humanabad is located in the premises of the Court of the First Class Magistrate. Under-trial prisoners and convicts sentenced upto one month are confined in this Sub-Jail. The Revenue Sherestedar is its *ex-officio* Superintendent to whom a special pay of Rs. 20 per month is paid. Guard duties in this Sub-Jail are done by the local police. The average number of prisoners lodged in a year during the five years from 1970-71 to

1974-1975 was 137 and average expenditure incurred per annum was Rs. 1,100.

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

In 1863, there was a reorganisation of administrative units in the Nizam's dominion. Prior to 1866, the Bidar district had no separate judicial courts. The revenue officers had powers to dispense civil justice. Then separate city courts were established to entertain cases of a civil nature. In 1870, the powers to decide civil cases were taken away from all the revenue officers except the Tahsildars who, however, still retained civil powers as there were no civil courts in taluk headquarters. On the criminal side, the *Talukdar* and the Police Patels disposed of magisterial work. The Subedar of the Gulbarga Division was the highest judicial officer in the Division in addition to his revenue duties.

Earlier
period

Separation of the judiciary from the executive was implemented in the erstwhile Hyderabad State in the years 1922 and the principles governing this reform were extended all over the State. The revenue officers, who were earlier exercising also magisterial powers, were divested of them and Munsiff-Magistrates were appointed for each *Diwani tahsil* (taluk). They were invested with first class magisterial powers on the criminal side. Besides, the First *Talukdar* (now called Deputy Commissioner), the second *Talukdar* (now called Assistant Commissioner) and Tahsildar (II class Magistrate) were all given certain powers relating to preventive action by the police and maintenance of law and order under the amended Code of Criminal Procedure and they were exercising their powers conferred on them as the executive magistrates.

Seperation of
Judiciary
from
Executive

Upto 1951, there was only one District Court for the entire Gulbarga *Subah* which included the three Karnataka districts, *viz.*, Gulbarga, Raichur and Bidar, and the District Judge, Gulbarga, was the presiding officer for all these three districts. After April 1951, the *Subah* Court was abolished and each district in the Hyderabad-Karnataka area was provided with a District and Sessions Court. In addition to the District and Sessions Court, at Bidar, a Subordinate Judge-*cum*-District Magistrate was also appointed in 1951. This Court of Subordinate Judge-*cum*-District Magistrate was functioning in this district till 1964 and, in July 1964, this post was abolished and in its place, a post of Civil Judge (Senior Division) was created at Bidar. Between 1917 and 1974, the following were the courts established in the district :

<i>Sl.No</i>	<i>Name of the Court</i>	<i>Year of establishment</i>
1	District Court, Bidar	1917 A.D.
2	Court of Munsiff and Judicial Magistrate (First Class), Bidar	1922 A.D.
3	Court of Munsiff and Judicial Magistrate (First Class), Bhalki	1950 A.D.
4	Do Humnabad	1951 A.D.
5	Do Aurad	1963 A.D.
6	Civil Judge's Court, Bidar	1964 A.D.
7	Court of Munsiff and Judicial Magistrate (First Class), Basavakalyan.	1970 A.D.
8	Chief Judicial Magistrate's Court, Bidar	1974 A.D.

Prior to 1948, the court work in the district was being conducted in Urdu which was the official language of the Nizam's Government. In 1948, English became the court language. From 1st November 1974, the Government of Karnataka permitted the use of Kannada as the language of the courts of the judicial Magistrates. All the courts have their own libraries.

**District and
Sessions
Judge's Court**

The District and Sessions Judge at Bidar is the head of the judiciary in the district. He is appointed by the State Government in consultation with the High Court of Karnataka. He presides over the District Court and acts as an appellate authority over the judgements of subordinate civil and criminal courts, apart from his jurisdiction as a Sessions Judge in respect of criminal cases and power of general superintendence and control in respect of administrative matters of all the courts of the district. The Sessions Judge tries and disposes of the cases committed to him under the Criminal Procedure Code. He can hold his sessions court any where in the district subject to approval of the High Court. He has been specially empowered to try the cases under the Anti-corruption Act, Indian Railways Act, Motor Vehicles Act, 1939, and also cases arising under the provisions of the Educational Appellate Tribunal Act, etc. as a special Judge. He exercises jurisdiction as *ex-officio* Claims Commissioner to try and dispose of the claims preferred to him for compensation under the Indian Railways Act, 1890. He is an appointing authority in the district in respect of class III and Class IV officials including the post of Head-Munshi of subordinate courts of the district. He can also impose penalties prescribed under the C.C.A. Rules. He has to inspect periodically the subordinate courts in the district.

