

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

BASAVAKALYAN (formerly known as Kalyana or Kalyani) and Bidar had been metropolitan cities of powerful kingdoms. The thrilling events of their history and the great *Sharana* movement of religious and social reforms, which originated at Basavakalyan, have left a deep impress, and have given to the people of the area proud memories of their forefathers' close association with them. However, the area underwent also a long period of neglect and backwardness. The struggle for emancipation from the feudal yoke and for establishment of democratic Government gave the people of the region a new horizon and a new awakening. In 1956, there was another important historical event, in that the people of the district joined the main-stream of Karnataka in fulfilment of a long-cherished desire. Now a new age has dawned in the life of the people.

With the introduction of adult franchise, several political parties and many individuals also appeared on the scene to contest the elections. The Karnataka Village Panchayats and Local Boards Act, 1959, and the Karnataka Municipalities Act, 1961, gave a new beneficial orientation in respect of local self-government. Elections to the various democratic bodies are keenly contested. There is an unprecedented and widespread awareness of rights and privileges among both the urban and rural dwellers as a result of various democratic measures taken. There is now a vibrant public life in the district.

For the second general elections held in 1957 (which were the first general elections after the district became a part of Karnataka in 1956), the area of this district along with the neighbouring Gulbarga district excluding Shorapur and Shahpur taluks and Yadgir circle of Yadgir taluk was formed into a double-member Parlia-

**Representa-
tion in Lok
Sabha, 1957**

mentary Constituency, in which a seat was reserved for the Scheduled Castes. The detailed results of the general elections to the Lok Sabha held in 1957 were as under :

<i>Name of constituency</i>	<i>Names of contesting parties</i>	<i>No. of valid votes polled</i>	<i>Percentage of votes polled</i>	<i>Successful party</i>
Gulbarga and Bidar (Double-member constituency)	(i) P.S.P.	60,317	11.36	
	(ii) Congress	1,39,041	26.17	Congress
	(iii) Congress	1,34,239	25.27	Congress
	(iv) Independent	1,09,124	20.56	
	(v) Independent	88,352	16.64	

Note : Congress—Indian National Congress

P. S. P.—Praja-Socialist Party

The Indian National Congress had set up two candidates, one for the general seat and the other for the reserved seat. They were opposed by two Independent candidates and one candidate from the Praja-Socialist Party. Both the Congress candidates came out successful. Each of the two Independent contestants also scored a considerable number of votes.

Representa-
tion in
Vidhana
Sabha, 1957

In accordance with the Delimitation of Assembly Constituencies Order, 1957, the Bidar district was divided into five Assembly Constituencies with six seats in all. Bhalki with Santhpur (Aurad) was formed into a double-member constituency in which a seat was reserved for the Scheduled Castes. The annexed statement gives particulars of the general elections to the State Vidhana Sabha (Legislative Assembly) held in 1957.

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of constituency</i>	<i>Names of contesting parties</i>	<i>No. of valid votes polled</i>	<i>Percentage of votes polled</i>	<i>Successful party</i>
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Bhalki and Santhpur (Double-member constituency)	(1) Independent	16,087	22.56	Independent
		(2) Independent (S.C.)	15,718	22.04	Independent (S.C.)
		(3) P.S.P.	14,493	20.32	
		(4) P.S.P. (S.C.)	13,444	18.85	
		(5) Congress	7,076	9.92	
		(6) Congress (S.C.)	4,499	6.31	

1	2	3	4	5	
2	Bidar	(1) Congress	6,314	50.80	Congress
		(2) Independent	3,758	30.24	
		(3) P.S.P.	2,360	18.96	
3	Hulsur	(1) Congress	8,578	41.46	P.S.P.
		(2) P.S.P.	12,114	58.54	
4	Kalyani (now Basavakalyan)	(1) Congress	13,133	58.72	Congress
		(2) Independent	5,659	25.32	
		(3) P.S.P.	3,569	15.96	
5	Humnabad	(1) P.S.P.	4,253	24.43	Congress
		(2) Congress	7,923	45.52	
		(3) Independent	5,229	30.05	

Note : (1) P.S.P. = Praja-Socialist Party

(2) The figures in regard to electors were not available

There were 17 candidates in all. The Indian National Congress and the Praja-Socialist Party contested all the six seats. While the former secured three seats, the latter won one seat. There were five Independents, out of whom two were successful.

