

CHAPTER X

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

The administration of Justice during the reign of the rajas of Kodagu depended on traditional practices. To enforce these traditional practices no separate police force was necessary. Ryots who had obtained *Jamma* land functioned as the watch and ward, the police and the soldiers. Kodagu being a tiny State, the entire administration in all the regions was under the control of the Palace. Any criminal act of whatever description was being reported to the officers forthwith. Except through known jungle routes, the entry into or exit from Kodagu of outsiders, was not so easy. There were deep moats to separate each village from the *nadu* and between them there were the link routes called *bakka bagilu* for the movement of people which were guarded by watchmen. In all entry points of roads in the District, guard-houses or *chowki-thanans* were constructed and every traveller was allowed inside only after checking. Like in other States, to enter Kodagu permit was essential. People in the district were required to obtain permission from the Government before leaving. No subject was allowed to go outside the State without obtaining valid permit. Besides, furnishing reasons for going outside was compulsory. While, any citizen leaving the State under valid permit was required to leave his family members behind. That could guarantee his return to the State. Exit from State was fully prohibited, in order to stall the decrease in population, since the climate and environment of Kodagu was not conducive for the settlement of persons from outside. Persons committing punishable crimes were sentenced to appropriate punishment without any mercy. In view of these reasons, neighbouring states have described Kodagu a prison sans escape.

Under the Rajas' regime there was no separate police force. Officials in all government offices functioned as policemen. Kodagu State does not seem to have witnessed any clashes or

disturbances. Moreover, Government did not interfere in the peaceful and orderly activities of the public at large. The Government never prevented people from possessing or accumulating private property. Theft or misappropriation of public funds were very rare eventualities. Highway robberies and social crimes were not common in the State as in other states. Property and personal effects of even the common traveller received due safety. Strangers were subjected to close observation and they were not allowed to mix freely with the people of the State. Like the Nayars in Malabar, every ryot here was a policeman, discharging police duties. A majority of the people had acquired ownership of lands under the military dispensation and it was their duty to protect the people of that area. They were Sarvakaryakaras, Karyakaras, Subedars and Jamedars. *Jamma* ryots also assisted the police in their duties.

Like in other districts, since ancient times, there was no necessity for the existence of separate courts in this district. The head of the family himself decided the family quarrels with his experience. Likewise the village headman *takka* was the Judge. *Village headman delivered 'Judgements' in accordance with their respective religions, rules and customs.* The *takkas* were presiding officers of Grama Panchayath courts in villages. There was a provision for the appointment of low-grade officer while subjecting an offender to trial. In respect of theft or misappropriation of public funds, a sum equal to 1.5 of the amount lost or misappropriated amount was recovered and the remaining half was credited to Government, as fine. Lingaraja's *Hukumnama* pertaining to individual quarrels states as follows: If any persons are found calling names within surroundings of the palace, then both those swearing at each other should be called and the person who has sworn more shall be subjected to double the swearing done by him by the latter and thus threatened to behave himself and let off. If they are found beating up each other, then the person who has given more beatings will be subjected to double the beating by the latter and thus made to behave and duly admonished and let off. Persons abstaining themselves from public functions or celebrations, were sentenced to heavy penalties. Any offender could appeal to *Nada takka* or *Desha takka* against the judgement given by the village *takka*. Externment was the most rigorous punishment. As for offences relating to the *rajas*, the *raja* would discuss the matter with his council of Secretaries (Diwans), and decide, and penalties like fines or imprisonment were imposed. Penalties imposed by the Raja himself were of very severe nature and included penalties like amputation of limbs etc. *Takkas* received great respect. *Gramapanchayat's* dispensations functioned efficiently in every village. Though Kodagu consisted of villages having different traditions and customs, the procedure of administration of justice was by and large uniform throughout the State.

Order 20 of Lingaraja's Codes of orders (*Hukumnama*) states as follows: "If any one approaches the village headman in respect of some legal complaint, the person should be treated politely and calling him separately and enquiring about the matter, and if the case is within the jurisdiction or competence, he should do the needful, dispose of the complaint and send him back to his house. If the case is not within his jurisdiction, he will refer him to his superior officer, *takka*. He will enquire, and if it is beyond his competence, he will send him to his superior that is the *Parpattegar* of that Nadu. Should the *Nadu Parpattegar* also find the case beyond his competence, he will refer the same to the officer in the Divan's Office. "This gives a picture of the hierarchy of administration of justice. Since the *nadu* was prosperous crimes of any kind were few and far between. Further in the same order pertaining to calling of juries it is said as follows: "Call four

intelligent persons and of them allot two to the petitioner and the other two to the defendent. Let them understand the cases on either side and then give their judgment as to whose case is true and whose case not true." Thus the *Grampanchayat* saw to it that quarrels or disputes of any kind were resolved smoothly and efficiently.

