

CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

Earlier period

UNDER the ruling dynasties of yore, the police system was simple though vigorous. It was the duty of the headman of the village to secure the village against thieves and robbers. He exercised the authority of a police magistrate, with the assistance of the *Talavar* and co-operation of the villagers. There were *Kavalgars* in groups of villages, who did police duties. The town assemblies administered law and order and kept a watch on movement of suspicious persons coming into and leaving the towns. Treason against the ruler or the State was considered a heinous offence for which punishment was execution. The police organisation received considerable attention, and security administration was generally rigorous. The responsibility for safety of person and property was entrusted to the district officers who had to preserve peace and order. There were also spies who sent reports to higher authorities. The governors and *Dandanayukas* were responsible for maintenance of law and order in their areas. The *Patnada Chavadi*, which was the headquarters of the police at the metropolis and which supervised the work of the village watchmen also, under the Wodeyar rulers of Mysore, was continued under Haidar Ali and Tipu Sultan also, with addition of a considerable number of spies to gather intelligence of every type. Later, under the administration of Dewan Purnaiya (1799-1811), the *Amildar* of each taluk was made the head of the police in his jurisdiction, and he disposed of all minor complaints. For protecting the life and property of the people, there were armed police officials called the *Kandachar* police. In 1834, the British Commission promulgated a code under a special *Hukumnama* which regulated the day-to-day duties of the *Kandachar* police. This force was meant exclusively for attending to police duties during normal times and to assist the defence forces during times of grave public disorders. The *Amildar* was assisted in his duties by a *Killedar*, *Daffedars*, *Hoblidars* and *Shekdars*. In 1844, a Superintendent of Police was appointed with powers to recruit, transfer, promote and discharge all officials under him from the *Killedars* downwards. In 1873, the Deputy Commissioner was made the head of the police force in the district.

The direction of the police force in Mysore, after the rendition of the State in 1881, was at first in the hands of the Dewan, and the Deputy Commissioners of the districts. In 1885, an officer was designated as the Inspector-General of Police; he was also Inspector-General of Forests and Plantations and Director of Agriculture and Statistics. An Assistant Commissioner of Police was appointed for each district and he acted under the general supervision of the Deputy Commissioner. The *Amildars* and Deputy *Amildars* continued to be the heads of police in their jurisdictions and were assisted by Police Inspectors and *Jamedars*. At the end of 1891, the Police Department was again re-organised and an Inspector-General of Police was appointed as the full-time head of the Department and Assistant Commissioners of Police were graded as Superintendents and Assistant Superintendent of Police. The police force continued to consist of both the regular police, and the village police who were hereditary village servants. In 1901-02, the village police were provided with a uniform and lances. The District Police comprised the Taluk Police and District Reserve Force including the Armed Emergency Reserve, the former occupying the various stations for doing ordinary police duties and the latter being attached to the District Police Office. In the latter part of the year 1908-09, a separate Criminal Investigation Department was organised. A separate Railway Police Force was also organised. Each village was made responsible for local protection. In 1913, when the Police Department was further re-organised, *Jamedars* were replaced by Sub-Inspectors.

After Rendition

After the new Mysore State was formed in 1956, in order to bring about uniformity in the police administration throughout the State, the Mysore Police Act, 1963 (Mysore Act No. 4 of 1964), was adopted and it came into force with effect from 2nd April 1965. The functions, powers and administrative set-up of the police are now governed by this Act.

In recent years, there has been considerable agrarian unrest in the district, which has subsided after the enactment of the tenancy laws. Now and then, there have been agitations by political parties on behalf of tenants and landless labourers and other workers for redressal of their grievances. There have been also a few sporadic minor agitations by labourers engaged in the irrigation and power projects. In 1960, there was also a fight between Tamil and Malayalee labourers employed in the project works at Kargal and there was looting of hotels.

Law and order situation

Between 1959 and 1972, there were a few scuffles and consequent tensions between groups of two communities at Sagar, Shimoga, Ripponpet, Nonabur, Basavani and Araga. Timely action by the authorities with the co-operation of leaders of public opinion restored the situation to normalcy. Factions in

Tyavanige, Kengalahalli (1959), Kulambi, Kathalagere and Goppenahalli village (1960) led to breaches of peace and rioting and the armed reserve police had to be rushed to the spots. There were also three cases of rioting during elections of local bodies at Honnali, Hole-honnur and Goppenahalli. In 1966, a number of families from Kerala had illegally occupied Government lands in some villages of Shimoga and Tirthahalli taluks. The District Police carried out the eviction without giving room for any unhappy incidents. During the same year, some political parties offered *Satyagraha* on railway lines, picketed some post offices and observed *bundhs* to protest against the reopening of the Belgaum issue.

