

CHAPTER XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Origin and Growth

BIJAPUR Division of the Public Works Department was first opened in 1888 and was closed on 1st May 1927, as it was considered not necessary to have a separate Divisional Office at Bijapur. But it was re-opened in 1938, on account of the expanded activity of this department and was made permanent in 1943. Prior to 1st November 1956, this division was under the control of the Southern Circle, Belgaum, in the Bombay State. Due to reorganisation of States, this circle along with four divisions—Bijapur, Belgaum, Dharwar, and Karwar was merged with Mysore State and a new circle named Belgaum Circle was formed, the Bijapur Division being one of the divisions under its control.

Present set-up

The executive unit of the department consists of two divisions, *viz.*, Bijapur and Bagalkot, in charge of two Executive Engineers, who are responsible to the Superintending Engineer, Belgaum Circle, Belgaum, for the execution and management of all works within their divisions. On account of the very heavy work load in the Bijapur Division, a temporary post of a Personal Assistant in the grade of an Assistant Engineer has been provided for the Divisional Office to assist the Executive Engineer in his work. So far as the Bijapur and Bagalkot Divisions are concerned, the boundaries correspond mostly with those of the revenue district, but the jurisdictions of the Public Works Department Sub-Divisions and sections have nothing in common with taluk boundaries.

Each of the divisions is divided into sub-divisions in charge of Assistant Engineers. These Sub-Divisional Assistant Engineers are responsible to the Executive Engineer in charge of the division for the management and execution of works within the sub-divisions.

In the Bijapur Division, there are four permanent sub-divisions located in Bijapur, Indi, Bagewadi and Jamkhandi, in charge of Assistant Engineers. One temporary sub-division is located at Sindgi. Another temporary sub-division called the

National Highway No. 13 Sub-division is located at Bijapur. In the headquarters town of Bijapur, there is another temporary sub-division called the Major Irrigation Projects Sub-Division. For the execution of minor irrigation projects, there is a sub-division at Bijapur.

In the Bagalkot Division, there are four permanent sub-divisions located at Bagalkot, Hungund, Badami and Mudhol. In addition to these permanent sub-divisions, there is a Sanitary Sub-Division at Bagalkot. For the preliminary work connected with the proposed Upper Krishna Project, there is a Special Division at Almatti in charge of an Executive Engineer.

The Public Health Engineering and Investigation Sub-Division at Bijapur has been shifted to Raichur with effect from 1st January 1963.

The sub-divisions are further divided into sections which are in-charge of supervisors. The Public Works Department Divisions both at Bijapur and Bagalkot are mainly concerned with the repairs and maintenance of roads and bridges, minor irrigation works, rural communications, plans and estimates of public works connected with Taluk Development Boards, Block area and National Extension Service Blocks.

The Executive Engineers receive orders from their departmental superiors, the head of the administration, or other civil officers duly authorised, except in the case of works considered urgent by an officer commanding a station, who can in the circumstances issue an order to the Executive Engineer for the execution of the work.

Duties and powers of the Executive Engineer

The Executive Engineers are responsible for proper measures being taken to preserve all the buildings and works in their divisions and to prevent encroachment on Government lands in their charges.

Every Executive Engineer is required to report immediately to the Superintending Engineer, any important accident or unusual occurrence connected with his division and to state how he has acted in consequence.

Serious accidents should be reported to the Superintending Engineer and also at the discretion of the Executive Engineer to Government direct. Executive Engineers and other officers or subordinates in charge of works should furnish immediate information to the proper civil authorities on the occasion of every serious accident.

The Executive Engineers may transfer supervisors (permanent and temporary) who are not in charge of the sections as they think best within their own jurisdictions.

The Executive Engineers are responsible for seeing that the surveying and mathematical instruments in their divisions are properly cared for and report on their condition to the Superintending Engineer at the end of each working season.

It is the duty of the Executive Engineers to furnish to the Treasury and Sub-Treasury Officers after due inspection, certificates as to the security of strong rooms used or proposed to be used for the storage of cash.