For the third general elections held in 1962, the previous double-member Parliamentary Constituency comprising the Bidar district and some parts of the Gulbarga district was split up into two single-member constituencies in accordance with the provisions of the Two-member Constituencies (Abolition) Act, 1961. The Bidar district was made a single-member Parliamentary Constituency reserved for the Scheduled Castes. Similarly, the double-member Assembly Constituency of Bhalki with Santhpur was divided into two separate single-member constituencies and Santhpur, the newly created single-member constituency, was given the reserved seat meant for the Scheduled Castes. The details of the results of the general elections of 1962 are given hereunder :

General
Elections,
1962

Sl. No.	Name of constituencies	Party affiliations of contesting candidates	No of valid votes polled	Successful party
1	2	3	4	5
Lok Sabha				
Bidar (S.C.)		(1) Congress	95,691	Congress
		(2) P.S.P.	41,389	
		(3) Republican	33,766	
		(4) Independent	13,619	

1	2	3	4	5
Legislative Assembly				
1	Santhpur (S.C.)	(1) Congress (2) Republican (3) P.S.P.	9,098 7,893 2,034	Congress
2	Bhalki	(1) P.S.P. (2) Independent (3) Congress	12,114 6,577 6,360	P.S.P.
3	Bidar	(1) Congress (2) P.S.P. (3) Republican	14,277 6,161 605	Congress
4	Hulsoor	(1) Independent (2) Congress (3) P.S.P.	13,424 13,386 4,344	Independent
5	Kalyani (now Basavakalyan)	(1) Congress (2) Independent (3) P.S.P.	12,868 6,481 5,343	Congress
6	Humnabad	(1) Congress (2) C.P.I.	11,476 11,201	Congress

Note : P.S.P. = Praja—Socialist Party
C.P.I. = Communist Party of India
Congress = Indian National Congress

In the Reserved Parliamentary Constituency, the candidate of the Indian National Congress emerged successful obtaining a high proportion of votes, defeating two other party candidates and one Independent. The same party, which had fielded its candidates in all the six Assembly Constituencies, secured four seats. Out of the five contestants of the Praja-Socialist Party in the Assembly Constituencies, a solitary seat was won by it. There were three Independent candidates, one of whom obtained a seat. The Communist Party of India and the Republican Party which entered the field for the first time failed to get any seat.

Under the Delimitation of Parliamentary and Assembly Constituencies Order, 1966, there was no change in the number of constituencies in this district, but the reserved constituency was shifted from Santhpur (Aurad) to Hulsoor, and some territorial alterations

were made in the Assembly Constituencies. The detailed results of the general elections of 1967 were as follows :

Sl. No.	Name of constituency	Party affiliations of contesting Candidates	No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of votes polled	Successful party
1	2	3	4	5	6
Lok Sabha					
1	Bidar (S.C.)	(1) Congress (2) Republican (3) Independent	1,36,413 76,093 63,371	49.45 27.58 22.97	Congress
Legislative Assembly					
1	Aurad	(1) Congress (2) Independent	25,965 19,299	57.36 42.64	Congress
2	Bhalki	(1) Congress (2) Independent	23,210 12,099	65.73 34.27	Congress
3	Hulsoor (S.C.)	(1) Congress (2) Republican (3) Independent	13,220 10,785 734	53.44 43.60 2.96	Congress
4	Bidar	(1) Jana Sangh (2) Congress	21,514 15,880	57.53 42.47	Jana Sangh
5	Humnabad	(1) C.P.I. (2) Congress (3) P. S. P. (4) Independent	16,019 14,488 3,345 1,025	45.93 41.54 9.59 2.94	C.P.I.
6	Basavakalyan	(1) Independent (2) Independent (3) Congress (4) P. S. P.	16,115 10,233 7,887 1,892	44.61 28.33 21.83 5.23	Independent

N.B. : P.S.P. = Praja-Socialist Party
C.P.I. = Communist Party of India
Congress = Indian National Congress

The Indian National Congress fielded contestants for all the seats, one for the Lok Sabha and six for the Vidhana Sabha, and won four seats including the two reserved seats. The Bharatiya Jana Sangh, which stepped into the election arena of the district for the first time, secured one seat. The Praja-Socialist Party failed to secure any seat this time. Only one of the seven Independents was successful. The Communist Party of India in its second attempt in the elections of the district won a seat while the Republican Party did not make any mark.

