

## CHAPTER 11

### **OTHER DEPARTMENTS**

**T**he functions of the several departments under the administrative jurisdiction of the Vijapur district have been discussed already in certain other chapters of this volume. It is only natural for a democratic government to carry on its welfare programmes through the agency of various departments. Excepting the office of the deputy commissioner, the offices under various departments, both State and Central, Boards and Corporations function with this object in view. They have been striving hard to implement the different schemes formulated by the government in response to the hopes, aspirations and needs of the people. In this chapter a concise account is given of the aims, functions and administrative organisation of several such departments, boards and corporations.

#### **Directorate of Fire Forces**

The first Fire Station in Vijapur was opened in the year 1983. Prior to that the Vijapur Municipality was attending to the work connected with it. The Fire Station is headed by a station officer assisted by a sub-officer, seven drivers and 30 firemen in all. One sub-officer each function under his control at taluk-headquarter stations of Bagalkot (1991), Jamkhandi (1993) and Indi (1994). Their chief duties consist of fire-fighting and rescue operations; and imparting knowledge concerning fire hazards, prevention of accidental fires, and rescue operations to students of schools and colleges, besides employees of industrial or commercial organisations. The Divisional Fire Officer in Hubli city is the next immediate controlling officer of the Fire Station Officer at Vijapur.

#### **Department of Excise**

The Department of Excise opened its office at Vijapur in the year 1992. In the beginning, the superintendent of excise was functioning as the head of the office; subsequently, however, the

deputy commissioner of excise came to occupy the post. Among the substantive functions of this department may be mentioned the collection of Distillery Fees as provided for in the Abkari Act, 1965, and remitting the same to Government; prevention of unauthorised sale of liquor and its smuggling; prevention of distillation and sale or smuggling of illicit liquor, etc. The deputy commissioner of excise is assisted by two superintendents of excise, four assistant superintendents of excise, fifteen excise inspectors and other staff. The office of deputy commissioner of excise of Vijapur is under the administrative control of the joint commissioner of excise (Enforcement and Inquiry) of the Belgaum Division at Belgaum city and the excise commissioner at Bangalore in that order.

### **Forest Department**

The office of the Deputy Conservator of Forests, Social Forestry Division, was established at Vijapur in the year 1983. It is a district-level office. Its substantive functions consist of providing plants to the ryots for planting and develop the forests; afforestation of 'C' and 'D' lands; and development of plantations along road margins. The offices of Assistant Conservator of Forests and Range Forest Officer are placed under the administrative control of the Deputy Conservator of Forests at Vijapur. His establishment consists of one superintendent, four first division assistants, 12 second division assistants, one typist, 29 foresters and 36 forest guards, seven vehicle drivers and two 'D' Group employees. The Conservator of Forests of the Social Forestry Circle of Dharwar is the immediate official superior of the Deputy Conservator of Forests at Vijapur.

### **Directorate of Economics and Statistics**

Established in the year 1963, the office of the District Statistical Officer functions under the administrative control of the Directorate of Economics and Statistics, located at Bangalore. The main function of this office is collection of statistical information from various government offices for publication. Its other function includes collection of statistical information pertaining to the developments occurring in such fields as agriculture, industry, public health, education, welfare of disabled and backward sections, and socio-economic developments generally. Such statistical information from various sources are collected and published at the requisitions of both the state and central governments from time to time. At the time of writing, the establishment of the District Statistical Officer is made up of 39 employees as follows: one assistant director, six assistant statistical officers, 16 statistical inspectors, one superintendent and other staff, in all 39 subordinates. Supervision of work connected with vital statistics is also attended to by this office.

### **Food and Civil Supplies Department**

The office of the Deputy Director, Food and Civil Supplies Department, is functioning in Vijapur since the year 1984. It is a district level office. Previous to the year 1984, the work connected with this office was attended to by the Food Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner. The substantive functions of this office are the following:

Regulating the public distribution system, distribution of civil supplies administered under rationing system, control of prices of essential commodities, prevention of smuggling, distribution

of foodgrains under the revised public distribution system to the beneficiaries below the poverty line, distribution of kerosene under the coupon system, prevention of adulteration of such items as diesel and petroleum at retail outlets and initiating prosecution against the offenders under the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act, etc. The Deputy Director has the assistance of one assistant director (Food and Civil Supplies), one accounts superintendent, one shirastedar, one rice purchase assistant, one inspector of civil supplies and other staff, in all 18 persons. The district Food and Civil Supplies Office functions under the control of the Deputy Commissioner of Vijapur district and of the Director of Food and Civil Supplies at Bangalore in that order.