The Executive Engineers, in addition to their other duties, will be considered to be *ex-officio* professional advisors of all departments of administration within the limit of their charge.

Both the divisions have many old public buildings, some of which are very old ones constructed during the years 1885 to 1905. A large number of archaeological buildings were in-charge of this division for maintenance. But they have since been transferred to the Archaeological Department.

AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT

The officer in charge of this department is the District Agricultural Officer, who belongs to the Mysore Agricultural Service, Class II. He is directly responsible to the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Dharwar and the Director of Agriculture, Bangalore. There are eleven agricultural demonstrators under the District Agricultural Officer, all of them being members of the subordinate service. One of them is the Assistant District Agricultural Officer, who assists the District Agricultural Officer.

Demonstrations and Propaganda

Eleven Agricultural Demonstration Centres have been opened on cultivators' farms, under the supervision of the agricultural demonstrators. The owner cultivators adopt the agricultural improvements suggested by the department. Field demonstrations of the standing crops and other improved practices are held during every season.

Propaganda work is carried out by the agricultural demonstrators. The taluk has been divided into four circles, each under the charge of an Assistant. Each circle has a depot wherein improved seeds, manures, etc., are stocked for sale.

Experiments and Research

There is a permanent Government Agricultural Research Station at Bijapur where botanical and agronomical researches on various cereals and pulses are carried out. It is functioning under

the supervision of a Plant Breeder and Officer-in-charge (Mysore Agricultural Services, Class II), who is assisted by Agricultural Officers and agricultural demonstrators. Formerly, he was under the control of the Deputy Director of Agriculture (Crop Research), Poona. But now he is working under the Deputy Director of Agriculture, Dharwar Division, Dharwar, after the reorganisation of States. The aims of this station are to do comprehensive plant breeding, agronomic researches on cereals and pulses and multiplication of improved varieties of seeds.

The soil conservation activities in the Bijapur district are placed under the charge of the Sub-Divisional Soil Conservation Officers, Bijapur and Bagalkot, who are under the control of the Divisional Soil Conservation Officer, Southern Division, Bijapur. The charge of the Sub-Divisional Soil Conservation Officer, Bijapur extends over Bijapur, Indi and Sindgi taluks and that of the Sub-Divisional Soil Conservation Officer, Bagalkot, extends over the taluks of Bagalkot, Badami, Hungund, Bagewadi, Muddebihal, Jamkhandi, Mudhol and Bilgi. They are assisted by the Agricultural Officers and Agricultural Assistants (Soil Conservation).

Soil Conservation

There is a Dry Farming Centre at Bagalkot which is being looked after by an Agricultural Officer where all dry farming practices are demonstrated to the cultivators every year. It is under the control of the Soil Physicist, Bangalore.

**Dry Farming
Demonstration
Centre**

The Government has given certain general powers of superintendence and control to the District Agricultural Officer who in his day to day work appoints by himself certain category of officials lower in rank than Agricultural Demonstrators. He has powers to transfer, grant leave and to sign contingent and travelling allowance bills of all subordinate staff lower in rank than graduate assistants. In certain circumstances, the District Agricultural Officer is empowered to sanction temporary advances from the general provident fund. He can incur expenditure on purchase of stores upto the extent of Rs. 150.

**Powers of the
District
Agricultural
Officer**

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY AND VETERINARY DEPARTMENT

The Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department of the district of Bijapur is under the control of the District Veterinary Officer who has his headquarters in Bijapur city. He is a Class II Officer belonging to Mysore Veterinary Service and is directly responsible and subordinate to the Director of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services in Mysore, Bangalore.

The department is chiefly responsible for the development and treatment of livestock and poultry and other animals. The various technical personnel of the department treat animals and

poultry for ailments and attend to control of epidemics, castration of scrub male animals and artificial insemination of cattle.