Mid-term
Poll to Lok
Sabha, 1971

In the mid-term poll for the Lok Sabha held in March 1971 after the dissolution of the Lok Sabha, there were four contestants, one representing the Congress (Jagjivan Ram Group) another of the Congress (Nijalingappa Group) and two Independents. In this keen contest, the Congress (Jagjivan Ram Group) won with a big margin. The following table gives the details of this mid-term elections to the Lok Sabha :

Lok Sabha

Name of constituency	Party affiliations of contesting candidates	No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of votes polled	Successful party
Bidar (S.C.)	(1) I.N.C. (Jagjivan Ram Group)	2,07,423	76.34	I.N.C. (Jagjivan Ram Group)
	(2) I.N.C. (Nijalingappa Group)	54,749	20.16	
	(3) Independent	4,074	1.50	
	(4) Independent	5,439	2.00	

Representa-
tion in
Vidhana
Sabha, 1972

The fifth general elections to the State Assembly were held in March 1972, about one year after the mid-term poll to the Lok Sabha. The Indian National Congress, the Indian National Congress (Organisation), the Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the Socialist Party, the Communist Party of India and many Independents contested in these elections of 1972. The Indian National Congress emerged successful in four constituencies conceding a seat to the Communist Party of India and another seat to an Independent. The Bharatiya Jana Sangh, the Socialist Party and the Indian National Congress (Organisation) failed to win any seat. The sub-joined table gives details of the results of the general elections of 1972 :

Legislative Assembly

Sl. No.	Name of constituency	Party affiliations of contesting candidates	No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of votes polled	Successful party
1	2	3	4	5	6
1	Aurad	(1) I.N.C.	13,376	24.60	
		(2) Independent	22,431	41.35	Independent
		(3) I.N.C. (O)	18,570	34.05	

1	2	3	4	5	6
2	Bhalki	(1) Jana Sangh	669	2.16	
		(2) I.N.C.	22,561	73.09	I.N.C.
		(3) Socialist Party	7,628	24.75	
3	Hulsoor (S.C.)	(1) Independent	252	1.40	
		(2) Jana Sangh	667	3.40	
		(3) Independent	471	2.40	
		(4) I.N.C.	13,282	67.00	I.N.C.
		(5) Socialist Party	4,159	21.00	
		(6) Independent	954	4.80	
4	Bidar	(1) Independent	220	0.55	
		(2) Independent	14,253	35.35	
		(3) Independent	439	1.09	
		(4) Independent	799	1.98	
		(5) Independent	1,184	2.93	
		(6) I.N.C. (O)	6,862	17.02	
		(7) I.N.C.	16,562	41.08	I.N.C.
5	Humnabad	(1) Independent	860	2.03	
		(2) C.P.I. (M)	14,376	33.95	C.P.I. (M)
		(3) Independent	13,175	31.11	
		(4) I.N.C. (O)	13,935	32.91	
6	Basavakalyan	(1) I.N.C.	24,995	55.1	I.N.C.
		(2) Independent	20,367	44.9	

Note ; I.N.C. — Indian National Congress
 I.N.C. (O) — Indian National Congress (Organisation)
 Jana Sangh — Bharatiya Jana Sangh
 C.P.I. (M) — Communist Party of India (Marxist)

General elections were held for the Lok Sabha in March 1977. For the first time, the Republican Party of India (Khobargade) and the Bharatiya Lok Dal fielded their candidates. The Indian National Congress emerged successful in the contest. The

General
 Elections
 to Lok
 Sabha, 1977

following table gives the details of the results of the general elections to the Lok Sabha :