In 1967, there were three stay-in strikes by sections of workers of the Mysore Iron and Steel Ltd. During the same year, the Life Insurance Corporation employees belonging to class III went on a strike at Shimoga as a protest against the introduction of auto-machines in the Corporation. There have been some incidents of students' unrest in the district. During 1968, the students of Shimoga and Bhadravati carried on an "anti-Hindi" agitation. In 1969, the students of Shimoga, workers of the Mysore Iron and Steel Ltd., Bhadravati, and members of the Karnataka Yuvaka Sangha, Bhadravati, agitated for reduction of prices of eatables in hotels. In 1972 also, there was a protest demonstration by the college students of Shimoga against rise in prices of eatables in hotels, room rents and bus charges.

There was a call for 'Shimoga Bundh' on 30th March 1970 to urge the Union Government for implementation of the Mahajan Commission's recommendations on Karnataka-Maharashtra border dispute and also to protest against the alleged police excesses in Shimoga town and other places in the district. In the course of the 'bundh', a crowd pelted stones at the police. A case was registered and several persons were arrested. Prohibitory orders were promulgated by the District Magistrate in the Shimoga town for five days from 31st March 1970. Nevertheless, a procession was taken out in Shimoga, the next day, in protest against the arrests, and stones were pelted at the Doddapet Police Station and the Taluk Office resulting in injuries to some police personnel. As lathi charge and bursting of tear-gas shells proved ineffective, the police opened fire to disperse the crowd. In the firing, one person died and 31 were injured.

In 1971, as a result of a dispute between the Power Corporation, Jog, and its workers regarding the proposed retrenchment and re-employment, there was some altercation and unruly behaviour. Since warnings and a lathi charge had no effect, the police officers on duty opened fire in the air and brought the situation under control. In 1972, as a sequel to a dispute between the workers and the management of the Mysore Iron and Steel

Ltd., Bhadravati, the Managing Director and the Joint General Manager were *gheraoed*. A lock-out was declared from 19th September 1972. A group of workers indulged in pelting stones and set fire to a police van and attempted to snatch away fire-arms from the possession of the District Armed Reserve policemen. As a result, the police opened fire in which one person was killed and another was injured. A prohibitory order under Section 144 of the Criminal Procedure Code was also promulgated for some days.

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

Class	Nature of crime	Years		
		1971	1972	1973
1	Offences against State, public tranquillity, safety and justice.	77	177	130
2	Serious offences against persons	415	472	373
3	Serious offences against persons and property or against property.	333	457	437
4	Minor offences against persons	146	151	226
5	Minor offences against property	673	736	748
6	Other offences not specified	34	32	..
Total ..		1,678	2,025	1,914

The number of grave crimes committed in the district during the years 1971, 1972 and 1973 was as follows :—

Sl. No.	Nature of crime	Number of cases		
		1971	1972	1973
1	Murder	41	16	14
2	Dacoity	3	3	1
3	Robbery	3	..	1
4	House-breaking and theft	4	1	3
5	Ordinary thefts	27	14	15
Total ..		78	34	34

There was thus a decrease under various heads so far as during this period was concerned. No special reasons could be attributed for the decrease in the incidence of murders. The decrease under other heads could be attributed to the effective

surveillance over bad characters. The subjoined statement gives classification of murders according to motives :—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Motive</i>	1971	1972	1973
1	Property dispute ..	4	1	...
2	Personal enmity or vendetta ..	4	..	...
3	Murder for gain ..	6	1	..
4	Sexual causes	8	4	1
5	Sudden provocation ..	1	..	..
6	Lunacy .. ..	..	..	...
7	Other causes	18	10	13
Total ..		41	16	14

The number of cases of rioting or unlawful assembly registered during the year 1973 was 114 as against 168 cases in 1972 and 72 cases in 1971. The increase during the year 1972 was due to land disputes and sporadic agrarian agitations in some taluks. Preventive action under Section 107 of the Cr. P.C. was also taken in this respect.