Prior to reorganisation of States, the Animal Husbandry Section of Bijapur was under the control of the Bombay Agricultural Department. With the formation of the new State of Mysore, the activities relating to the development of livestock in the former districts of Bombay Karnatak were transferred to the control of the Department of Animal Husbandry, Mysore State.

**Sheep
Breeding**

The Director of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services controls the Sheep Breeding Station at Anagwadi as also the Rural Sheep Breeding Centres in intensive zones and is also in charge of the expansion scheme of the existing Sheep Breeding Research Station at Anagwadi.

The Sheep Breeding Station at Anagwadi was sanctioned on a permanent basis by the Bombay Government with a view to conducting experimental work regarding breeding of sheep and goats. This Farm is managed by one Veterinary Officer and one Flockman.

The rural sheep breeding centres in intensive zones have been in operation since 1946-47. The object of these Farms is to supply selected stud rams of woolly breed to the accredited shepherds selected in the several villages, to establish controlled flocks among shepherds, to serve as rural stud producing units by offering subsidies and to introduce collective breeding for improvement of the stock.

There is also a Superintendent in charge of Sheep and Wool Development Scheme in the district. This post came into being in 1959. This officer is functioning directly under the control of the Director of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Services.

In October 1965, there were one veterinary hospital, ten veterinary dispensaries, fifteen rural veterinary dispensaries thirteen veterinary aid centres, two key-village scheme centres, one artificial insemination centre, three artificial insemination sub-centres and one poultry extension centre in the district.

The cattle breeding work in Bijapur district is under the charge of the District Veterinary Officer.

FOREST DEPARTMENT

The Sub-Divisional Forest Officer, Bagalkot, is in charge of the forests in Bijapur district except the Jamkhandi Range containing the forest areas in Jamkhandi and Mudhol taluks, and which has been transferred to the control of the Ghataprabha

Division, Gokak, since 1st April 1962. The Bagalkot Sub-Division has jurisdiction over a part of the forest area in Ramdurg taluk of Belgaum district also. The Sub-Divisional Forest Officer functions under the control of the Conservator of Forests, Belgaum Circle, Belgaum and exercises most of the powers of the Divisional Forest Officer.

There were four ranges in the district with their headquarters at Jamkhandi, Bagalkot, Badami and Bijapur. As already stated above, the Jamkhandi Range has been attached to the Ghataprabha Division and the rest are in Bagalkot Sub-Division. The ranges are managed by the Range Forest Officers with the assistance of Round Officers and Guards.

The Revenue and Forest Departments are closely interconnected in their work. Afforestation and de-afforestation are practically the functions of the Revenue Department owing to the fact that the public rights in land proposed for afforestation have to be settled by that department. Working plans for the management and development of forests are prepared solely by the Divisional Forest Officer, Belgaum.

The Sub-Divisional Forest Officer stationed in Bagalkot and the Divisional Forest Officer, Ghataprabha Division (in so far as the Jamkhandi Range is concerned) are directly responsible for the protection, exploitation and regeneration of forests according to sanctioned working plans and also for execution of works under Five-Year Plan Schemes. They conduct sales, enter into contracts, realise revenue and control expenditure. In short, the Sub-Divisional Forest Officer and the Divisional Forest Officer, Ghataprabha Division, Gokak, are responsible for forest administration and management in all matters relating to technical forest operations.

**Functions of
Forest
Officers**

The Range Forest Officer is in executive charge of his range. He is responsible for carrying out with the help of Round Officers and Guards all works under his charge, such as the marking, reservation and felling of trees, transport of timber, fuel, etc., to the sale depots, sowing, planting, tending and other silvicultural operations.

The Range Forest Officer and his staff protect the forests, detect forest offences, collect revenue from permit holders and generally supervise the work of the Forest Guards.

Next to the Range Forest Officer, there are Round Officers, and below the Round Officers, there are the Beat Guards. They assist the Range Forest Officer in the administration of the range.

They repair and maintain forest boundary marks, execute silvicultural works and perform other duties as ordered by the Range Forest Officer.