Lok Sabha				
Name of Constituency	Party affiliations of contesting Candidates	No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of votes polled	Successful party
Bidar (S.C.)	(1) Indian National Congress	1,68,554	55.92	Indian National Congress
	(2) Bharatiya Lok Dal	1,18,324	39.26	
	(3) Republican Party of India (K)	12,184	4.04	
	(4) Independent	2,340	0.78	

A constituency-wise statement showing the number of electors, the number of persons who voted, and the percentages of voting in the four general elections of 1957, 1962, 1967 and 1972 (*i.e.*, during the year 1952 Bidar district was not a part of Karnataka) for the State Legislative Assembly, and another constituency-wise statement indicating the number of electors, the number of persons who voted and the percentages of voting in the general elections of 1957, 1962, 1967, mid-term poll of 1971 and general elections of 1977 for the Lok Sabha are given below :

Legislative Assembly				
1957				
Sl. No.	Name of constituency	No. of electors	No. of persons who voted	Percentage of voting
1	2	3	4	5
1	Bhalgi (Double-member constituency)	79,367	71,317	45.03
2	Bidar	47,709	12,432	26.05
3	Hulsoor	43,435	20,692	47.52
4	Kalyani (now Basavakalyan)	31,523	22,361	70.94
5	Humnabad	40,504	17,405	42.95

1962

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of constituency</i>	<i>No. of electors</i>	<i>No. of persons who voted</i>	<i>Percentage of voting</i>
1	Santhpur (S.C.)	57,685	20,189	35.00
2	Bhalki	49,610	27,248	54.92
3	Bidar	52,145	22,016	42.22
4	Hulsoor	55,127	34,043	61.75
5	Kalyanj (now Basavakalyan)	54,522	26,310	48.26
6	Humnabad	47,670	24,057	50.47

1967

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of constituency</i>	<i>No. of electors</i>	<i>No. of persons who voted</i>	<i>Percentage of voting</i>
1	Aurad	67,742	47,673	70.37
2	Bhalki	59,103	37,358	63.21
3	Hulsoor (S.C.)	57,802	26,255	45.42
4	Bidar	60,186	39,115	64.99
5	Humnabad	61,970	37,225	60.07
6	Basavakalyan	59,403	38,802	65.32

1972

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Name of constituency</i>	<i>No. of electors</i>	<i>No. of persons who voted</i>	<i>Percentage of voting</i>
1	Aurad	84,712	55,925	66.00
2	Bhalki	70,746	31,497	44.52
3	Hulsoor (S.C.)	66,656	20,389	30.00
4	Bidar	75,596	41,325	55.00
5	Humnabad	76,097	43,584	57.00
6	Basavakalyan	76,767	46,516	60.00

Lok Sabha

[Bidar (S.C.) Constituency]

Year	No. of electors	No. of persons who voted	Percentage of voting	
1957	7,18,374	5,31,073	36.30	(The Bidar district was included in the Gulbarga constituency which was a double-member constituency in 1957).
1962	4,16,621	1,95,447	46.91	
1967	4,74,941	2,90,022	61.06	
1971	5,19,161	2,82,251	54.37	
(Mid-term poll)				
1977	6,06,711	3,11,925	51.41	

N.B. - Kamalapur and Aland circles of Gulbarga district are included in Lok Sabha Constituency of Bidar

Newspapers
and
periodicals

During the Nizam's rule, there were several restrictions on the press which severely hindered its growth. It was hazardous to publish criticism of the feudal and autocratic regimes. Entry of some journals published outside the State was also prohibited. Suppression of the regional language and the very meagre educational facilities available rendered mass or large circulation of any newspaper impossible. The educated few knew Urdu, the official language, and a little English and were reading mainly Urdu newspapers published in Hyderabad. A very small number of copies of Kannada newspapers from the ex-Bombay-Karnataka region and a few copies of English newspapers published in Bombay and Hyderabad had circulation in the district. The first Kannada newspaper in the entire former Hyderabad-Karnataka region was *Dakkan Prabhat*. It was being published from Raichur by Shri P. Rachotaiah. The first issue of this weekly was released on November 9, 1940, and it appeared for about four or five years. Two Kannada journals which played a prominent role in voicing the grievances of the people of the region for some years before 1948 and thereafter were "Praja" and "Sadhana" published from Hyderabad city.