**Quinquennial
yearly averages**

The statement given hereunder shows the quinquennial yearly averages pertaining to various categories of crimes committed in the district during the period from 1963 to 1967 and 1968 to 1972 :—

<i>Sl. No.</i>	<i>Nature of crime</i>	<i>Quinquennial average</i>	
		1963 to 1967	1968 to 1972
1	Cognisable crimes ..	1,485.6	1,716.2
2	Rioting	49.8	92.6
3	Murder	23.4	28.8
4	Kidnapping and abduction ..	8.2	8.8
5	Dacoity	1.8	2.8
6	Robbery	5.2	6.6
7	House-breaking and thefts ..	351.8	352.2
8	Cheating	15.6	27.6
9	Breach of trust	33.0	27.2

The figures indicate that there was an increase in the number of offences during the latter five-year period under all heads except the last one and thus there was an upward trend on the whole.

**Un-natural
deaths**

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

given below shows the incidence of un-natural deaths during the recent years :—

Sl. No.	Category	1970	1971	1972	1973
1	Accidental drowning ..	67	65	70	71
2	Suicidal drowning ..	27	27	42	37
3	Suicidal hanging ..	21	8	24	18
4	Snake bites ..	5	5	2	9
5	Attack by wild beasts ..	..	1	1	..
6	Burns ..	26	25	21	15
7	Electric shocks ..	6	5	2	2
8	Lightning ..	..	2	..	..
9	Motor accidents ..	38	41	29	24
10	Rail accidents ..	..	..	..	..
11	Fall from height ..	21	18	25	10
12	Crushed by weight ..	..	4	2	2
13	Gunshot ..	..	..	..	..
14	Poisoning ..	114	128	136	141
15	Other cases ..	72	52	66	70
Total ..		397	381	420	399

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

Motor
vehicle offences

Sl. No.	Category	1970	1971	1972	1973
1	Over-speeding ..	77	138	142	350
2	Using of dazzling lights ..	157	132	136	166
3	Violation of traffic signals ..	53	38	41	60
4	Defective vehicles ..	23	24	26	128
5	Using routes without permits	47	42	49	79
6	Driving without driving licence ..	224	214	235	230
7	Illicit taxies ..	96	386	392	418
8	Non-payment of tax ..	..	10	13	12
9	Over-loading ..	932	530	601	729
10	Miscellaneous ..	3,883	3,147	3,686	2,426
Total ..		5,492	4,661	5,321	4,598

The amount of fines collected for 1971, 1972 and 1973 was Rs. 15,757, Rs. 25,029 and Rs. 13,813 respectively. The subjoined table gives figures of motor accidents for the past few years :—

Category of vehicles	1964	1970	1971	1972	1973
Motor cars ..	35	39	34	37	27
Motor buses ..	26	33	37	46	28
Motor lorries ..	81	64	65	53	35
Motor cycles and Scooters ..	..	31	28	30	35
Jeeps ..	..	6	2	6	5
Other vehicles ..	..	6	15	11	11
Total ..	142	179	181	183	141

The number of persons killed and injured in road accidents during those years were as follows :—

Sl. No.	Particulars	1964	1970	1971	1972	1973
1	Persons killed ..	23	41	41	29	25
2	Persons injured ..	247	224	270	257	215

Detection of cognisable crimes

Crime-detection involves perseverance, scientific approach and production of fool-proof evidence. It is natural to assume that not all cases put up by the police end in conviction. The percentage of detection of cognisable crimes during the years 1964, 1970, 1971, and 1972 were 43, 32, 26 and 25 respectively. The percentages of detection of grave crimes for some years were as given below :—

Sl. No.	Name of crime	1964	1970	1971	1972	1973
1	Murder ..	65.5	36.8	47.7	13	59
2	Dacoity ..	66.6	100	..	..	100
3	Robbery ..	33.3	..	..	28	100
4	House-breaking and theft ..	38.2	37.2	28	27	33
5	Ordinary theft ..	45	40.2	35.5	36	28
6	Cattle theft ..	53	25	22	36	..

Investigation was refused under Section 157(1) of the Criminal Procedure Code in respect of 9 cases in 1972 and 13 cases in 1973, as the properties involved were either unidentifiable or of trivial nature.