### **Directorate of Employment and Training**

The District Employment Exchange Centre was started at Vijapur in the year 1960. It is a district-level office headed by the District Employment Officer. Its main functions include registering the particulars of job-seekers, providing suitable and qualified candidates for employment to the various employers, implementation of employment guidance programme, collection and dissemination of information pertaining to employment market, etc. The designation of the head of this office was changed to 'Employment Officer' in the year 1972 previous to which he was called as 'Deputy Regional Employment Officer'. He is assisted in the discharge of his duties by one employment officer (Occupational Guidance), one assistant employment officer, first and second division assistants, typists and group 'D' staff. In the Bagalkote office of this directorate the particulars of candidates whose educational qualification is below SSLC are registered. It caters to the needs of such candidates hailing from the taluks of Bagalkot, Badami and Hungund.

### **Department of Kannada and Culture**

The office of the Assistant Director, Kannada and Culture Department was established at Vijapur in the year 1977. This district level office is engaged in such important activities as implementation of programmes necessary for effective use of Kannada in administration; encouragement to writers and artists; organisation of such cultural festivals as Pattadakal *Utsav*, Navaraspur *utsav*, *Vachana Sangeetotsav*, Chalukya *Utsav*, etc. The Assistant Director has the assistance of second division assistant, typist and *dalayar*. The Deputy Director of Kannada and Culture Department at Belgaum City exercises immediate supervision over the functioning of this office.

### **Karnataka Land Army Corporation Limited**

The Karnataka Land Army Corporation Ltd. Opened an office in Vijapur in the year 1975. It is headed by a Deputy Director. To begin with its jurisdiction extended to the districts of Vijapur, Belgaum and Uttara Kannada; but, in 1979 separate offices, each headed by an Assistant Director, came to be opened at Karwar (1976) and Belgaum (1979). Thus, the jurisdiction of the office at Vijapur now remains confined to the taluks of Vijapur, Basavana Bagewadi, Muddebihal, Indi and Sindgi; the other taluks of the district are included under the jurisdiction of the Bagalkote office of the Land Army Corporation Ltd. The chief activity of this organisation is the execution of building works of the government offices as per sanctioned estimates within the stipulated time and handing them over to the concerned departments is said to be the main activity of the Land

Army Corporation Ltd. It has two subordinate offices located at Indi and Vijapur, each headed by an assistant director. The Joint Director at Belgaum and the Managing Director of the Corporation at Bangalore exercise control over the Deputy Director of the Land Army Corporation Ltd. at Vijapur.

### **Karnataka Government Insurance Department**

The office of the District Information Officer was established at Vijapur in the year 1976. Its main functions consist of compulsory life insurance of all employees of the state government within the Vijapur district; disposal of matured policies, death claims, paid up policies etc; grant of insurance certificates in respect of motor vehicles purchased with government loans by employees of the state government; settlement of Family Benefit claims of employees of municipalities and aided educational institutions, etc. Initially, the District Insurance Officer had the assistance of two first division assistants; one superintendent, and other staff. At present, the District Insurance Officer is assisted in his duties by three superintendents, nine first division assistants, eleven second division assistants, one typist and three Group 'D' employees – in all 28 members of staff. Administrative control over this office is exercised by the Deputy Director of the Divisional Insurance Office and the Director, Karnataka Government Insurance Department, Bangalore.

### **District Prisons**

The District Central Jail's superintendent at Vijapur is assisted in his duties by one medical officer, two teachers, one office superintendent, one agricultural assistant and one head warden – in all 98 employees. The administrative control over the District Prisons rests with the Additional Director – General of Police, Bangalore, and the Inspector – General of Prisons in Karnataka. Bagalkote has a sub-jail and Jamakhandi a lock-up (For details *vide* chapter 10).

### **Agriculture Department**

Even prior to the reorganisation of the Department of Agriculture, offices of the Principal Agricultural Officer and Deputy Director of Agriculture (Soil Conservation) existed. After the amalgamation of the soil conservation programme and the agricultural extension programme, a district level office of the Joint Director of Agriculture was brought into existence at Vijapur. He has the assistance of one assistant director of agriculture (head quarters), two assistant agricultural officers (technical), one administrative officer, two superintendents, five first division assistants, four second division assistants, one stenographer, and other staff – in all 24 persons.