The first Superintendent of Kodagu under the British regime had been Judicial Commissioner in Mysore. Office of the Judicial Commissioner in Mysore was the Supreme Appellate Court. Thereafter Commissioner in Ashtagrama was appointed as the Chief Judicial Magistrate in Kodagu. Death sentences passed by this Magistrate of Kodagu, were required to be sent to the Judicial Commissioners in Mysore for his approval. Imposing of corporal punishment including amputation of limb, under any circumstances was discontinued as long back as 1834 itself. Office of the Judicial Commissioner was established by the High Court, in the year 1856. Some of codes followed in the Coorg State are the Stamp Act 1861, The Indian Penal Code, The Indian Registration Act, the Coorg Courts Act 1868 and the Cattle Trespass Act. After the Criminal Procedure Code was implemented, some changes in the Judiciary were unavoidable.

The Superintendent's Court had jurisdiction even beyond Rs.3,000 in respect of Civil Cases. Judicial System of those days was as follows:

Courts	Original Suit		Appeal	
	Criminal	Civil	Criminal	Civil
Parpattedar's Courts	11	4	-	-
Subedar's Courts	8	8	-	-
Assistant Superintendent's Courts	2	2	2	2
Superintendent's Court	1	1	1	1
Sessions Court	1	-	-	-
Judicial Commissioner's Court	-	-	1	1
Total	23	15	4	4

The following changes were effected in 1880 in Civil Courts: *Parpattedar's* 5 Courts, (Jurisdiction Rs.50), Subedars' 6 Court (jurisdiction Rs.100), Munsifs' Court two (Jurisdiction Rs.1,000.00) Second Assistant Commissioner's Court-1 (Jurisdiction Rs.1,000-3,000) and first Assistant Commissioner's Court-1 (Suits upto Rs.3,000 transferred by the District Judicial Officers). The post of Ashtagrama Sessions Judge was abolished in the year 1882, and the powers were transferred to the Coorg Commissioner.

When British dispensation was established in Coorg in the year 1834, the Government had to create new departments, (Prior to this executive dept. itself was looking after Judicial matters), when the judicial department was re-organised in 1884, the Coorg Judicial Commissioner was dealing with judicial matters of Coorg as well as Bangalore Civil-Military Station, until 1918-24, Appeals were transferred sometimes to the Mysore High Court and sometimes to the Madras High Court. Again in 1928 Chief Magistrate of Chittoor was instructed to go to Bangalore for 3 days in a

month and dispose of appeal cases from Coorg. This practice of the Magistrate of Chittoor deciding Coorg appeal cases continued upto 1950.

Coorg Commissioner was District and Sessions Judge from 1881 to 1940. The District Magistrate was the First Class Magistrate also. In Madikeri there was a sub-judge and under him there was a First Class Magistrate. Criminal appeals were referred to the Sessions Judge, because the District Magistrate was also First Class Magistrate. In Virajpet there was a Munsiff's Court also. First Class Magistrate's powers were given to Madikeri Munsiff in 1903. Ramayya Punja who was formerly Munsiff at Virajpet was appointed as First Sub-Judge in Madikeri. During 1925-35 the Munsiff's Magistrates' post was abolished. The number of suits in the State during 1932 to 1941 was as follows: Civil Suits:-16,709 (total value of property covered by the suits Rs.31.78 lakhs). The pressure of work in the Courts of Subordinate Judges was subject to the interpretation of the Judicial Commissioner. During 1939-40 when some changes were introduced in Kodagu administration, the then Commissioner J.W.Freebird stated as follows: For the Chief Commissioner to function as District and Sessions Judge is next to impossible. Moreover, the Commissioner does not possess sufficient knowledge as regards administration of Civil Justice. In view of this opinion, a new post of District and Sessions Judge was created thereafter. In addition, the Courts of Assistant Commissioner, Subedar, Parupathegar were abolished. The number of Civil, Criminal and Revenue department courts in 1941 was as follows: *Civil*: District Judges-1, Munsiff's-2; *Criminal*: Sessions Judge- 1, District Magistrate-1, First Class Magistrate-2, Second Class Magistrate and Bench Magistrate-9; *Revenue*: Chief Commissioner-1, Assistant Commissioner-1 and Subedars-2. Besides these there were five temporary Judges' Courts, 7 Honorary Magistrates' Courts. Assistant Commissioner (after the abolition of the post of Commissioner) functioned as the District Magistrate of Coorg. District and Sessions Judge, Chittoor was the Judicial Commissioner of Coorg, from 1925 under the jurisdiction of Coorg Courts Regulation Act (1901). Thus rule was changed under the Section 230(1) of the India Act (1935). After independence the post of Judicial Commissioner in Kodagu was abolished. In the light of this the Legislative Assembly passed a resolution that the High Court of Madras be considered as the High Court of Coorg. District Magistrate of Coorg, with the permission of the High Court, was appointed as the Judicial Commissioner.