The position in regard to sessions cases as at the end of 1973 was as indicated below :—

No. pending carried forward	No. committed to sessions in 1973	Total	Convicted	Percentage of convictions	Acquitted	Pending trial
1	19	20	1	5%	3	4

Property lost and recovered

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

Year	Value of property in Rs.		Recovery percentage	
	Lost	Recovered		
1964	..	2,19,759	75,939	34.5
1970	..	4,28,507	1,88,912	43.8
1971	..	8,20,245	5,81,800	71.0
1972	..	4,45,039	3,10,365	57.0
1973	..	8,10,678	4,00,683	49.4

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

<i>Particulars</i>	1964	1970	1971	1972	1973
No. of cases decided by courts ..	634	800	837	874	1,082
No. of cases which ended in conviction ..	361	368	300	327	397
No. of cases ending in acquittal or discharge ..	220	345	419	395	474
No. of cases compounded ..	53	87	118	152	211
No. of cases otherwise disposed of ..	30	71	60	70	57
Percentage of convictions ..	52.8%	46%	35%	37.4%	44.4

Security cases : The number of security cases put up in the district during 1973 was 42 under Section 109 and 50 under Section 110 of the Criminal Procedure Code.

The Mysore Restriction of Habitual Offenders Act, 1962, is in force in the district. Persons sentenced to substantive terms of imprisonment on not less than three occasions for any of the offences indicated in the Act are classified as habitual offenders. There were nine such habitual offenders in the district at the end of 1972. They are expected to notify their residence to the police whenever they go out of the district. The descriptive particulars of the out-of-view criminals are published in the weekly crime occurrence sheets and the criminal intelligence gazettes. Whenever needed, simultaneous raids are conducted by the local police in co-ordination with the police of the border districts to spot out the out-of-view criminals and also to round up the suspects. The subordinate police staff are encouraged with suitable rewards for tracing the out-of-view criminals. History sheets are maintained at all the police stations and at the District Crime Records Bureau about the previous convicts, absconders, boot-leggers and rowdies. In order to have control over their criminal activities, frequent physical checks are conducted.

Habitual offenders

Prohibition was first introduced in Shimoga district with effect from 1st April 1950 under the Mysore Prohibition Act, 1948. It was lifted from the 15th October 1967. Under the Mysore Prohibition (Amendment) Act, 1967, the District Police were in charge of the work of enforcement of prohibition. A district Prohibition Intelligence Bureau was also functioning for the purpose. The following tables show the nature and number of cases booked and fines levied and realised in the district during some years prior to discontinuance of prohibition :—

Prohibition

<i>Year</i>	<i>Illicit distillation</i>	<i>Possession of liquor</i>	<i>Drunkennness</i>	<i>Total No. of cases booked</i>
1958 ..	340	1,978	5,462	7,680
1959 ..	290	1,751	6,165	8,206
1960 ..	256	1,943	6,607	8,806
1965 ..	360	1,220	1,954	3,534
1966 ..	362	1,390	1,784	3,536
1967 ..	190	1,268	1,360	2,818

(upto 15th Oct.)

Year	Amount of fines levied		Amount recovered	
		Rs.		Rs.
1958	..	1,07,484		1,02,197
1959	..	1,17,610		1,08,144
1960	..	1,25,722		1,16,477
1965	..	46,824		32,797
1966	..	46,843		41,393
1967	..	31,330		30,685
(upto 15th October)				

**Suppression of
Immoral traffic**

The Suppression of Immoral Traffic in Women and Girls Act, 1956, is in force in the district. No separate or special staff have been appointed to deal with the offences under this Act. The Superintendent and the Deputy Superintendent of Police of the Shimoga Sub-Division and the Assistant Superintendent of the Sagar Sub-Division are the special police officers for the purpose of dealing with offences under this Act. The following statement shows particulars of cases booked under the Act in the district during some recent years :—

Year	No. of cases booked	No. of cases which ended in conviction	No. of cases acquitted
1970	.. 20	16	4
1971	.. 22	22	..
1972	.. 25	25	..
1973	.. 22	22	..

**Forest Police
Squad**

With the objective of taking effective steps for protecting specially sandalwood, rosewood, teakwood and valuable forest produce and for preventing the smuggling of the same, a special police cell and special squads were formed at the police headquarters at Bangalore and they were placed under a Deputy Inspector-General of Police, in 1973. There is a District Forest Police Squad with Shiralkoppa as its headquarters. It consists of a Sub-Inspector of Police and six Head Constables and is provided with a jeep. It has to move about in the entire district. This Squad works under the direct supervision of the District Superintendent of Police and the control of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Forest Cell, Bangalore.