Owing to low percentage of literacy and general backwardness, the press has not made any considerable progress in the district and the circulation of journals published in other parts is also not large here. A few of the leading newspapers published from Bangalore, Hubli, Hyderabad and Bombay have their correspondents in the district. Attempts were made by some individuals to run journals in the district, but without notable success. Several of them did not survive long because of financial hurdles, very small number of subscribers and lack of advertisement revenue. There have been only a few journals, and the reading materials presented by them and

their circulations have been also scanty. There are some well-produced annual college magazines. The two sub-joined statements give the names, etc., of the journals which were in existence earlier and of those which are being published now (1977).

Journals which were appearing and ceased publication in recent years :

Name of news-paper or periodical	Language	Name of editor	Place of publication	periodicity	Date of starting
"Waqt-ka-Paigam"	Urdu	M. A. Waheed	Bidar	Weekly	28-10-1970
"Kannada Ratna"	Kannada	Zaheer Azmat	Bidar	Weekly	4-2-1975
"Shantikirana"	Kannada	Shivaraj Kadode	Bhalki	Weekly	1972-73
"Daily News"	Kannada	Krishna Murthy Karpoor.	Bidar	Daily	1-8-1968

At present (1977), there are five newspapers and periodicals in the district. Their circulation is not much. A list of the existing journals is given below :

Name of newspaper or periodical	Language	Name of editor	Place of publication	Periodicity	Date of starting
"Gawan"	Urdu	Mohsin Kamal	Bidar	Daily	14-8-1968
"Daman"	Urdu and Hindi.	V. B. Patil	Bidar	Daily	22-12-1969
"Hyderabad Karnataka"	Urdu	M. A. Hameed	Bidar	Weekly	20-10-1972
"Bidar Times"	Kannada	Krishnamurthy Karpoor.	Bidar	Weekly	2-6-1974
"Shantikirana"	Kannada	Shivaraj Kadode	Bhalki	Monthly	31-3-1976

At the end of 1973, the number of journals in India stood at 12,653, whereas the number of journals in Karnataka was 556, out of which the Bidar district had only four. The following table shows the comparative position of the Bidar district in this respect :

Area	Dailies	Tri/Bi-weeklies	Weeklies	Others	Total at the end of 1973
India	830	68	3,875	7,880	12,653
Karnataka	64	2	168	322	556
Bidar district	2	—	2	—	4

VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

Institutional voluntary social service by its very nature is an activity of a self-governing association or organisation of persons actuated by a common objective of rendering help in particular ways for the betterment of society and community life. These institutions play a significant role and supplement the efforts of various Government agencies. Before independence, such voluntary activities were extremely meagre in the district. In recent years, there has been a keen social awakening and a growth of a sense of social duty generated by the democratic way of life. There are some voluntary social service organisations in the district, which have given richness to the social life of the people. Efforts have been made to spread education and to promote welfare of women and youths. Though as compared to the position before 1948, there has been now considerable development of social service in the area, the district is still to make up much lee-way in this sphere also.

Norma
Fendrich
Education
Society

The Norma Fendrich Education Society founded by Miss Norma Fendrich, a missionary from the U.S.A., commenced its work by establishing a middle school in 1930 and it was upgraded into high school in 1950. The institution was named after the founder. It has N.C.C., Scouting and Girl Guide wings. The society's aims are to provide high quality education and to help each student to discover and to develop his or her potentiality as an individual by encouraging enquiry and creativity. Funds for the society are obtained from church contributions, fees, building fund and Government grant.

Manik
Education
Society

The Manik Education Society, Manik Nagar, was founded by Shri Shankar Manik Prabhu in 1940 with the objectives of starting educational institutions and providing various other facilities to students in order to make them enlightened citizens. The organisation was named after the great saint Shri Manik Prabhu Maharaj whose shrine built on his Samadhi situated in the same village attracts thousands of devotees. The society started the Manik Prabhu Hindi High School in 1940. Shri Siddharaj Manik Prabhu, who succeeded to the *gadi* of the Manik Prabhu *Peetha* in 1945, developed the high school into a full-fledged one. Free boarding and lodging facilities are given to 60 students of this high school. In 1967, a stadium and a children's park were built, an electric pump-set for water supply was provided and an art exhibition was organised. The Society was registered under the Karnataka Societies Registration Act, 1960, in 1972-73, and it started the Manik Public School (English medium) in July 1972. It is a residential school being run with certain ideals and has attracted students from

several districts. The society is making efforts to build up a strong educational complex at Manik Nagar (*see* Chapter XV also).