**Chief
Judicial
Magistrate**

The post of Chief Judicial Magistrate was created at Bidar on 1st April 1974. He exercises powers vested in him under the Code of Criminal Procedure. He can impose sentences of imprisonment

not exceeding seven years. He is above the rank of a Civil Judge and below that of a District and Sessions Judge.

As per provisions of the Civil Courts Act, 1964, the Civil Judge, Bidar, has unlimited pecuniary jurisdiction over the decisions of the Munsiffs in the district. Formerly, the Civil Judge was also appointed as First Class Magistrate and District Magistrate on the Judicial side. After the Code of Criminal Procedure (Karnataka Amendment) Act, 1965, was brought into force with effect from 1st November 1965, the Civil Judge-cum-District Magistrate ceased to be the Judicial District Magistrate and was relieved of criminal work. From that date, the functions of the Judicial District Magistrate were vested with the Sessions Judge.

**Civil Judge's
Court**

The Civil Judge's Court, Bidar, which has jurisdiction over all the taluks of the district, has unlimited jurisdiction for original suits, the value of which exceeds Rs. 10,000, and also decides cases relating to insolvency, pecuniary, small causes, guardians and wards, matrimony, elections to municipalities and hears appeals against the judgements and orders passed by the Munsiffs in original suits and miscellaneous and execution cases of a civil nature. The Civil Judges are appointed by the High Court by promotion from the cadre of Munsiffs.

There is a Court of Munsiff Magistrate (First Class) in each of the taluk headquarters of the district. They have both civil and criminal jurisdiction. As Munsiffs, they have civil powers to entertain all civil matters and proceedings upto the value of Rs. 10,000 only. As Judicial Magistrates (First Class) on the criminal side, they exercise powers under the Criminal Procedure Code within their territorial jurisdiction. The Munsiff Magistrates are responsible to the District and Sessions Judge in all administrative matters. They are appointed by the Governor in accordance with the Karnataka Munsiffs Recruitment Rules, 1958, in consultation with the State Public Service Commission and the High Court.

**Munsiff
Magistrates'
Courts**

The Munsiffs of respective taluks were working as presiding officers of the Land Tribunals for dealing with cases coming under the Karnataka Land Reforms Act, 1961. These Tribunals were redesignated as the Additional Munsiff's Courts at Bidar, Bhalki, Aurad, Basavakalyan and Humnabad with effect from 15th January 1970. There were no separate posts of Munsiffs sanctioned for this purpose. The following statement shows the number of cases under the Land Reforms Act, 1961 in each taluk of the district for the year 1974 :

Sl. No.	Name of taluk	No. of pending cases of previous year	No. of cases refiled	No. of cases instituted during year	Total	No. of cases disposed of	Balance no. of cases
1	Bidar	60	..	3	63	4	59
2	Basavakalyan	..	..	37	37	36	1
3	Humnabad	14	..	..	14	14	..
4	Bhalki	70	5	..	75	75	..
5	Aurad	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total		144	5	40	189	129	60

* In 1974, fresh Land Tribunals were formed on a new basis (See Chapter XI)

Executive Magistrates

Some officers of the Revenue Department are *ex-officio* executive magistrates with responsibilities for maintaining law and order in their jurisdiction. For this purpose, they are empowered to give directions to the police force. Their duties in this respect are of an executive nature as distinguished from those of judicial magistrates. While the Deputy Commissioner is the District Magistrate, the Headquarters Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner is the Additional District Magistrate. Similarly, the Revenue Sub-Divisional Officer, *i.e.*, the Assistant Commissioner, Bidar, is the *ex-officio* First class Magistrate, and the Tahsildars of the five taluks of the district are *ex-officio* Second Class Magistrates. They exercise their magisterial powers under the supervision and control of the District Magistrate (*see* also Chapter X).