The cell has to keep itself in touch with officers of the Police, Forest and Vigilance Departments of this State and also of neighbouring States. The main work of the District Squad is to collect intelligence about forest offenders and offences and such information is utilised by the Superintendent of Police and Sub-divisional police officers to take effective action against theft or smuggling of valuable wood. The Squad has to do also surprise checking of forest permits and accounts. During the year 1973,

in all, 74 cases were booked for various forest offences by the Forest Police Squad, the local police and the Forest Department (six of the cases were detected by the Squad). Of 74 cases, 38 related to sandalwood. The value of woods recovered was Rs. 1,59,574 out of which sandalwood accounted for Rs. 69,559. Totally 64 persons were prosecuted. Six of them were convicted by the courts to undergo short-term imprisonment and to pay a fine. Others were on bail and the cases were pending trial.

In 1972, the prices of staple foodgrains and essential commodities continued to rise higher compared to those of previous year. Hence, a ban on inter-district movement of foodgrains was introduced. In this connection, one Head Constable and 24 constables of the civil police and four Head Constables and 24 constables of the District Armed Reserve Police were deputed to assist the revenue authorities at 21 check-posts on the borders of the district to prevent the smuggling of foodgrains out of the district.

The Superintendent of Police, Shimoga, is the officer incharge of the police administration of the entire district. He works directly under the control of the Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Central Range, Bangalore, who is responsible to the Inspector-General of Police in Karnataka, Bangalore. The Deputy Commissioner of the district is the executive District Magistrate and in that capacity, he is responsible for the maintenance of law and order. He has control over the police in so far as law and order matters are concerned. He has to enforce law and order through the police and secondly, he has to take regulatory and penal action. The Superintendent of Police is responsible for all matters relating to the Department's internal management and economy, maintenance of discipline and regular and punctual performance of all police duties in the district. He has to ensure prevention, investigation and detection of crimes and has to see that the staff posted under him are properly trained and kept efficient.

Organisation of District Police

For the purpose of police administration, the district is divided into two sub-divisions with headquarters at Shimoga and Sagar respectively. The Shimoga Sub-Division is headed by a Deputy Superintendent of Police, who is also Personal Assistant to the Superintendent of Police and has three circles, viz., Shimoga, Bhadravati and Channagiri. The Sagar Sub-Division is under the charge of an Assistant Superintendent of Police and consists of three circles, i.e., Sagar, Tirthahalli and Shikaripur. A Circle Inspector of Police is in charge of each circle which comprises three or four police stations. There is an Armed Reserve Police Force stationed at Shimoga and Bhadravati. The Circle Inspectors have to guide and supervise the work of Sub-Inspectors (Station House Officers) who are in charge of police stations. They have to investigate personally grave crimes occurring in their circles. The

Sub-Inspectors, who are responsible for the efficient working of police stations (which number 22 in the district), have to maintain law and order and also attend to prevention and detection of crimes occurring in their respective jurisdictions. There were 28 Sub-Inspectors of Police in the district and the break-up of this number was as follows as on 31st December 1974 :—

In charge of Police Stations ..	22	District Crime Record Bureau	1
Special Branch ..	1	Excise ..	1
District Prohibition ..	1	Traffic ..	1
Intelligence Bureau		Forest	
		Total ..	28

The 22 police stations in the district are located at the following places: Shimoga Circle—(1) Kote, (2) Doddapet, (3) Rural and (4) Kumsi; Bhadravati Circle—(1) New Town, (2) Old town and (3) Rural; Channagiri Circle—(1) Channagiri, (2) Santhebennur, (3) Honnali and (4) Nyamati; Sagar Circle—(1) Sagar, (2) Jog and (3) Kargal; Tirthahalli Circle—(1) Tirthahalli, (2) Malur, (3) Hosanagar and (4) Ripponpet; Shikaripur Circle—(1) Shikaripur, (2) Shiralkoppa, (3) Sorab, and (4) Anavatti. There are in all twenty-five police out-posts under sixteen police stations out of the twenty-two police stations. A Head Constable is in charge of each police outpost.

The Superintendent of Police has to inspect annually all sub-division offices, circle offices, police stations and out-posts, District Armed Reserve Force and District Police headquarters, while the Deputy Superintendent of Police and the Assistant Superintendent of Police have to inspect once in a year the circle offices, police stations and out-posts of their Sub-divisions. The Circle Inspectors in their turn have to inspect all the police stations and out-posts in their jurisdictions once in every half year ending with June and December. As at the end of 1973, the police force in the district was provided with 12 jeeps, 5 vans, 2 motor cycles and one station wagon.