1) The office of the Deputy Director of Agriculture at Bagalkote town has jurisdiction over the taluks of Bagalkote, Badami, Hungund, Bilgi, Muddebihal and Mudhol; and the office of the Deputy Director of Agriculture at Vijapur town has jurisdiction over the taluks of Vijapur, Indi, Sindgi, Basavanna Bagewadi and Jamakhandi. These assistant directors are responsible for implementation of the agricultural extension and soil conservation programmes. 2) In the office of the Deputy Director of Agriculture at Bagalkote (Rural Development Training Centre) agricultural training is imparted to the department's extension staff and the farmers from rural areas. 3) Training in agricultural techniques is imparted to young farmers, both men and women,

in the office of the Deputy Director (Farmer's Training and Education Centre) at Jamakhandi. 4) In the Soil Conservation Training centre of the Assistant Director of Agriculture (Principal), training is imparted to the agricultural extension staff of the Department of Agriculture. 5) In the Soil Health Centre at Jamakhandi testing of all types of soil is done according to modern methods under the guidance of an agricultural officer and reports of analysis furnished. 6) In the Agricultural School at Alamela, headed by an agricultural officer, children of the rural farmers are imparted agricultural training. 7) Production of quality seeds is done in the office of agricultural officer at Bagalkote and in the seed production centres at Alamela, Indi, Muddebihal and Mudhol. These centres are headed by a manager each. The Director of Agriculture at Bangalore is the official superior of the Joint Director of Agriculture. There is an Agricultural College at Vijapur (For details *vide* chapter 13).

### **Agricultural Marketing**

The Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee, Vijapur, came into existence in 1938 under the provisions of the Cotton Market Act, 1927 with jurisdiction over the taluks of Vijapur, Basavana Bagewadi, Sindgi, Indi and Muddebihal. However, from 1996, its jurisdiction is confined to the two taluks of Vijapur and Basavana Bagewadi. Its main responsibility is to regulate the marketing of agricultural produce listed in the Karnataka Agricultural produce Marketing (Regulation) Act, 1966, and Rules, thereunder, 1968. The sub-markets at Basavana Bagewadi, Hoovina Hippargi, Golasangi, Tikota, Tidagundi, and Babaleswar are under the control of the Agricultural Produce Marketing Committee, Vijapur. The head of this committee is styled secretary, who is assisted by one assistant secretary, one superintendent and other staff, numbering 45 in all. The Mudhol and Lokapur sub-markets, likewise, are under the control of the Agricultural Marketing Committee, Mahalingapura; Kaladgi, Galagali and Bilgi sub-markets are under the Agricultural Marketing Committee, Bagalkote; Teradal and Savalagi sub-markets are under the Agricultural Marketing Committee, Jamakhandi; Ilkal, Ameenagad, and Gudur sub-markets are under the Agricultural Marketing Committee, Hungund; Muddebihal and Nalabawada sub-markets are under the Agricultural Marketing Committee, Talikote; and Indi, Chadachana, Alamela and Devara Hippargi sub-markets are under the Agricultural Marketing Committee, Sindgi. The administrative control over all these marketing committees rests with the Director, Agricultural Marketing Department, Bangalore.

### **Industries and Commerce Department**

The District Industries Centre was established in 1978 at Vijapur. At first the officer under whom it was placed was designated as the Chief Manager. From the year 1996, however, he came to be re-designated as Joint Director. The jurisdiction of this office is confined to the district. The following are the principal functions of the District Industries Centre: formulation of industrial and developmental schemes after conducting economic survey of the district aimed at determining its potential for development; supervision of the activities of the rural handicrafts training centres in the district; grant of both temporary and permanent registration certificates for establishment of industries in the district; implementation of Viswa Scheme (Yojana), Small Savings Scheme, NABARD Scheme, and Prime Minister's *Rozgar* Scheme (Yojana), etc. The Joint Director has the

assistance of two deputy directors, one assistant director, one superintendent and other staff the total numbering 15 persons. The Taluk Industries Centres are placed under the control of the District Industries Centre. The Commissioner for Industrial Development and the Director of Industries and Commerce exercise the functions of controlling authorities over the District Industries Centre.

### **Handlooms and Textiles**

The office of the Deputy Director, Handlooms and Textiles Department, has been functioning from Vijapur. It was formerly under the control of the Chief Manager of District Industries Centre in the same town. However, after the introduction of the *Zilla Panchayat* Scheme from 1-4-1992, it is placed under the latter's control. Its principal responsibility is to provide assistance to all the handloom weaver's co-operative societies in the district and to the Handloom Development Corporation from the Zilla Panchayat and state sector and central sector schemes. The Deputy Director is assisted in the discharge of his duties by one handloom development officer, second division assistant, driver and Group 'D' staff. This office controls the functioning of the two sub-division level offices at Bagalkote and Jamakhandi.