At first, the British Resident in Mysore dealt with Coorg and Bangalore Civil and Military Stations. At that time appeals from courts in Coorg were being sent to the Resident. A Senior Judge from Madras was appointed and he assisted the Resident in matters pertaining to Judicial Proceedings. This practice continued until 1947. Jurisdiction of District Court extended to the entire Coorg State, it has to discharge the functions of Principal Civil Court of the State. The Number of suits filed in the District Courts are as follows

	1945	1946	1947	1948	1949
First Civil Suit	7	6	7	7	17
Civil appeals	25	28	13	24	45
Sessions suit	6	7	3	7	9
Criminal appeal	5	6	8	12	19

Besides these, this Court dealt with other petitions as well as review petitions. Since the number of suits in Madikeri and Virajpet had increased a Special First Class Magistrate was appointed in 1951. Thereafter, during the 2 years, about 2,500 suits had been filed in the Court of this Judge. But this Court was abolished in 1953. In the year 1952, Madras High Court transferred criminal suit of Virajpet Munsiff Court to the Special First Class Magistrate Court, Mangalore. This type transfer is the first of its kind in Coorg State. This suit was filed under Section 127 of Representation of People's Act and Section 147 of I.P.C., since the offender had caused riot at an election meeting in 1952. In this regard the Judge had expressed as follows: In a State like Coorg where judiciary and the executive are not separated, there is every reason for suspicion that the offender will get impartial Judgement. Even then, Government withdrew this case in 1953.

Commissioner's Court

The Chief Commissioner heard the appeals filed against the decision made by the Commissioner. Criminal suits were disposed off by the following Judges:

Court	Presiding Officer	Number
Court of Sessions Judge	Commissioner	1
District Magistrate Court (He also exercised the powers of the Magistrate)	Assistant Commissioner	1
Court of the First Class Magistrate	2nd Assistant Commissioner	1
Court of the Second Class Magistrate	Munsiffs/Subedars	2
Court of the Third Class Magistrate	Parpattegar	10

In those days punishments imposed were in fine, imprisonment, death sentence and deportation. By 1868 one death sentence was awarded. During this period from 1886 till 88, seven persons had been deported. As administration started tightening its grip registration of offences and suits increased.

The Chief Commissioner who had *ex-officio* powers of Judicial Commissioner was the Appellate authority and could exercise original jurisdiction in respect of criminal cases punishable with death penalty and also had the appellate powers in regard to the judgements pronounced by the Assistant Commissioner and other judges. The English Assistant Commissioner being the District Magistrate, had powers to award death sentence and administrative powers over subordinate magistrate courts. These Courts were: (1) Court of the First Class Magistrate and Sub-judge-one (2) Court of the First Class Magistrate and Assistant Commissioner-one and (3) Courts of Second Class Magistrates-7. These Courts were in charge of the treasury administration and the judges were also functioning as treasury officers.

In the year 1935 the Coorg Legislative Assembly passed a resolution to separate the judiciary and the executive. A finance member in the then Legislative Council said the following with regard to suits in Coorg. "Our State is not known either for its Civil suits or Criminal suits. The

peculiar type of land tenancy system has precluded suits. None of the civil suits is of any considerable amount, nor such as to necessitate the spending of money to go up to the Madras High Court."

Changes were introduced in the administration of Justice in the year 1969. District Magistrate for Coorg was appointed. Besides, Magistrates were appointed for Madikeri and Virajpet. Revenue Officer (Executive Magistrate), was the Chief Officer for Judicial administration of justice in the district and as such exercised control over all the Judicial Magistrates.

At present, Sessions Court is the Chief Court of the Criminal Courts. The Sessions Judge admits suits transferred from the judicial magistrate, after due hearing. There is no additional Sessions Judge Court in this district. A total of 23 suits were registered in Sessions Court during 1961 of which 14 have been disposed of.

The Courts in the district at present (1992) are (1) District and Sessions Court; (2) Court of the Chief Judicial Magistrate, (3) Court of Principal Munsiff (J.M.F.C.) and Court of Additional Munsiff (J.M.F.C.). (All these are located in Madikeri). 4) Munsiff's Court (J.M.F.C.) Somvarpet, 5) Court of Principal Munsiff (J.M.F.C.), Virajpet, and 6) Court of the Additional Munsiff (J.M.F.C.), Virajpet.