In the reserved forests of Bijapur district there are no recognised rights of the people other than the rights of way and right to take water from water courses.

There are no roads maintained by the Forest Department in this Sub-Division.

INDUSTRIES AND COMMERCE DEPARTMENT

The Assistant Director of Industries and Commerce, Bijapur district, is the officer directly in charge of small scale and large scale industries in the district. This officer works directly under the Director of Industries and Commerce in Mysore, Bangalore. The Assistant Director is assisted in his duties by one Senior Industrial Supervisor, one Junior Industrial Supervisor and a District Industrial Auditor in respect of matters connected with industries. The textiles section is looked after by a District Weaving Supervisor assisted by two weaving demonstrators. The power-loom wing which was being managed by two technical assistants and three jobbers has been transferred to the control of the Department of Co-operation with effect from 1st October 1964.

A District Industrial Co-operative Bank is functioning at Bagalkot with a view to financing the Artisans, Small-scale Industrialists, Weavers' Societies and other Industrial Co-operative Societies.

Industrial activities

All the taluks have been covered by the National Extension Service schemes. Trained Industrial Extension Officers have been posted to the Blocks with a view to implementing the Rural Arts and Crafts programmes. The department has undertaken the following industrial activities in the Block areas: organisation of Industrial Co-operative Societies, deputation of artisans to the training centres to learn better methods of production by using improved tools and equipments and payment of managerial charges to the Industrial Co-operative Societies.

The Industries and Commerce Department is providing monthly grant-in-aid to the Mahila Mandals with a view to enabling them to start home industrial activities, like tailoring, knitting, embroidery, rattan and mat-weaving. Besides this, the department has arranged to supply sewing machines and weaving looms to the Mandals. The Vanita Utkarsha Mandal, Bijapur, the Akkana Balaga, Bagalkot, the Bharat Sevak Samaj, Bagalkot, the Akkana Balagas at Chadchan, Dhulkhed and Halsangi are being provided with grant-in-aid by the department.

The Mysore State Khadi and Village Industries Board is financing the Khadi industry, the village oil industry, the wool industry, the non-edible oils and soap industry and industries related to the manufacture of pottery, gur and khandsari, neera and palm gur. The other industries which are being aided by the Board are the fibre and coir industry, carpentry and blacksmithy, hand-pounding of paddy, hand-made paper, leather industry, dal-manufacturing and lime industry.

DEPARTMENT OF CO-OPERATION

The Co-operative Department in the Bijapur District is under the administrative charge of an Assistant Registrar, who is a gazetted officer. Over him is the Divisional Deputy Registrar of Co-operative Societies, Belgaum Division, who has jurisdiction over four districts, *viz.*, Belgaum, Bijapur, North Kanara and Dharwar. Administratively, he is responsible for the organisation of the co-operative movement and for supervision and guidance of the various types of societies in his charge.

In the district, there is another gazetted officer of the department namely, Special Auditor. The non-gazetted staff consists of one special inspector of co-operative societies stationed in Bijapur, one district co-operative officer, one assistant district co-operative officer, one inspector for marketing societies, one inspector for arbitration work and another inspector for land mortgage work. In addition to these special inspectors, there are in all thirteen co-operative extension officers in the National Extension Service area and two supervisors for Taluk Co-operative Supervising Unions.

For the industrial section, there is a separate non-gazetted staff under the administrative control of the Assistant Director of Industries and Commerce, Bijapur. The audit staff has been placed under the control of the Special Auditor, Co-operative Societies, Bijapur after the bifurcation of the section.

There was no separate staff for recovery work. The supervisors and the co-operative extension officers were attending to this work. But the recovery in respect of arbitration cases was being done through the Special Recovery Officer appointed by the Deputy Commissioner and the expenses of his establishment were being met out of the surcharge amount recovered and the contributions made by the Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., Bijapur.