### **District Treasury**

Formerly, the District Treasury was under the control of the Revenue Department. After the creation of the Department of Treasuries in 1964, it came to be placed under the control of the Director of Treasuries, Bangalore. It is a district level office and supervises the working of the sub-treasury offices at Ilkal (Hungund taluk), Nidagundi and Almatti (Basavana Bagewadi taluk), Talikote (Muddebihal taluk), Guledgudda (Badami taluk), Banhatti (Jamakhandi taluk), and Chadachana (Indi taluk). Two assistant directors, one chief accounts officer, seventeen first division assistants, twenty-five second division assistants, one cashier, and other staff assist the district treasury officer in his duties. All the bills sent by government offices are paid after treasury scrutiny and verification of the authorisation certificates issued by the Accountant General (Karnataka), Bangalore. Other functions of the District Treasury Office concern pension payments, maintenance of personal deposit accounts, etc.

### **Home Guards Unit**

The office of the Commandant, Home Guards, had been functioning in Vijapur since 1947 when the district formed part of the Bombay Presidency. After the formation of Karnataka, it passed under the control of the new state. The office is headed by the Commandant, Home Guards, Vijapur district. Under his control are working one superintendent, two first division assistants, two second division assistants, one typist, one instructor and two assistant instructors – in all 13 members. From the year 1988, the commandant also has the assistance of a deputy commandant. The chief responsibility of this office is to function in tandem with the police for maintaining law and order. At 30 different places in the district, honorary unit officers (Group leaders ?) are functioning under the control of this office. The Director-General of Police and Chief Commandant, Home Guards (Karnataka), Bangalore, is the immediate official superior of the district commandant.

### **District Training Institute**

The District Training Institute was started at Jamakhandi in the year 1976. It was first transferred to Almati in the same year, but shifted to Vijapur, again in the same year. It is headed by a Principal and its activities are limited to the Vijapur district. The main objectives of the District Training Institute are: 1) To bring improvements in administration and to redress public grievances by imparting necessary training to all the Group 'C' and 'D' employees of the State Government; (2) and to give training to non-official members of Gram Panchayats, Taluk Panchayats and Zilla Panchayats. The District Training Institute, which is placed under the control of the Administrative Training Institute, Mysore, also imparts study training through the Doordarshan. The principal is assisted in his duties by one vice-principal, two instructors, one first division assistant, one second division assistant, two typists and other staff. It has residential accommodation for the trainees during the period of their training in the institute.

### **Town Planning**

The office of the Assistant Director of Town-Planning was established at Vijapur in the year 1970. Initially its jurisdiction extended to the entire district; but, when the office of the Assistant Director of Town-Planning was started at Bagalkote in 1982, the taluks of Bagalkote, Badami, Hungund, Mudhol and Bilgi were added to the latter. Another Assistant Director's Office was started in 1993 at Jamakhandi with jurisdiction over Jamakhandi and Mudhol taluks. As a result, the jurisdiction of the Vijapur office remains confined to Vijapur, Basavanna Bagewadi, Indi, Sindgi and Muddebihal taluks only. Its important functions consist of preparation of survey maps and development plans of the concerned taluk centres, towns and villages, preparation of comprehensive and extensive development plans for the cities of Vijapur and Bagalkote; providing technical assistance for the implementation of development plans to local self-government institutions like city municipalities, municipalities, panchayats, revenue and other departments. The Assistant Director of Town-Planning is assisted in the discharge of his responsibilities by two junior town – planners, five town planning supervisors, one draughtsman and tracer and other staff – in all 16 members. The Joint-Director of Town-Planning, Dharwar, is the official superior of the Assistant Town-Planning officer, Vijapur.

### **Regional Transport Office**

When the Regional Transport office was opened in January 1956 at Vijapur, its jurisdiction comprised all the 11 taluks of the district. With the opening of the office of the Assistant Regional Transport Officer at Bagalkote in 1982, its jurisdiction came to be circumscribed to the taluks of Vijapur, Indi, Sindgi, Basavana Bagewadi and Jamakhandi; the other taluks of the district are placed under the new office. The main activities of the Regional Transport Office include registration of motor vehicles, issue of permits and driving licenses, inspection of vehicles as per the several rules in force, etc. The Regional Transport Officer is assisted in the discharge of his duties by one assistant regional transport officer, fifteen senior motor vehicle inspectors, nine motor vehicle inspectors, three superintendents, one accounts superintendent and other staff – total 62. Under the control of this office is functioning from Jhalaki an office of the assistant regional transport

officer. The regional transport office at Vijapur is subordinate to the office of the Divisional Deputy Transport Commissioner located at Belgaum.