LAW AND ORDER

As this district borders on Kerala State and is endowed with rich forest wealth, since long, people have been emmigrating to this district, from Kerala. Keralites, who in the first instance came here as immigrants, in course of time, started cutting down trees in the jungles. When outsiders tampered with the 'Devara Kaadu' regarded by the locals as sacred forests, distrust, and internal squabbles started. Disturbances started when the population of emigrant Keralites looked like out-numbering the local Kodavas. Kodagu is a forest district and as such smuggling of forest wealth also increased. The locals accuse that outsiders alone are responsible for illicit transfer of Kodagus' forest wealth. In view of all these, the Kodavas, the local people organised an association called Kodagu domiciles association in the year 1987, and started a movement aimed at preserving the identity of the Kodavas. Protests were voiced against illegal cultivation of 'Devara Kaadu' through a forum called 'Janajagrithi Vedike'. There were clashes at Virajpet in 1982 and some shops were burnt. Some of the disturbances that occurred in the district since 1981 are given below:

It is reported that in 1983, during the marriage of a local, at Murnadu some persons of the marriage party went to a shop and created trouble and also pelted stones on the shop. In 1984, at Siddapur six persons belonging to a single group harassed a person belonging to another community. In 1985 in the month of January four persons in Dhanagalawent to a place of worship, entered it illegally and beat a person who was an inmate. Another time, in October, a person was beaten up and robbed of his cash and gold chains on his person by persons belonging to another community. A riot occurred in January, because a student teased a girl student belonging to another community in the Girls school. In March 1986, when two youth teased a lady belonging to another community, shops belonging to the community of those youths were looted in protest. Thus many

communal riots took place. In 1987 the number was 3 and in 1988 it was 6. In 1989-90, 10 to 15 riots occurred, of which some were communal and the others election-related.

In this district there are 2,900 gardens (estates), and the number of labourers is around 1,16,000. Following are the important trade unions functioning in the district. 1) Coorg district Plantation and General labour union (A.I.T.U.C.) 2) General Employees' Union (I.N.T.U.C.), Suntikoppa. 3) Karnataka Plantation and General Labour Trade Union, Chattalli, 4) Estate Workers Union, Kodagu district, Madikeri (C.I.T.U. also C.P.I.M.) and 5) Karnataka Rajya General workers Association, Siddapur.

Details of the labour-disturbances that occurred during 1981-90 are as follows: In 1981, workers of Mattikadu Estate in Suntikoppa went on hunger strike, because three co-workers had been dismissed. 1982 - the workers of Makutta Rubber Estate staged a demonstration shouting slogans demanding payment of wages as per Wages Act. 1983 - Maakutta Small Rubber Estate Workers went on strike because 13 workers had been removed from service. 1983 - workers of Glen Roln Tea Estate staged *dharna* demanding provision of drinking water. A *dharna* was staged by Hudikeri tea estate because working hours had been changed. Riots also occurred in Ruby Estate, Glen Roln Estate and Hoovina Kadu Estate also because of some demands of workers. 1985 - Pollybetta Varadan Estate workers and Koodige Coffee Estate workers had gone on strike. Workers of Chattalli Garden Research Centre had struck work, because three workers had been kept under suspension. Jenukolli (Kattale Kaadu) Coffee Estate workers had staged *dharna*, demanding bonus and reinstatement of some workers. Many labour disturbance occurred during the period from 1985 to 1990. 'Protest week' at Hilkal Estate is one of them.

There are five colleges, 15 Pre-University colleges and one Polytechnic and one I.T.I. in this district. The number of college-level students, both girls and boys, is around 6,000. The details of student related disturbances in the district during the last decades are as follows: In 1981, six times, 1982, twelve times, 1983, five times, 1984, seven times, 1985, six times, 1986 four times, in 1987, five times, 1988, three times, 1989, ten times, and in 1990 two times. The main causes for students disturbances are, paucity of teaching staff, absence of facilities in the college, collection of donation, accusations against the Vice-Chancellor as well as public causes like Barapole Project, Kaiga Project, etc. During 1981-90 the Police had to open fire once (in 1986) at the time of Ganesh idol procession.

Communal disturbances flare up mainly due to the teasing of a girl belonging one community by a youth belonging to another community. Such causes occur in buses, at Cinema theatres, on roads and also in Schools and Colleges. The group belonging to the teased girl's community is enraged and this results in torching houses and shops belonging to the other community. On every occasion, the police organise peace committees and bring the situation under control. Such disturbances do end immediately, but still the number is on the increase.