**Recovery
Work**

The post of the Special Recovery Officer has now been abolished and two Sales Officers have been appointed. The recovery proceedings are now being carried on in accordance with the provisions of the new Mysore Co-operative Societies Act. Formerly, help had to be taken from the revenue authorities in

the execution of awards by the authorities of the Department of Co-operation. But now, according to the Mysore Co-operative Societies Act, 1959, which has come into force in the district, the officers of the Co-operative Department have been vested with the powers of execution of awards. Besides the two Sales Officers, a few experienced Co-operative Extension Officers have been entrusted with the work of execution of awards in connection with the recovery of the decretal loans. The Assistant Registrar of Co-operative Societies is an *ex-officio* Recovery Officer for the district. The new measures taken have resulted in greatly improving the matters connected with recovery work.

Audit and Supervision

The societies are audited once in a year as per Section 63 of the Mysore Co-operative Societies Act, 1959. The sub-auditors and junior auditors are entrusted with the audit of agricultural credit and other types of societies. The auditors and inspectors are entrusted with the audit of big societies and other industrial societies. The accounts of the Central Bank, Urban Banks, Sales Societies and Industrial Co-operatives are audited by the Special Auditor, Co-operative Societies, Bijapur.

The supervisors and co-operative extension officers are expected to visit the societies often and inspect the accounts at the end of every quarter. The field staff attends to the supervision work of agricultural credit societies and also attends to the scrutiny of loan applications of the Primary Co-operative Credit Societies and to the loan disbursement work. The supervision and inspection of non-agricultural and agricultural non-credit societies is attended to by the District Co-operative Officer, Assistant District Co-operative Officer and Inspector for Marketing Societies, while supervision over industrial and weavers' societies is done by the staff under the control of the Assistant Director of Industries and Commerce, Bijapur.

The Assistant Registrar has to attend the monthly meetings of the Co-ordination Committee and District Development Council held under the chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner. The Special Inspector attached to the Assistant Registrar's office attends to the general work and acts as Personal Assistant to the Assistant Registrar.

MOTOR VEHICLES DEPARTMENT

The organisational set-up at the district level of the Motor Vehicles Department is set out hereunder :—

- (a) The Regional Transport Officer and the Secretary, Regional Transport Authority, is in charge of the administration of the Motor Vehicles Department in the district.
- (b) He is responsible to the Commissioner for Transport in Mysore, Bangalore and Secretary, Mysore State Transport Authority, Bangalore.

Prior to 1st January 1958, this district was a part of Karnatak Region which consisted of four districts, viz., Belgaum, Dharwar, Bijapur and Karwar, under the Regional Transport Officer, Belgaum. Due to the reorganisation of Motor Vehicles Department, the Regional Offices have been opened in all the districts from 1st January 1958 onwards.

**Powers and
Functions**

As a licensing authority for the district, the Regional Transport Officer issues motor driving licences after necessary tests are conducted and necessary fees are paid. He renews them also as and when the applications are received by him. He also conducts tests for issue of the authorisations to drive public service vehicles and licences to conductors with the assistance of the Motor Vehicles Inspector. Conductors' licences are also renewed as and when the applications are received by him. Permanent permits and temporary permits to all transport vehicles of the district are issued by him after following the prescribed procedure as per decisions of the R.T.A. consisting of the Deputy Commissioner as the Chairman and one non-official and two official members and the Regional Transport Officer as its Secretary. The Regional Transport Officer issues certain permits under powers delegated by the R.T.A., as per provisions of Chapter IV of the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 and Rules made thereunder. In short, the Regional Transport Officer is the executive officer of the department in the district and administers the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 and the Rules thereunder as also the Mysore Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1957 and the Mysore Motor Vehicles (Taxation on passengers and goods) Act, 1961 and rules thereunder.