### **Soil Conservation Training Centre**

The Soil Conservation Training Centre at Vijapur was started in 1956. It was headed by a Principal upto 1971 when his designation was changed to Assistant Director of Agriculture (Principal, Soil Conservation Training). This training Centre has statewide jurisdiction. It conducts a regular course of three months duration to the agricultural assistants of the Department of Agriculture consisting of subjects like conservation of soil and water; development of dry-land farming technology; management of catchment areas; construction of check-dams, contour bunds and run off conservation structures, etc. A short-term training course of 10 days is also conducted for the officers of the department; besides, certain other prescribed training classes too are held from time to time. The Principal of the training centre is assisted by three assistant agricultural officers, one superintendent, one draughtsman, and other staff. The Additional Director of Agriculture (soil conservation) in the Directorate of Agriculture, Bangalore, exercises supervisory control over the Principal, Soil Conservation Training Centre, Vijapur.

### **Directorate of Fisheries**

The Office of the Assistant Superintendent of Fisheries was opened in the year 1960, at Vijapur. Subsequently, in the year 1975 it was raised to the status of the office of the Assistant Director of Fisheries and since the year 1980 it has been functioning as the office of Senior Assistant Director of Fisheries. Among its substantive activities may be mentioned : auctioning or renting out of minor and major tanks to the fishermen's Co-operative Societies in the district ; stocking of fingerlings in reservoirs and rivers ; providing technical know-how about fisheries ; conservation of young fishes ; and generally, to implement the various fisheries projects of both the state and central governments. The senior assistant director is assisted in his work by one inspector of co-operative societies, one vehicle driver and two group B officials. Under the administrative control of this office an assistant director of fisheries (Grade II) is functioning with jurisdiction over the taluks of Vijapur, Jamkahandi, Muddebihal and Badami. Supervisory control over this office is exercised by the Chief Executive Officer of Vijapur District Panchayat as well as the Director of Fisheries, Bangalore.

### **State Accounts**

The Office of the local audit circle of the State Accounts Department was opened at Vijapur from January 1977. It is headed by an Assistant Comptroller of Accounts. The main functions of this office consist of auditing the accounts of all the local bodies in the district such as municipalities, city municipal councils, village and town panchayats, district and city central libraries, and free legal aid committees. The audit reports are forwarded by this office to the concerned institutions for suitable follow-up action. This office also examines the replies furnished by the concerned institutions to the several audit objections communicated to them. It also functions as the authority for issuing pension orders in respect of the staff working in city and town municipalities and converted town municipalities.



The Assistant Comptroller of Accounts is assisted by three audit officers, one accounts superintendent, thirteen first division assistants, one second division assistant, two typists and two group D' employees. The Comptroller, State Accounts Department, Bangalore, is the immediate official superior over the Assistant Comptroller of State Accounts, Vijapur Audit Circle.

### **Sericulture**

The Office of Deputy Director of Sericulture was opened in the district in the year 1980. It is a district level office. The primary activities of the department are: implementation of the World Bank assisted sericultural development project with a view to increasing export of such improved breed silks as Bivoltine, etc; developing sericulture in the district by providing technical services to growers; and implementation of various policies and schemes formulated under the provisions of Karnataka Silkworm Seed Cocoon (Regulation of production, supply and distribution) Act 1959, and subsequent amendments. Under the administrative control of this office are functioning one assistant director of sericulture each at Jamakhandi division, Jamakhandi, and Vijapur division, Vijapur. The Jamakhandi division supervises the functioning of the technical service centres and sericultural extension centres at Mahalingapura, Bagalkote, Hungund and Badami; and, the Vijapur division supervises the functioning of the technical service centres and sericultural extension centres at Vijapur, Sindgi, Basavana Bagewadi and Indi. In addition to these, the district has 60 *chawki* rearing centres at various places; silk farm at Bagalkote, Sindgi and Navaraspur and silkworm seed production depot at Vijapur ; cocoon markets at Vijapur, Mudhol and Jamakhandi; silk filature units at Vijapur and Jamakhandi; training in silk yarn reeling and production centre at Vijapur and silk yarn reeling complexes at Jamakhandi and Mudhol; silk development centres at Navaraspur and Jamakhandi; demonstration farm for women at Jamakhandi; model *chawki* rearing centre at Mahalingapura; community development centre at Mavinahalli and Silk Exchange Centre at Guledgud. To assist the Deputy Director, there are two assistant directors, five sericultural extension officers, one gazetted manager, two senior silk inspectors, seven silk inspectors and sixty-eight silk exhibitors – total 133 members of staff. The Chief Executive Officer of the District Panchayat is the immediate official superior of the Deputy Director.