In 1988 "Kushalnagar Bandh" was observed under the aegis of Committee called protect Action Committee, urging the Government not to permit the opening of an Engineering College in Kushalnagar. Thereafter the protestors staged *dharna*, tookout torch-processions, and also observed black day. Around 200-280 nurses took out processions and staged protests in Madikeri,

against the misbehaviour of a man from Hakattooru village under Madikeri rural area, with a nurse of the Heath Centre. Disturbances occurred 7 to 8 times during 1989, and 5 to 6 times during 1990.

List of offences reported during 1980 to 1989 in Kodagu district

Offence	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
Murder	23	19	24	28	28	13	28	20	19	33
Dacoity	-	-	2	3	-	1	-	-	1	-
Robbery	8	7	7	10	3	2	2	2	2	-
Theft	155	258	429	550	353	292	304	311	353	310
Rape	5	5	3	2	5	5	3	5	5	6
Riots	8	38	-	113	65	55	94	44	44	38
Miscellaneous	1,474	1,306	1,173	1,283	1,128	1,092	1,001	1,201	1,708	NA

Statement showing causes for the murders in the district during the period from 1981 to 1989

Causes	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
Family quarrels	1	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	10
Illicit relations	1	1	4	3	2	1	-	-	2	2
For profit	1	1	-	3	4	2	2	2	1	-
Property disputes	3	3	1	4	2	1	1	4	2	5
Hatred	3	4	11	7	4	3	2	4	3	-
Love-affairs	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Intoxication	4	2	1	4	3	2	5	-	2	-
For other causes	9	3	7	7	13	4	11	10	7	16
Total	23	24	24	28	28	13	28	20	18	16
Suicide	96	97	112	210	146	175	184	173	218	134

Statement showing value of property lost and found during 1980 to 1989 in Kodagu district

Year	(Rs. in lakhs)		
	Value of property stolen Rs.	Value of property recovered Rs.	Percentage
1980	7.67	4.1	53.42
1981	10.00	7.68	76.80
1982	6.61	1.81	27.38

Year	Value of property stolen Rs.	Value of property recovered Rs.	Percentage
1983	9.89	3.75	37.90
1984	10.93	6.82	62.37
1985	15.32	9.3	60.71
1986	16.49	2.36	14.30
1987	24.94	11.31	45.35
1988	17.77	6.64	37.35
1989	19.07	10.92	57.28

Statement showing the deaths due to accidents with causes thereof in Kodagu district during 1980 to 1989

Cause for	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
Accident	25	23	20	21	29	30	10	5	30	35
Snake bite	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	3	2	2
Electrocution	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	5
Lightning	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3
Vehicle accident	23	25	36	19	34	33	34	39	39	40
Falling from Hights	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	11
Falling of heavy things	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
burn-wounds	-	-	6	-	3	1	-	6	21	5
By wild animals	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	4
In mines	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Miscellaneous	36	58	73	160	68	77	54	75	43	51

Details of detection of some offences (percentage) in Kodagu District during 1980 to 1989

Offences	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
Murder	21	40	89	67	78	80	85	100	100	100
Dacoity	-	-	50	100	-	100	-	-	100	-
Robbery	36	48	37	70	66	50	50	33	34	50

Offences	1980	1981	1982	1983	1984	1985	1986	1987	1988	1989
Theft	58	62	37	39	62	65	22	45	37	51
Riots	90	95	80	85	90	60	70	100	100	75
Rape	100	100	100	100	100	90	60	60	100	100

Details of sandalwood smuggling cases reported during 1980 to 1989 in Kodagu district are as follows: 1980-139, 1981-165, 1982- 173, 1983-189, 1984-107, 1985-127, 1986-114, 1987-115, 1988-135, and 1989-105.

Statement showing district-level prosecutions and cases in which punishments were awarded in Kodagu

Year	Prosecution	Penalties awarded
1980	1,476	229
1981	1,385	148
1982	1,388	140
1983	1,643	138
1984	1,101	91
1985	1,071	78
1986	1,139	84
1987	1,157	82
1988	1,249	391
1989	1,637	63

Details of Police force in Kodagu district as on 31.3.1990

Superintendent of Police-1;
Deputy Superintendents of Police-3.

A. Civil

1. Police Inspectors	4
2. Police Sub-Inspector	26
3. Assistant Police Sub-Inspectors	3
4. Head-constables	114
5. Constables	351
Total	498

B. Armed Reserve Force

1. Armed Police Inspector	1
2. Armed Police Sub-Inspectors	3
3. Armed Assistant Police Sub-inspectors	5
4. Armed head-constables	30
5. Armed Constables	161

Wireless Unit

1. Sub-Inspectors	3
2. Assistant Sub-Inspectors	3
3. Head-constables	13
4. Constables	7
Total	26

This include two women police including one Head constable

<u>Administration</u>	5
<u>Staff</u>	
1) Gazetted Assistant	1
2) Others Staff	37
Total	<u>38</u>
Grand Total	762 + 4

Details of police stations in Kodagu District as on 31.3.90

1) Police stations 16, 2) Police out-posts 15, 3) Traffic force 3, 4) Transport Central Police-Nil, 5) Food Cell-Nil, 6) Forest Cell-Nil, 7) Detective Corps-1, 8) Vigilance Corps-1, 9) Radio unit-1, and 10) D.A.R.-1.