Crime Record Bureau :—There is a District Crime Record Bureau (formerly called Intelligence Bureau) working under the direct control of the Superintendent of Police at Shimoga. It serves as the agency for collecting particulars about crimes and criminals and for maintaining records about them and it disseminates the information to police officers in and outside the district.

Special Branch :—A Unit named as District Special Branch is attached to the District Police Office. It is directly under the control of the Superintendent of Police. It has to collect intelligence concerning political, communal, social, criminal and any other matters of importance. In this section, there are one Inspector, one Sub-Inspector and one Assistant Sub-Inspector

assisted by nine *Daffedars* and in addition, one Special Branch Head Constable is stationed at Bhadravati and another at Sagar.

There is an anti-corruption squad consisting of an Inspector and a Sub-Inspector and supporting staff at Shimoga and it is under the direct control of the Special Inspector-General of Police, State Vigilance Commission, Bangalore.

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

**Special Cell for
untouchability
offences**

Civilian Rifle Training Centres were started at Shimoga, Sagar and Bhadravati during 1961, 1966 and 1971 respectively. The objective of such centres is to train the general public, more particularly law-abiding younger persons, in handling of fire arms so that they can defend themselves and others in times of emergency. The civilians are usually given a ten days' training and they are supplied with 30 rounds of 0.22 cartridges for the target-practice. The total number of civilians trained during the years 1970, 1971, 1972 and 1973 was 56, 99, 12 and 39 respectively.

**Civilian Rifle
Training Centres**

The Assistant Sub-Inspectors of Police, Head Constables and constables are now given washing/clothing/dress allowances at uniform rates of Rs. 6 in cities and Rs. 4 in mofussil places, per month. For the Inspectors and Sub-Inspectors, an annual uniform allowance of Rs. 100 is granted.

Police Welfare

One hundred and thirty officers and 569 men (constables) of the district (including District Armed Reserve) have been provided with Government quarters, while 77 officers and 187 constables are yet to get this facility. There is a policemen's co-operative society at Shimoga, which had 324 members as in 1973. It gives loans to members on easy terms. An amount of Rs. 17,251 was so advanced in 1972-73. There is also a Police Benevolent Fund which helps the police personnel in various ways. Monthly subscriptions are collected for this from the executive and ministerial staff. As at the end of 1974, the net balance of this fund stood at Rs. 3,48,946, after spending during the year a sum of Rs. 33,764 on items such as monetary reliefs, remuneration

to tailoring teachers, newspaper subscriptions, audit of accounts, and health centre.

The following are the other police welfare activities in the district : Three reading rooms and a library are being maintained. A reading room and the library are at the District Armed Reserve Lines, Shimoga, while there is a reading room at the Circle Police Lines, Shimoga, and at the Police Sub-Division Office at Sagar. In addition, every police station is provided with Kannada daily newspapers. Some of the police lines are supplied with radio sets. There are two health centres at the District Armed Reserve Lines, at Shimoga and Bhadravati. They are run with the assistance of the Lions Clubs. Physicians visit these centres once in a week. A children's park is being maintained at the District Armed Reserve Lines, Shimoga. Three tailoring units are functioning at Shimoga and Bhadravati. Two laundries and two hair-cutting saloons have been set up at the District Armed Reserve Lines at Shimoga and Bhadravati. A community hall has been constructed at the District Armed Reserve headquarters at Shimoga. There are two recreation centres at the District Armed Reserve Lines at Shimoga and Bhadravati, which have been provided with carom boards, harmoniums, *tablas*, *kanjiras*, etc. The small savings scheme organisation got constructed an open-air theatre at the D.A.R. headquarters Shimoga, in 1971 for holding cultural programmes. This is being maintained by the Police Department. A special Nutrition Centre has been opened at the District Armed Reserve Lines, Shimoga, for the benefit of the police children. They are being provided with free milk and *upama*. This is being run by the Banashankari Youth Association, Shimoga, with the aid of CARE and the Social Welfare Department.

Boys Battalion.—About 40 children of the District Armed Reserve staff, Shimoga, are being given physical training for forming a boys battalion. They are provided with uniform of white full pant, half-arm shirt, red *patti* for waist, white socks and white canvas shoes.

Police Lock-ups.—All the police stations in the district have small lock-ups for the safe custody of the suspected persons and persons in custody (with separate cells for men and women).