Some citizens of Bidar started the Karnatak Rashtriya Education Society at Bidar in 1944. This organisation opened a Kannada medium primary school at Bidar to fulfil a keenly felt need of the place and championed the cause of Kannada medium. Later, it collected donations from the public and the municipality of Bidar and constructed a building for a high school which it established in 1953. The society was registered in 1958. The next important development was the founding of a Commerce College in 1970. Five years later, in 1975, there was another landmark in that a Law College commenced functioning at Bidar under the auspices of this body.

**Karnatak
Rashtriya
Education
Society**

The Hyderabad Karnatak Education Society was formed and registered in 1958 with the objective of providing facilities for technical and liberal education in the region. Its head office is at Gulbarga and a branch of it is functioning in Bidar town. One of the various institutions it established is the B. V. Bhoomaraddi College of Arts and Science, which was started in 1960 at Bidar.

**Hyderabad
Karnatak
Education
Society**

The Shanti-Vardhak Education Society, Bhalki, was established and registered in 1965 under the guidance of Shri Channabasava Pattadadevaru Swamiji and Shri Bheemanna Khandre. The public of Bhalki responded to their call and contributed liberally. This helped the establishment of Shri Channabasaveshvara College of Arts and Science at Bhalki and construction of a spacious building for it. This society has 28 hectares of land and some fixed deposits. A hostel for poor students is being run by the society in a rented building. The Akka-Mahadevi Girls' High School at Bhalki is another important educational institution being maintained by this organisation for spread of education among women. The society has extended its educational activities to other parts of the district by opening a composite junior college named as the Siddharameshvara Junior College with a hostel attached to it in Kamalnagar village in Aurad taluk. In 1971-72, the society achieved another notable landmark by establishing at Bidar an educational institution of higher learning for women called the Akka-Mahadevi Mahila Mahavidyalaya.

**Shanti-
Vardhak
Education
Society**

The Gawan Education Society, Bidar, named after the great minister and lover of learning Mahmud Gawan who founded the famous *madrassa* at Bidar, began functioning in 1966 after being registered in the same year. It aims at organising educational institutions, mobile libraries, adult literacy classes and cultural activities. The society established a high school by name Haji Mohmud Sultan Memorial Urdu High School at Bidar.

**Gawan
Education
Society**

**Sharana
Basaveshvara
Vidya-
vardhaka
Sangha**

The Sharana Basaveshvara Vidyavardhaka Sangha founded by Shri Sharanabasavappa Appa of Gulbarga, which has also its head office at Gulbarga, is running several educational institutions, one of which, namely, the S. S. Khuba Basaveshvara Arts and Science College, is at Basavakalyan in this district. It was established with the help of a donation made by Shri S. S. Khuba of Basavakalyan.

**Bharateeya
Vidya-
vardhaka
Sangha**

The Bharateeya Vidyavardhaka Sangha, Bidar, was brought into existence in 1966 and it was registered in 1968. Establishment of educational institutions, organisation of training courses and maintenance of a library are the objects of the Sangha. At present, it is running a nursery school and an English-medium primary school which has upto VII standard.

**Shree
Gururaja
Seva Sangha**

Shree Gururaja Seva Sangha, Bidar, which was formed in 1950, was registered in 1973. This institution is running a nursery school named Raghavendra Shishuvihara. It conducts adult education classes, and Kannada classes for non-Kannada-speaking Government servants. It celebrates birth days of personages of national fame, and arranges competitions for children in elocution, essay-writing and music. It has a small children's library.

**Shree
Basaveshvara
Devasthan
Panch
Committee**

Shree Basaveshvara Devasthan Panch Committee, Basavakalyan, was registered in 1952 with the main objects of developing mutual understanding and amity in the society, besides giving encouragement to educational, social and cultural activities. At present, the society is running a nursery school. Public functions are being arranged to throw light on the paths of righteousness.