There is a Civil Rifle Training Centre in Kodagu district and during the period from 1.7.89 to 31.12.89, 25 persons were trained by the centre. The total number of persons trained by the Centre from its inception is 211.

All villages in the district have been brought under Village Defence Rules. The total strength of the village Defence force is 143, and upto 1989, 2,290 persons have been appointed. These include 143 Dalapathis also. Besides, 100 Dalapathis have been recruited to discharge Police Patel duties. Of the 2,280 appointed to the Village Defence Force, the break-up is as follows: S.Cs-89, S.Ts-46, Backward Classes-128 and others, 2,026.

Bar Association, Madikeri was established in 1928. In the beginning there were only five members. Now, in 1990 the membership has risen to 106. Among them four are women lawyers. Somvarpet Bar Association was started in 1979 with a membership of 10. In 1991 the strength was 19 including two women lawyers. Virajpet Bar Association, was started in 1962 with a membership of 9. In 1991 the strength has increased to 68 including two women lawyers.

Expenditure on Police establishment in Kodagu District during 1981-82 to 1990-91

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)	Year	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)
1981-82	51.85	1986-87	111.10
1982-83	57.86	1987-88	150.50
1983-84	70.81	1988-90	figures not available
1984-85	71.58	1989-90	200.20
1985-86	76.54	1990-91	250.00

Details of Welfare schemes implemented from Police Benevolent Fund in the district are as follows: (1) Financial assistance was extened in 1983 to 189 persons, in 1984 to 172 persons, in

1985 to 176 persons, in 1986 to 180 persons, in 1987 to 187 persons and in 1989 to 249 persons under the welfare scheme.

2) Every year children of police attending from Class 1 to 10th have been granted educational assistance, and it is so arranged that every one avails this facility.

3) Policemen and their family members have been extended maximum medical assistance in emergent cases from out of this Fund.

4) Television and V.C.P. have been arranged for the entertainment of policemen and their family members and once in a week. cinema shows are also arranged.

5) About 200 family members of Policemen have been provided with one sewing machine each, through Bank Loan, so that they could sew clothes during their leisure time.

6) In the Welfare Centre 14 sewing machines for stitching uniforms for Policemen have been provided. About 800 uniforms were got stitched and remuneration to the tune of Rs.20,000 has been given to those who stitched the uniforms.

7) For the benefit Policemen 200 cooking gas cylinders and stoves have been allotted an easy instalments.

8) About 200 Policemen have been provided with televisions under financial assistance through the nationalised banks, for their entertainment and it is so arranged as to benefit maximum numbers of families.

9) For the benefit all Policemen in the district, a Welfare Centre has been established in Virajpet, where sewing machines are provided and a tailoring teacher is also appointed to impart training in tailoring to the family members of the policemen. Besides, nursery school has also been started.

10) At the headquarters, a tailoring school has been opened. A nursery has also been started and two women instructors have been appointed.

11) There is sufficient amount in the Retired Policemen's fund at present, and it is recommended that letters may be addressed to the Central office of the Retired Officers Association to facilitate the sanction of educational and medical assistance.

12) In cases of deaths of Retired Police Officers, financial assistance of Rs.100 is sanctioned on the application of the concerned through the local police station. As this amount is considered to be meagre, recommendations have been submitted to the Central Office to enhance the amount to Rs.500.

13) A proposal to build a guest house to the officers from the Benevolent fund has been mooted.

With a view to protecting forest wealth, the office of the Superintendent C.O.D., Forest Unit, has been functioning at Madikeri since 1980. The strength of the staff is nine. The jurisdiction of the office extends to the districts of Kodagu, Mysore and Dakshina Kannada. Forest Mobile

Squads were created at Virajpet (1 Police Superintendent, 6 H.C. and 1 P.C), at Madikeri (1 P.S.I., 2 H.C. and 1 P.C.) in 1972 and at Makutta (1 P.S.I., 2 H.Cs and 1 P.C.) in 1980. Besides 14 check-post units were created in the district at Makutta, Matre, Kolimakki, Udumbe, Mambail, Kurat, Baikatte, Chamberi, Kotekan, Mandagana, Beekadu, Mundoti, Taluppukal, Keepalli.