Bar Associations

The district headquarters as also all the taluk headquarters in the district have Bar Associations, the membership of which is open to all legal practitioners. The Bar Association at Bidar has a good library. As in 1975, the number of lawyers, practising in Bidar district was 153 (Bidar 80, Bhalki 29, Basavakalyan 25, Humnabad 15 and Aurad 4). In 1975, the members of the Bar Association at Bidar established a Legal Practitioner's Co-operative Society.

TABLE I

Statement showing the number of Civil Cases of all types instituted, disposed of and pending in various Courts of the Bidar District for the year 1973-74.

Name of Court	Pending at the beginning of the Year	Instituted during the year	Refiled, re-manded or received by or transfer	Number of original civil suits			Pending at the end of the year	Total receipts Rs.	Total charges Rs.
				Total for disposal	Decided	Transferred to other courts			
District Judge's Court	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3,655.70	1,03,501.47
Civil Judge's Court	260	86	24	370	136	..	234	23,232.89	67,221.83
Munsiffs' Courts	1,042	983	75	2,100	1,104	..	1,104	79,179.16	2,24,218.17
Total	1,302	1,069	99	2,470	1,240	..	1,240	1,06,067.75	3,94,941.47
Miscellaneous Civil Cases									
District Judge's Court	52	33	2	87	23	..	23	64	
Civil Judge's Court	103	51	2	156	67	..	67	89	
Munsiff's Courts	197	144	10	351	121	..	121	230	
Total	352	228	14	594	211	..	211	383	

Source: Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in Karnataka State for the year 1973-74, the High Court, Bangalore.

TABLE II

Statement showing the number of Criminal Cases and Session Cases instituted, decided and pending in various courts in the Bidar district for the year 1973-74

Name of Court	Number of cases					Total Receipts	Total charges
	Pending at the beginning of the year	Instituted during the year	Total for disposal	Disposed of during the year	Pending at the end of the year		
Sessions Court	38	46	84	72	12	2,006.50	1,03,501.50
Magistrates' Courts	1,164	2,484	3,648	3,252 +60 transferred	1,136	42,690.50	2,27,334.00
Total	1,202	2,530	3,732	2,584	1,148	44,697.00	3,30,835.50
Miscellaneous Criminal Cases							
Sessions Court	3	60	63	56	7		
Magistrates' Courts	281	268	549	336	213		
Total	284	328	612	392	220		

Source: Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Karnataka State for the year 1973-74, the High Court, Bangalore.

TABLE III

Statement showing the number of original suits of all types instituted, disposed of and pending in various Courts of the Bidar district for the year 1974-75

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Name of the Court	Number of original Civil Suits							Total Receipts Rs.	Total charges Rs.	
	Pending at the begin- ning of the year	Instituted during the year	Refiled re- manded or received by transfer	Total for disposal	Decided	Transferred to other courts	Total disposed of			Pending at the end of the year
District Judge's Court	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2,218.45	1,06,429.30
Civil Judge's Court	234	46	14	294	125	..	125	169	82,566.05	88,237.76
Munsiffs' Courts	996	830	39	1,865	1,007	..	858	516	76,048.94	2,95,973.91
Total	1,230	876	53	2,159	1,132	..	983	685	1,60,833.44	4,90,640.97

Miscellaneous Civil Cases

District Judge's Court	64	45	..	109	75	..	75	34		
Civil Judge's Court	89	74	5	168	86	..	86	82		
Munsiffs' Courts	230	120	..	350	139	77	216	134		
Total	383	239	5	627	300	77	377	250		

Source : Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in Karnataka State for the year 1974-75, the High Court, Bangalore.

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TABLE IV

Statement showing the general results of trial of Criminal cases and Session cases in Bidar district for the year 1974-75.

Name of the Court	Number of cases			Disposed of during the year	Pending at the end of the year	Total receipts Rs.	Total charges Rs.
	Pending at beginning of the year	Instituted during the year	Total for disposal				
Sessions Court	12	96	108	74	34	454.75	1,06,429.30
Magistrates' Court	1,136	3,062	4,198	2,767 +95 transferred	1,336	48,637.87	3,56,231.22
Total	1,148	3,158	4,306	2,936	1,370	49,092.62	4,62,660.52
Miscellaneous Criminal Cases							
Sessions Court	7	78	85	76	9		
Magistrates' Courts	213	759	972	703	269		
Total	220	837	1,057	779	278		

Source: Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Karnataka State for 1974-75, the High Court, Bangalore.