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

Sl. No.	Designation	As on 31st December 1974		
1	Superintendent of Police ..	..	..	1
2	Deputy Superintendent of Police/ Assistant Superintendent of Police	..	..	2
3	Circle Inspectors	..	..	7
4	Sub-Inspectors	..	..	28
5	Asst. Sub-Inspectors	..	..	4
6	Head Constables	..	..	141
7	Constables	..	..	629
Total ..		..	..	812
Armed Reserve :				
1	Reserve Inspector	..	..	1
2	Reserve Sub-Inspectors	..	..	2
3	Reserve Assistant Sub-Inspectors	..	..	3
4	Armed Head Constables	..	..	43
5	Armed Police Constables	..	..	204
Total ..		..	..	253
Radio staff :				
1	Assistant Sub-Inspector	..	..	1
2	Head Constables	..	..	6
3	Police Constables	..	..	3
Total ..		..	..	10
GRAND TOTAL ..		..	..	1,075

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

Year	Expenditure	Year	Expenditure
	Rs.		Rs.
1969-70	22,72,470	1972-73	31,07,190
1970-71	24,53,962	1973-74	33,86,205
1971-72	27,21,717		

Remand Home.—There is a Remand Home at Shimoga with a separate staff, set up with the objective of preventing juvenile delinquency. This home helps to rehabilitate helpless or socially handicapped young offenders and weans them away from bad means of livelihood. The juveniles are trained in arts and crafts, besides being given elementary general education (*see also Chapter XVII*).

Reception Centre.—Shimoga city has also a Reception Centre set up with the aim of rehabilitating women above the age of 18 years who are orphans, destitutes or un-married mothers, or

are divorced or deserted, and helpless girls who are in moral danger. The inmates are trained in knitting and other handicrafts (see also Chapter XVII).

There is only one Fire Station in the district at Shimoga and it is being run with the co-operation of the Shimoga Municipality since 5th March 1970, which is bearing 50 per cent of the total recurring and non-recurring charges of the Fire Station and has provided a site free of cost for the construction of a Fire Station building and staff quarters. Besides attending to fire calls, the Fire Station staff at Shimoga are also called upon to render assistance in rescuing persons from drowning, in flood rescue work, etc. During disturbances and emergencies, Fire Units are stationed as standby in such areas to work in close co-operation with the police force. The Fire Station is provided with an ambulance which is used for attending to emergency calls. Formerly, the fire service establishments were under the control of the Police Department. Now, they are under the control of a separate Director of Fire Force in Karnataka who is also the Commandant General, Home Guards and *ex-officio* Director of Civil Defence, Bangalore. Some particulars of the Fire Station at Shimoga are given in the following table:—

Particulars		1971	1972	1973	1974
Total number of calls received		88	132	150	162
Total loss estimated		Rs. 3,47,844	Rs. 4,52,092	Rs. 8,40,505	Rs. 13,99,145
Expenditure incurred on Fire Station.		(1970-71) Rs. 60,871	(1971-72) Rs. 51,350	(1972-73) Rs. 95,088	(1973-74) Rs. 1,43,785
due to fire					

A district office of Home Guards was started at Shimoga on 1st November 1963 and by 1973, the district had nine units, six of which were in taluk headquarters and the rest in other places. The enrolment is voluntary. The position as in 1973 is shown by the following statement:—

Unit at	Year of establishment	Number trained	Under training	Total
Shimoga	1963	171	42	213
Bhadrawati	1964	92	30	122
B. R. Project Colony	1967	78	..	78
Tirthahalli	1967	55	16	71
Channagiri	1968	50	9	59
Sagar	1970	115	3	118
Jog Falls	1972	48	..	48
Nagar	1972	73	..	73
Shikaripur	1973	1	76	77
Total	..	683	176	859

Home Guards

Fire Service Force

The Home Guards organisation imparts training with a view to instilling discipline and a sense of service in its members who are from different walks of life. They are trained in physical education, drill with arms, use of weapons, civil defence, fire-fighting, first aid, flood rescue work, driving of heavy vehicles, traffic control, security duty and leadership in such work. Selected Home Guards are given advanced training in Bangalore. In a month, they attend 16 parades, each of which is of three hours' duration. They are given free uniforms. The Home Guards of the district have helped in extinguishing fires in near and distant places and saving lives and properties. They assist law and order authorities in maintaining peace and order on occasions like general elections, taluk board elections, Republic Day and Independence Day celebrations, *dasara* and Ganesha festivals, sports meets, service camps, conferences, etc. Five Home Guards from this district participated in the ceremonial parade of the Republic Day (1972) at New Delhi. In the State-level championship competition held in Bangalore in 1972, the Home Guards of the district secured the first place in fire-fighting and second places in first-aid and kit-lay-out.