Statement showing cases of sandalwood smuggling detected and suits filed in Kodagu district during 1986 to 1990:

Sl. Year No.	Smuggling of Sandalwood			Smuggling of other trees		
	Suit	No. of arrests	Value (in lakhs) Rs.	Suit	No. of arrests	Value (in lakhs) Rs.
1. 1986	14	1	3.36	112	180	12.48
2. 1987	18	37	5.13	141	201	8.35
3. 1988	30	-	7.32	107	-	12.72
4. 1989	86	43	2.40	145	150	17.80
5. 1990	92	57	15.31	74	58	5.62

Source: Police Dept, Forest Unit, Madikeri.

In this district, Legal Aid Cell came into existence in 1983. Details as to persons who received legal aid during 1984 to 1990 are as follows: 1984-39; 1985-100; 1986-146; 1987-107; 1988-93; 1989-96 and 1990-108. The office has one Secretary (Honorary), one Administrative Assistant and one Dafedar.

Details of medals awarded to police staff in Kodagu district are as follows : B.Paapu, P.S.I. Forest Vigilance Force, Makutta was awarded Chief Ministers' bronze medal in 1987 for having detected Sandalwood smuggling. Mahabala Shetty, P.S.I. Forest Vigilance Force, Makutta was awarded Chief Ministers' Silver medal in 1989. Nageshwara Rao PSI, Forest Vigilance squad Madikeri and M.T.Bopayya, Head Constable, Vigilance Force, were awarded Chief Minister's Silver Medal in 1991.

Details of steps taken in respect of prevention of production and sale of illicit liquor are as follows : 1989-90, 528 (359) cases for possession of illicit liquor were registered. Of these 463 (177) cases were disposed of by the Court. Details regarding destroyed liquor etc. : Liquor 1,63,035 (1,11,122) litres, Ganja 3,200 K.G. (23,350), Indian made liquor 1,893 litres (1,930), Arrack 68,000 litres, Spirit 750 litres and beer 40,000 litres. The figures given in brackets pertain to 1990-91. Details for the year 1990-91 regarding the last three items are not available.

Fire Force

Prior to 1989 there was no separate Fire Force in this districts. The Police department discharged those functions. In the year 1989 the following staff was appointed under the control of the Director of Fire Force, Bangalore. Sub-Officer-1, Leading Fireman-2, driver-2, fireman-14,

total : 19. The department received 11 calls in 1989 and 26 calls in 1990. The value of property destroyed was Rs.1,79,200 in 1989 and Rs.1,58,900 in 1990 and the value of property saved by the department for the said years was Rs.12,63,800 and Rs.12,38,800 respectively.

PRISONS

There are no records to show that there was a Central Jail during the Raja's regime. The jails were either in the forts or adjacent to the palaces. Even under British rule, the prisoners were kept in the jail in the Madikeri fort. In 1868, the doctors and the engineers in charge of the building had recommended for a separate building for the jail. As there was difference of opinion regarding a suitable site, the then Deputy Inspector General of the Medical department, government of India, Dr.Oak paid a visit to Madikeri and recommended the site selected by the Medical Officer, discarding the site selected by the Chief Engineer for the prison building. The site was approved by the then Chief Commissioner also. The prison in the fort had many deficiencies. There was accommodation for only 94 prisoners. As per Government order of 1868, the prisoners were kept in temporary sheds built on the newly selected site. The health of prisoners deteriorated gradually, and it was concluded that the place was unfit for dwelling. A building could not be constructed on the new plot because of financial stringency. In the meantime, the prison in the fort was altered and a number of works were effected. There after the number of prisoners in the Madikeri district prison was restricted. Prisoners with shorter term of sentence and under trial prisoners were kept in Taluka prisons or lock-ups. For the first time in 1914, women prisoners were kept in Madikeri prison. The number of prisoners at the beginning of the century in the Madikeri prison was 68. The Madras prison manual was made applicable to prisoners in Kodagu in the year 1924. The average number of prisoners in those prisons even in 1920-30 was 68. Besides the Central jail in Madikeri, there were four sub jails. During the years thereafter, there was the Central Jail in Madikeri, one sub-jail in Virajpet, and 19 lock-ups in different police stations. Prisoners undergoing imprisonment for less than 10 years were kept in Madikeri jail and the others were sent to Cannanore Central Jail of the then Malabar district. Women prisoners were sent to Vellore jail. Upto 1954-55 the accommodation available in Madikeri jail was only for 129 prisoners and the average number of prisoners there was 50 only. The Medical Officer for Kodagu state was ex-officio Superintendent of Madikeri jail and the Subedar of Virajpet Taluka was the Deputy Superintendent of the Jail there. Chief Commissioner, Kodagu was the Inspector General of prisons. The sub-jail in Virajpet was closed on 1.4.56.