### **Public Instruction**

The office of the District Adult Educational officer was established at Vijapur in the year 1979. It is headed by the District Adult Educational Officer. Among its functions are included eradication of illiteracy; establishment and control of Adult Instruction Centres providing supplementary reading materials to the rural population; enlightening the villagers about the importance of such ideas as health and hygiene; ecology and environment, communal amity, patriotism etc; providing newspapers and books; providing entertainment by organising debates, traditional sports events, dramatic performances, music programmes and so on. The personnel of the office include one assistant statistical officer, one programme assistant, one first division clerk and one dalayat. The District Adult Educational Officer is placed under the control of the Director, Directorate of Adult Education, Bangalore.

### **Director of Small Savings**

The office of the Assistant Director of Small savings was brought into existence in the year 1982 at Vijapur. The main functions of this office include watching the progress in the collection of small savings by different departments of the government; implementation of the incentive schemes connected with small savings and appointment of authorised agents. This is a district level office whose personnel include development officers, located at Vijapur and Bagalkote and assistant development officers in the other taluks; besides, there are certain other staff members.

### **Co-operation Department**

The office of the Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies at Vijapur was brought into existence in the year 1966. It is a district-level office and is responsible for registration and regulation of the activities of the cooperative societies and for ensuring adequate flow of agricultural credit; licensing and regulating money-lending and pawn-broking and similar activities; and settlement of disputes concerning co-operative societies etc. In other words, the department enforces the provisions contained in the Karnataka Cooperative Societies Act, 1959, and Rules, 1960. The personnel assisting the deputy registrar include cooperative development officers, superintendents, senior inspectors and others. At the taluk level, there are offices headed either by assistant registrar or co-operative development officer working under deputy registrar in the district level office. After the formation of the Bagalkote district an office of deputy registrar of cooperative societies has started functioning from the district head quarter. He is assisted by one cooperative development officer, one superintendent, two senior inspectors, one inspector and other staff. The registrar of cooperative societies, Belgaum Division, Belgaum is the immediate official superior of both the deputy registrars.

### **Public Library**

Established in the year 1972, the district central library is headed by a chief librarian. He is assisted by three librarians, one assistant librarian, twenty-two library assistants, two first division assistants, two second division assistants, one typist and other staff. Through its 120 branches scattered throughout the district, the district library caters to the needs of both the general public and the intellectual class by making available books and other materials for study; besides, it also provides career guidance to the unemployed youth.

The City Central Library at Vijapur headed by a chief librarian was opened in the year 1980. Its chief objective is to provide library services in the different parts of the city. The Chief Librarian is assisted by two librarians, two assistant librarians, one first division assistant and other personnel, 20 in all. There are six branch libraries, one children's library and one mobile library under the control of the Chief Librarian. The mobile library provides library facilities to readers at 52 places. The head of the department of public libraries functions from Bangalore city.

### **Backward Classes and Minorities**

The district office of the Directorate of Backward Classes and Minorities was opened at Vijapur in the year 1977. It is headed by the district Backward Classes and Minorities officer. Previously, the welfare programmes of the backward classes and minorities were looked after by the social welfare department. This office is responsible for running pre and post-matric hostels, residential schools and women welfare centres; sanctioning scholarships and fee concessions etc and implementation of various programmes for encouraging educational advancement of backward classes and minorities. The district officer is assisted by such personnel as inspector of backward classes, hostel warden, first division clerk, second division clerk, typist and others. Immediate administrative control over this office is exercised by the Chief Executive Officer of the Zilla Parishad (for details vide chapter 16)

## **BOARDS AND CORPORATIONS**

### **Karnataka Housing Board**

The office of the Assistant Engineer, Vijapur Sub-division, was opened at Vijapur city in the year 1966. In the beginning it was called as Mysore Housing Board, sub-division, Vijapur; subsequently it came to be called as Karnataka Housing Board, sub-division, Vijapur. Presently, the head of this office is designated as Assistant Executive Engineer. The jurisdiction of this office extends to the entire district. Its main objectives are the formation of sites and construction of houses in the new extensions and distribution of the same to the general public. The head of this office is assisted by one assistant revenue officer, one first division assistant, two second division assistants, one revenue inspector, four overseers and other staff – in all 16 personnel.