As a registering authority, he has to see that all the motor vehicles in the district are mechanically fit and that they are duly registered as per provisions of Chapter III of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 and rules made thereunder. In cases of all transport vehicles, periodical inspection is done and certificates of fitness are renewed with the assistance of the Motor Vehicles Inspectors. Transfers of motor vehicles and permits are also effected by him as and when applied for. Cases of accidents of motor vehicles are also attended to both by this department as well as the Police Department. He has to see that all the motor vehicles of the district are also equipped and maintained properly and all rules and regulations of traffic are strictly observed as per provisions of Chapters V and VI of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 and Rules made thereunder respectively. Every month, he carries on surprise checks of vehicles, by touring throughout the district, in addition to similar checking done by the Motor Vehicles Inspector.

Further, he has to see that the provisions of the Mysore Motor Vehicles Taxation Act and the Mysore Motor Vehicles (Taxation on passengers and goods) Act, 1961 and rules made thereunder are properly enforced and observed by all concerned and defaulters

are booked and duly punished. He is responsible for collection of all taxes, fees and penalties, if any, due from the owners of motor vehicles.

He is responsible for the enforcement of the provisions of the Motor Vehicles Act, 1939 and Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1957 and Rules made thereunder and see that prosecutions are launched against the defaulters with the assistance of Motor Vehicles Inspector and the Police Department of this district and see that all the interests of the motoring public are safeguarded as per law.

The Regional Transport Officer was being assisted in his duties by one Office Superintendent, one Accounts Superintendent, two Inspectors of Motor Vehicles and some ministerial staff.

The powers and functions of a Motor Vehicles Inspector are as follows :—

The Motor Vehicles Inspector is empowered to take tests for issue of motor driving licences (temporary and permanent), conductors' licences and badges to drive public service vehicles and to inspect motor vehicles for purposes of registration, grant and renewal of fitness certificates and also to inspect motor vehicles when they meet with accidents. He has also to tour throughout the district every month, for surprise checking of motor vehicles and inspections and re-inspections of motor vehicles and conducting tests for issue of all kinds of licences and launch prosecutions in the court of law against the defaulters of Motor Vehicles Act and Rules and Motor Vehicles Taxation Act and Rules made thereunder. He has to do other work also as ordered by the Regional Transport Officer, Bijapur.

DEPARTMENT OF FISHERIES

The Assistant Superintendent of Fisheries, Bijapur is in charge of the administration of the department in the district. He is responsible to the Superintendent of Fisheries, Dharwar. The fisheries development unit was started in the year 1960-61 in the district. The Assistant Superintendent of Fisheries is a non-gazetted officer. He looks after the development of fisheries in the district, including the issue of licences, auctioning of fishery rights, fish seed collection and distribution, demonstration fishing and organisation of fisheries co-operative societies. He is also responsible for the work in connection with the collection of fisheries statistics, survey of fishery resources, fish culture, prevention of illicit and destructive methods of fishing and work relating to the extension of fishery activities and management of fish farms.

The Assistant Superintendent of Fisheries was being assisted in his duties by a staff consisting of two Assistant Inspectors of Fisheries, five fishermen and six fishery watchers.

The watchmen patrol the fishing area with a view to checking illicit fishing. They also watch over the fish farms in the area. They assist the fishery officers in conducting prosecution of the offenders.

The duties of fishermen consist of exploitation of fish and collection of fish fry, spawn, fingerlings and fresh fish.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLICITY AND INFORMATION

With a view to carrying out publicity at district level on various developmental activities and social welfare measures undertaken by Government and to enlist public co-operation for the same, two offices, namely, (i) Office of the District Publicity Officer and (ii) Office of the Radio Supervisor, Rural Broadcasting, are established at Bijapur, under the Department of Publicity and Information. These offices started functioning in April 1949 and in December 1946 respectively, under the then Government of Bombay. Consequent on the reorganisation of States, they were transferred to the Department of Publicity and Information, Government of Mysore.

The work of the Rural Broadcasting office is to instal and maintain the Community Listening Sets in villages, under the Contributory Scheme. A part of the expenditure towards cost and maintenance of the sets is borne by the Village Panchayats. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, in close co-ordination with the Department of Information, organises broadcast programmes from the All India Radio Stations, Bangalore, Dharwar and Bhadravati, on various Government measures.