After Kodagu became a district in the new Mysore State (1956) the Madikeri jail continued to be there only and the district Surgeon was the Superintendent. Accommodation continued to be for 129 prisoners. In 1962 it was 96 and in 1963 it was 75. There was provision for separate accommodation in this jail for women prisoners and one wardress was in charge thereof. The supervision of the jails was in charge of one Jailor and two Warders. There were separate rooms for prisoners and they were given *dosa* and coffee daily in the morning and meals at noon and at night. Every male prisoner was given two *jubbas*, two knickers, plates and cups. Radio was provided for entertainment. There was an Advisory Committee for the prisons, which consisted of officials and non-officials. Prisoners undergoing long period of imprisonment were sent either to

Mysore Jail or Bangalore Jail. The total expenditure incurred on the Madikeri jail for the year 1963 was Rs.43,248 and per prisoner Rs.57 were expended.

The average number of prisoners in this jail was 100, and in 1990 the number was 110. The annual expenditure per prisoner in this jail during 1985-86 to 1989-90 is as follows: 1985-86- Rs.5,673; 1986-87 - Rs.5,238; 1987-88 - Rs.8,000; 1989-90 - Rs.8,263; 1990-91 - Rs.8,714. The percentage of literates in this jail was 30 in 1990. Annual expenditure for 1989-90 was Rs.6.82 lakhs, for 1990- 91 was Rs.6.75 lakhs and for 1991-92 it was Rs.10.18 lakhs. The number of prisoners who escaped from the jail during 1989 to 1992 was 2. The break-up as per age of prisoners in 1991 was: 18 to 21 yrs-10; 21 to 50 yrs-9; 51 to 80-2. The staff of the jail as in 1992 was Jailer -1 ; Principal Warder-1.

Details of Criminal suits decided in Kodagu during 1989-90

Details	Sessions Court (Sessions suits)	City Civil and Sessions Court	Magistrate's Court
Balance at the beginning of the year	127	22	4,675
Cases registered during the year	42	70	7,717
Total suits	169	92	14,291
Suits decided	11	2	9,182
Number of persons connected with the suit (at the beginning)	371	56	10,210
Subjected to trial:	105	156	15,080
Persons exonerated	46	13	3,793
Persons sentenced	-	-	9.762
Average number of days required to dispose of the suit	950	140.50	

Details of miscellaneous Civil suits in Kodagu District During 1990-91

Suits	Court of the District Judge		Court of Civil Judges		Munsiff Courts	
	Registered	decided	Registered	decided	Registered	decided
Original suit	25	27	113	89	1,113	1523
Small causes	-	-	67	99	28	24
Execution	56	71	88	126	372	358
Miscellaneous	400	327	361	196	404	140
Insolvency petition	1	2	-	-	-	-
Regular appeals	11	17	65	40	-	-
Other appeals	54	57	17	25	-	-

(Number of suits pending at the beginning of the year has not been given here)

**Details as to number of Judges-disposal of suits and expenditure in the
Kodagu district in 1990-91.**

Court and Judges	Original Suits		Appeals		Amount paid to the Court Rs.	Expenditure Rs.
	Small causes	Others	Original	Others		
Court of District Judge-1	27	327	17	57	4.77	2.81
District Judge-1						
Court of Civil Judge-1	420	793	252	103	15.71	21.83
Civil Judge-1						
Munsiff Courts-5						
Munsiffs-5	1,141	141	-	-	10.62	21.72

(Rs. in lakhs)

(Taluka level figures are not available in full)

Home Guards

In 1989 Units of Home Guards functioned in the following places, in Kodagu district : Madikeri, Somvarpet, Shanviarasanthé, Virajpet, Moornadu, Ponnampet, Bhagamandala, Siddapur and Shantalli. Details of the staff in the district are as follows: Madikeri : Commandant, Adjutant, District quarter master, Company Commander, Platoon Commander and Sergeants. Kushalnagar : Staff officer, Senior Platoon Commander and Seargent. Virajpet : Senior Platoon Commander and Seargent. Shantalli : Platoon Commander and Seargents, and at Ponnampet, Bhagamandala and Somvarpet there are Assistant Section Leader and Section Leaders. Besides, there are Section Leaders and Assistant Section Leaders in the other centres also. Details of expenditure of this department during 1985-86 to 1988-89 are as follows: 1985-86, Rs.2.20 Lakhs, 1986-87 Rs.3.25 lakhs; 1987-88 Rs.3 lakhs; 1988-89 Rs.5.2 lakhs.