### **Karnataka Leather Industries Development Corporation**

A branch of the Karnataka Leather Industries Corporation Limited, Bangalore, was opened at Vijapur in the year 1980. Its main objectives have been to formulate and implement schemes for development of leather industries and to assist the leather craftsmen in the marketing of their several products. Prior to the opening of this office these functions were attended to by the corporation's regional office at Hubli, and the Vijapur District Industrial Centre. The office is headed by a district co-ordinator who is assisted by personnel like one technical assistant, one storekeeper, one helper; and, in the leather-curing unit one project manager, one assistant and one helper

### **Karnataka State Khadi and Village Industries Board**

The office of District Officer Khadi and Village Industries Board was opened at Vijapur in the year 1958. In 1991, he was redesignated as District Khadi and Village Industries Officer. It is a district level office. Its main activities include extending technical and financial assistance to

co-operative societies, registered societies and individual beneficiaries; to develop activities relating to Khadi and Village Industries and to strive for improving the standard of living of the people by creating employment opportunities through various schemes like Special Unit Plan, Viswa Yojane, Special Scheme for the Scheduled Tribes, etc. The District Khadi and Village Industries officer is assisted by one superintendent, one accounts superintendent, one auditor, three technical overseers, one technical assistant and other staff. The divisional officer of the Karnataka State Khadi and Village Industries Board, Dharwar, is the immediate official superior of this office.

### **Karnataka State Financial Corporation**

An office of the Karnataka State Financial Corporation was started at Vijapur in 1981. It was headed by a manager to begin with but, from May 1998 the head of the office came to be redesignated as Assistant Chief Manager. In the beginning, the jurisdiction of this office extended over the taluks of Vijapur, Jamakhandi, Indi, Sindgi, Basavana Bagewadi and Muddebihal; but, from May 1998 its sphere of activities came to be limited to the taluks of Vijapur, Indi, Sindgi, Basavana Bagewadi and Muddebihal. Extending financial assistance under various schemes to small scale industry, transport industry and hotel industry and several kinds of self-employment ventures is the chief objective of the Corporation. While doing so, it extends financial assistance to disabled entrepreneurs and women entrepreneurs as special cases. To assist the Assistant Chief Manager there are seven deputy managers, six senior assistants, seven assistants, two typists, two attenders and one vehicle driver. Its head office is located in Bangalore.

### **Karnataka Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Ltd.,**

The district office of this corporation was brought into existence in 1979 at Vijapur. To begin with it was headed by district survey officer; subsequently, however, the head of the office came to be redesignated as project officer and still later as district manager. It is a district level office and implements schemes aimed at economic upliftment of the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes such as land ownership scheme, *Gangakalyana* scheme, self-employment scheme, entrepreneurship development scheme, etc. To assist the district manager there are personnel like six development assistants, four case workers for different subjects or cases, one superintendent, one accounts assistant and others. The Chief Manager and executive director, Karnataka Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes Development Corporation Ltd., Bangalore, exercises overall control over the district office.

### **District Legal Aid Committee**

The District Legal Aid Committee, Bijapur, started functioning from the year 1984. It was renamed in 1997 as the District Legal Authority. After the formation of the new Bagalkote district its jurisdiction came to be confined to the taluks of Vijapur, Indi, Sindgi, Basavana Bagewadi and Muddebihal. It is headed by a chairman; and at the taluk level by the secretary, taluk legal committee. Its main functions, as enumerated in the compendium issued by the Karnataka State Legal Services Authority, consist of giving free legal aid to persons belonging to the scheduled

castes and the scheduled tribes, women and weaker sections whose annual income does not exceed Rs.18,000; organisation of Lok Adalath camps and conducting camps in villages under the Legal Literacy Programme. The secretary of the Karnataka Government Legal Aid Authority at Bangalore is the controlling authority of the District Legal Authority.

### **District Consumers Disputes Redressal Forum**

The District Consumers Disputes Redressal Forum, started in the year 1991 at Vijapur functions under the provisions of the Consumers Protection Act 1986. Its jurisdiction is confined to the Vijapur district only. Its main responsibility is to inquire into the grievances brought before it by the consumers and to deliver judgment. The Forum is headed by a chairman who is assisted by one assistant, one shirestedar, one stenographer, one first division assistant, one second division assistant, one vehicle driver and three D' Group employees. The Chairman, Karnataka State Consumers Disputes Redressal Commission, Bangalore, has administrative control over the District Consumers Forum.