**Rural Broad-
casting**

There were nine Community Listening Sets in the district before independence. After that, upto the end of June 1965, 135 sets were installed. Out of these, 130 sets work on dry batteries, one on wet battery and four on electric mains.

The scheme is becoming popular and the demand for Community Listening Sets by the rural population is increasing.

The two main functions of the District Publicity Office are : (i) publicity through films, and (ii) publicity through the Press. In addition to this, office organises exhibitions at fairs, etc., and cultural and recreational programmes. It offers transport and other facilities to Press representatives on important occasions like the tours of Ministers, seminars and conferences.

Publicity

The office has been provided with a mobile publicity van fitted with necessary equipment for carrying out film publicity works. Film shows are arranged in towns and villages. Films (16 m.m.) of documentary and news type are exhibited.

The District Publicity Officer is the *ex-officio* Secretary of the Publicity Sub-Committee of the District Development Council which advises on publicity matters.

He works under the overall supervision of the Director of Publicity and Information, Bangalore, and the Regional Assistant Director of Publicity and Information, Dharwar.

REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT

Under the Indian Registration Act (XVI of 1908), registration in the case of documents relating to transfers, etc., of immovable property is compulsory while registration of certain other documents is optional. As a rule, fees are levied for such registration, but the State Government have exempted from payment of fees for documents relating to Co-operative Credit Societies, Land Development Banks, Urban Banks (up to the value of Rs. 2,000) and Housing Societies (up to the value of Rs. 5,000). Similarly awards under the Bombay Agricultural Debtors' Relief Act (XXVIII of 1947) are also registered free. Marriages under the Parsi Marriages and Divorce Act (III of 1936), the Special Marriages Act, 1954 (XLIII of 1954) and Bombay Registration of Marriages Act (V of 1954) are also registered.

There is one registration office at Bijapur and ten others are located at Badami, Bagewadi, Bagalkot, Bilgi, Hungund, Indi, Jamkhandi, Muddebihal, Mudhol and Sindgi. Each of these is under the charge of a Sub-Registrar.

District Registrar

The Deputy Commissioner of Bijapur district is the *ex-officio* District Registrar. The Registration Unit is different and separate from the Revenue staff, and the District Registrar has powers of supervision over the entire district registration staff. The Sub-Registrars are appointed by the Inspector-General of Registration, but the District Registrar has powers to make appointments of Sub-Registrars in temporary vacancies. The Sub-Registry and District Registry Karkuns and peons are appointed by the District Registrar himself. The District Registrar carries out the instructions of the Inspector-General of Registration in departmental matters and if he has any suggestions for the improvement of the registration system, he submits them to the Inspector-General of Registration. The District Registrar solves the difficulties encountered by Sub-Registrars in the course of their day to day work. He visits the Sub-Registry offices and inspects the records and sees whether the work has been disposed of as quickly as possible by the Sub-Registrars.

He hears appeals and applications preferred to him under Sections 72 and 73 of the Indian Registration Act (XVI of 1908) against refusal to register documents by the Sub-Registrars under him. He is competent to accord sanction for the levy of fines. The power to condone the delay in respect of documents presented

for registration and in respect of the appearance of executants after the expiry of the time limit is vested in the District Registrar. He is also competent to order the registration of such documents. He is also equally competent to order refunds in case of surcharges and to grant remissions in safe custody fees in suitable cases. A Will or Codicil may be deposited with him under a sealed cover.

The Sub-Registrars are immediately subordinate to the District Registrar. The chief function of the Sub-Registrar is to register documents for which the required stamp duties and registration fees are paid. He keeps record of such registered documents and notifies, wherever necessary, the facts of registration to the Revenue and City Survey officials for record of rights and mutation of names in their property registers. On application from parties, he issues certified copies from preserved records of registered documents. Every Sub-Registrar is an *ex-officio* Registrar of Parsi Marriages. The powers of solemnising marriages under the Special Marriages Act (XLIII of 1954) are vested in all the Sub-Registrars. Every Sub-Registrar also works as Registrar of Marriages under the Bombay Registration of Marriages Act (V of 1954).