**Rotary
Club**

The Rotary Club at Bidar was started in 1973. Since then, it arranged two vocational guidance and informative lectures. *Ganji*, drinking water and fodder were supplied free to the poor during scarcity conditions in 1973. Recently the club distributed free medicine, food-stuff, books and clothes to the needy. It distributed fruits to the prisoners in the District Jail, patients in the District Civil Hospital and inmates of the Remand Home, and also sarees to some poor women.

**Indian Red
Cross Society**

A branch of the Indian Red Cross Society was started at Bidar by Dr. Reshme in 1973-74. It is aided by the State branch of the Indian Red Cross Society and also receives subscriptions from members. It distributed four tins of protein biscuits to 120 inpatients of the District Hospital, Bidar, and 45 sarees, 80 blouse pieces, 40

nicker pieces, 40 shirts, 40 *lungis* to 169 poor persons of Malegaon village, and 35 tins of protein biscuits, 12 tins of baby food, etc., to other needy persons.

The Family and Child Welfare Project, Santhpur, was started in 1962-63 by the Karnataka State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Bangalore, with the object of improving the conditions of rural women and children. The affairs of the project are managed by a committee, the chairman and the members of which are nominated by the State Social Welfare Advisory Board. It is running eight nursery schools which have 400 children.

**Family and
Child
Welfare
Project**

A branch of the Bharat Scouts and Guides is functioning at Bidar. Its sources of income are the grant from the State headquarters, membership fees and donations from the public. This association organised various training camps, for scout masters, scouters, cubs and guides. So far, 120 scout masters have been trained.

**Bharat
Scouts and
Guides**

YOUTH CLUBS

Encouragement to form youth clubs and to carry on their activities is being given by the Government in order to provide opportunities to young people to make constructive contributions to the society, to fulfil their aspirations by providing them avenues for active involvement in the national mainstream and to enable them to contribute fruitfully in the task of national reconstruction. The programme in this respect includes establishment of work centres for imparting training in productive work, development of extension facilities in productive work, development of extension facilities for training of youth leaders and grant of financial assistance to voluntary organisations engaged in youth welfare activities. The National Service Scheme launched in 1969 aims at providing under-graduate students with opportunities for meaningful social service. Such activities include youth participation in organising literacy classes, constructive development work with a potential of creating community assets, youth involvement in relief operations, slum clearance and organisation of mobile hospital service.

The youth clubs also organise centres to educate the farmers on the production of compost and green manures, poultry-farming, vegetable cultivation, and rearing of improved breeds of cattle, sheep and goats. Games and sports are common activities of all the clubs which hold competitions at the local level and encourage youths to participate in body-building activities. Recreational and cultural programmes like dramas, *kavya-vachanas*, *bhajans* *harikathas*, etc., are also organised by several of the clubs. These

youth clubs are assisted by Government with monetary grants. A State Youth Board and District Youth Boards have been set up with a view to helping the implementation of these programmes.

**Youth
Service
Board**

A 20-member District Youth Service Board was constituted by the Government in 1970 with the Deputy Commissioner of the district as its chairman and the Deputy Director of Public Instruction as its secretary. The District Planning Officer, who has now been designated as the District Planning and Youth Service Officer, functions as the joint secretary of the board. It is mainly an advisory body and its functions include formulation of specific programmes for the promotion of welfare of both the student and non-student youths in the district, mobilisation of resources from local bodies and other agencies for youth welfare programmes, advising the authorities concerned on the steps to be taken for intensifying extra-curricular activities including sports and games.

Every youth club desirous of recognition and financial assistance from the Government is required to be affiliated to the District Youth Service Board. As on 1st November 1975, there were 121 youth clubs in the Bidar district, which were affiliated to the District Youth Service Board. By 1st June 1976, the number of youth clubs affiliated had increased to 199. The number of youth clubs in the various taluks was Aurad 45; Humnabad 40; Bidar 30; Bhalki 40; Basavakalyan 44. Besides the above, eight *Yuvati* clubs have been also formed and affiliated. In addition, 18 teenage clubs have been formed, out of which nine are affiliated to the District Youth Service Board. A brief account of the activities of a few of the youth clubs is given by way of illustration, as it is not possible nor is it necessary to deal with all of them individually.