## **CENTRAL GOVERNMENT OFFICES**

### **Central Excise**

The Vijapur circle of the Central Excise office was functioning upto the year 1971 with the objective of collecting excise duty upon goods manufactured and to control smuggling activities. From the year 1971 to 1974 it was a sub-circle with an Inspector and was upgraded into a Range Office in the year 1975. From January 1987, separate Range Offices were established at Vijapur and Bagalkote, the former with jurisdiction over the taluks of Vijapur, Jamkhandi, Mudhol, Muddebihal, Sindgi, Indi and Basavana Bagewadi and the latter with jurisdiction over the taluks of Bagalkote, Badami, Hungund and Bilgi. The Vijapur Range Office has one superintendent, three inspectors, and four sepoy; and, the Bagalkote Range Office has one superintendent, three inspectors and one sepoy. Subject to the control of the Vijapur Range office one sub-circle is functioning at Jamkhandi with an inspector as the head of the office. The principal responsibility of the department is to enforce the provisions of the Central Excise and Salt Act, 1944, the Customs Act, 1962, Imports and Exports Act and the Rules thereunder. The administrative control over these Range Offices is exercised by the Assistant Commissioner of Customs and Excise, Dharwar Division, Hubli.

### **Akashavani**

The Vijapur Station of the All India Radio (Akashavani) was opened in the year 1997 with the objectives of educational and cultural development and providing entertainment to the people. Its main function is to broadcast the programmes of the All India Radio. It is working under the Station Engineer, who is assisted by assistant station engineer, programme executive, accountant, technician and other staff. The All India Radio is headed by the Director – General, New Delhi, under whose control all the field level stations are placed.

### **District Telecommunications Manager's Office**

The office of the Manager, District Telecommunications, Vijapur, is responsible for establishment, maintenance and administration of telecommunication services. The several branch offices of telecommunication services such as telegraphs, telephones, etc., in the district are functioning under the Manager, District Telecommunications office, Vijapur; and these are located at places like Vijapur, Sindgi, Bagalkote, Hungund, Bilgi, Indi, Badami, Jamkhandi, Muddebihal, Basavana Bagewadi and Mudhol. There are 23 sub-divisional engineer's offices and five sub-divisional officer's offices in the Vijapur district; and, in these a total of four Group 'A', 32 Group 'B', 702 Group 'C' and 241 Group 'D' personnel are employed.

### **Doordarshan**

The Television Broadcasting Station at Vijapur was set up in the year 1984. It is headed by an assistant engineer. Its main responsibility is to broadcast both the national and regional programmes. The head of the office is assisted by one senior engineering assistant, three engineering assistants, one senior technician, three technicians, and other staff. The immediate official superior of the Assistant Engineer is the Station Engineer of the Gulbarga Television Maintenance Centre.

### **The Archaeological Museum**

Established in the year 1962, the Archaeological Museum at Vijapur was headed by a curator. In the year 1980, he came to be redesignated as Assistant Superintending Archaeologist. To assist him in the museum there are personnel like one second division assistant, four museum assistances two assistance and four *chowkidars*. The museum houses archaeological objects ranging from the period of the Chalukyas of Badami to the period of the Adilshahis of Bijapur. Conservation, protection and maintenance of the collection of museum objects are the main functions of this office. Other activities in which the museum staff are engaged include giving information pertaining to the various items of archaeological interest preserved in the museum to important personalities, students and the public who visit it. There are Archaeological Museums at Badami, Aihole and Pattadakal also. The superintending archaeologist, Archaeological Survey of India, Dharwar Circle, exercises immediate administrative control over the museum at Vijapur.

### **Directorate of Field Publicity Government of India**

The Field Publicity Unit of the Directorate of Field publicity, Government of India, at Vijapur is functioning since 1974 under a Field Publicity Officer. In brief, its aims and objectives consist of arranging publicity programmes throughout the district, interpersonal communication like group discussions, public meetings, seminars, symposia, etc., to convey its messages to the people. Visual support is provided by exhibition of documentaries and photographs. To assist the Field Publicity Officer there are personnel like one field publicity assistant, one second division assistant, one vehicle driver and others. The Joint Director, Directorate of Field publicity, Government of India, Bangalore, is the immediate official superior.