During 1964-65, the total receipts under the head registration was Rs. 1,81,932 and the expenditure incurred was Rs. 76,739.

COMMERCIAL TAXES DEPARTMENT

When the district of Bijapur formed part of the Bombay State prior to the Reorganisation of States, the levy of a tax on sales of goods was originally introduced in 1946 when a single point tax came into force. Due to various reasons which resulted in evasion of tax, the system of single point levy was given up and a new system of multi-point levy was introduced in 1952. This system also proved a failure in checking evasion, with the result that in 1953, double-point tax was introduced. In this new system, almost all the goods were liable to first-point tax called the Sales Tax and the last point tax called the General Sales Tax, the intermediate sales between one dealer and another being exempt from tax under certain conditions and restrictions. There was less scope for evasion of tax under this system.

Prior to the reorganisation of the Sales Tax Department, there was a Sales Tax Officer for the district of Bijapur who was responsible to the Deputy Commissioner of Sales Tax, Belgaum Division, Belgaum. The Sales Tax Officer of the district had to administer the Acts and the Rules of the Bombay Sales Tax Act, 1953, the Bombay Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, 1946, the Bombay Sales of Intoxicants Taxation Act, 1953, the Bombay Sugarcane Cess Act and the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956. He had to exercise powers delegated to him under the relevant Acts and the Rules made thereunder.

There were many changes in the organisational set-up of the Commercial Taxes Department in Bijapur district, after the district was merged in the reorganised Mysore State. The Bombay Sales Tax Act, 1953, the Bombay Sales of Motor Spirit Taxation Act, 1953 and other allied Acts ceased to operate from 1st October 1957. From that date, the Mysore Sales Tax Act, 1957 and allied Acts came into force.

**Commercial
Tax Officer**

At present, there are Commercial Tax Officers in Bijapur, Bagalkot, Muddebihal and Jamkhandi. At the headquarters town of Bijapur, there are two Commercial Tax Offices in charge of two Commercial Tax Officers. There are also two Sub-circle Offices, called Sub-circle No. I and Sub-circle No. II, under the control of two Assistant Commercial Tax Officers. There is one more office called the Commercial Tax Office (Intelligence Section), in charge of a Commercial Tax Officer. At Bagalkot, there is one Commercial Tax office and there are also two Sub-circle offices. The Commercial Tax offices at Muddebihal and Jamkhandi are under the control of Assistant Commercial Tax Officers.

The main functions of the officers of the Commercial Taxes Department are to assess the dealers and to prevent the evasion of tax by dealers and to keep a close watch on the recovery of the arrears of tax.

STAMPS DEPARTMENT

The Director of Treasuries in Mysore, Bangalore holds general administrative charge of the Stamps Department. The Superintendent of Stamps, Bangalore, controls the supply and distribution of stamps in the whole State.

The District Treasury Officer, Bijapur is in charge of the local depot at Bijapur and he performs the duties connected with the indenting for and the custody and distribution of stamps to the branch depots in the taluks. A branch depot is located at the headquarters of every taluk under the control of the Tahsildar.

The Deputy Commissioner, the Assistant Commissioners and the Tahsildars are competent to grant refunds in the case of unused or spoilt non-judicial stamps upto a certain extent. For the convenience of the general public, stamps are sold not only at the depot located in the district office, Bijapur and the branch depots in the taluks, but also through licensed stamp vendors.

Figures relating to the total income realised from stamps duty during the years 1962-63 to 1964-65 are given below:—

		<i>Judicial</i>	<i>Non-judicial</i>
		Rs.	Rs.
1962-63	..	1,94,428	6,84,338
1963-64	..	2,06,464	10,01,087
1964-65	..	2,09,665	11,68,339