The Netaji Youth Club, Hudgi, commenced its work in 1952 with 25 members. Its objects are to provide educational facilities and to render social services to the residents of the village. It has been conducting competitions in sports and games and has been helping the Panchayat in maintaining gardens. It imparts training in handicrafts and is maintaining a milk booth for supplying milk to the public at reasonable rates. The Youth Club at Alandi in Bhalki taluk was formed in 1971 and has organised a Milk Dairy Society. It contributed to the society's share amount at the rate of Rs. 40 from each member. The society has 105 members of whom 40 are from the youth club. Milk is collected from several villages of the area and is supplied to the Milk Dairy at Hudgi in Humnabad taluk. A sample poultry-

farming, gardening and adult literacy classes have been started by the club. The institution owns a public address set, and helps to give publicity in respect of family-welfare.

The National Youth Club, Chitaguppa, was started on 1st November 1973 and it is affiliated to the District Youth Service Board. It has 42 youth members, each contributing Rs. 5 per month. Newspapers and periodicals are subscribed to and they are made available to the public in a reading room. The club holds competitions in sports and games. Dr. Ambedkar Tarun Sangh was founded in Harijanwada at Basavakalyan in 1974 by the youths of the locality. It has organised a small library. It celebrates national days in order to foster national awareness among the depressed class people.

Mahila Mandals are women's organisations started for carrying out certain welfare programmes. The Central Social Welfare Board gives grant upto 75 per cent of their expenditure. This grant-in-aid is extended to registered voluntary institutions working for the welfare of women, children, the handicapped, the aged and non-student young women. They play a useful role in the betterment of the socio-economic conditions of women. *Mahila mandals* in Bidar district are running nursery schools for little children and conducting classes in Hindi and music and providing training in tailoring, knitting, embroidery and such other crafts for the benefit of women and girls of their respective places. They receive recognition and financial support from the Government and local bodies. A brief account of the activities of a few of the *mahila mandals* in the district is given hereunder.

**Mahila
Mandals**

The *Mahila Mandal* at Bidar was formed and registered in 1959. It is running a *balawadi* (nursery school), and supplies supplementary nutritional food to children. The institution has 60 members at present. It is imparting training in tailoring, designing, embroidery work, knitting and toy-making. Assistance is being rendered in implementing the national savings schemes. The *mandal* is trying to set up a dairy unit. It owns a building constructed at a cost of about Rs. 80,000.

The *Mahila Mandal* at Humnabad was formed and registered in 1962. It has at present (1976), 14 members. It is running a condensed S.S.L.C. course for girls and a *balawadi*. It intends to take up a dairy scheme and to organise a reading room. The Navajeevan *Mahila Mandal* at Hallikhed (B) in Humnabad taluk was started in 1963. It is training women in tailoring and is running a *balawadi*. Donations to the tune of Rs. 5,000 have been collected to erect its own building. The *Mahila Mandal* at Ranjolkheni

in Bidar taluk commenced functioning in 1965. The association had 30 members in 1976. It is conducting tailoring classes and a *balawadi*, and has rendered assistance in organising family-welfare camps. The *Mahila Mandal* at Nirna in Humnabad taluk, which started functioning in June 1967, has its own building constructed at a cost of Rs. 5,852. It is maintaining a nursery school (*balawadi*) and conducts *Bharyas* once a week. It conducts tailoring classes. Mid-day-meals scheme of World Programme has been implemented in this institution. The *Mahila Mandal* at Markhal in Bidar taluk was started and registered in 1974. It consisted of 30 members in 1976. It is conducting tailoring classes, has held cooking demonstrations and is rendering assistance in propagating birth-control. A *Mahila Mandal* was organised in Dhoragalli at Basavakalyan in 1975 by interested women of the place. The municipality contributed Rs. 5,000 for the construction of a building for running a *balawadi* by the *mandal* which is running also tailoring classes. The association has 25 members.