There is a Commandant of Home Guards for the district as a whole, who is assisted by an Adjutant, two Staff Officers (one for accounts another for training) and a Quarter-Master at Shimoga. For each of the units, there is a Commanding Officer in charge. There are 11 JCOs and 91 NCOs and 3 Instructors for the whole of the organisation in the district. The expenditure on the Home Guards Organisation in the district during the years 1973-74 and 1974-75 was : Rs. 84,413 and Rs. 1,07,848 respectively.

The village defence parties are constituted under the provisions of the Karnataka Village Defence Party Act, 1964, and the Rules made thereunder. These were begun to be formed in 1966. The important purposes and functions of these bodies are (1) aiding the police in matters of internal security, watch and ward patrolling and guarding, prevention of crimes, protection of persons and properties and maintenance of public order in the village, (2) assisting as an emergency labour force, the armed force, and other agencies responsible for maintenance of communications and essential services, and (3) conveying timely information to the proper authorities about local events and occurrences of significance and about movements of any suspicious characters. However, as yet only in a very few villages, the village defence parties have been formed and are working in the district.

**Village
defence parties**

The Railway Police force in Shimoga district consists of one Railway Police Sub-Inspector, four Head Constables and thirty constables. Besides a railway police station at Shimoga, there are two out-posts, one at Sagar and the other at Bhadravati. The

Railway police

Railway Police have jurisdiction over 63 kms. of the railway line from Shimoga to Birur and 98 kms. of the railway line from Shimoga to Talaguppa.

JAILS AND LOCK-UPS

There are two judicial lock-ups, one being the District Jail at Shimoga, and the other being the Taluk Lock-up at Sagar. The District Jail was established in 1872. It was under the overall control of the Chief Judge of Mysore who was also the Inspector General of Prisons, upto the time of Rendition in 1881. In 1897, the control of the District Jail was transferred to the Medical Department. By 1892, revised rules for the efficient up-keep of the jails were framed. In 1897, the British Indian Act XXVI of 1879, called the Prisons Act, was introduced in Mysore State. The District Jail at Shimoga was abolished on 1st June 1903, a District Lock-up being opened instead. After the attainment of Independence, a separate Prisons Department was created with an Inspector-General of Prisons as its head, with the object of paying more attention to the reform and welfare of the prisoners. In 1960, the District Lock-up, Shimoga, was upgraded to the level of a District Jail. The Inspector-General of Prisons in Karnataka, Bangalore, exercises general control over the District Jail and the Taluk Lock-up. The officer in charge of the District Jail, Shimoga, is designated as Superintendent. The Lock-up at Sagar is administered by a Jailer-cum-Lock-up Officer.

District Jail

The District Jail has a capacity for accommodating 139 male and 5 female prisoners at a time. It has about 45 acres of agricultural land which is cultivated by the prisoners. A small carpentry unit was sanctioned for the Jail in 1973. The receipts from agriculture during 1971 and 1972 were Rs. 8,007 and Rs. 6,228 respectively. The expenditure incurred on the prison (including the cost of prisoners' diet and the establishment) during 1971 and 1972 was Rs. 1,06,502 and Rs. 1,21,731 respectively.

Prisoners in the State are lodged in A, B and C classes. There is provision for only C class in the District Jail. Those sentenced to undergo imprisonment upto one year, under-trial prisoners, and those detained under the Security Act, civil prisoners, etc., are lodged in this Jail. The prisoners sentenced for more than one year are transferred to the Central Jail, Bangalore. Convicted female prisoners sentenced for more than one month are also sent to the Central Jail, Bangalore. The under-trials and those undergoing simple imprisonment need not work. The able-bodied among other prisoners are provided with work and wages are paid for the work turned out, depending upon the nature of the task. Vocational training in carpentry and agriculture is imparted to many inmates of the Jail.

The Taluk Lock-up, Sagar, was established in 1897 and it was originally located in the Taluk Office building itself. During the year 1942 at the time of the Quit-India Movement, as the space of this lock-up proved inadequate for housing the prisoners, it was shifted to the present building called the Sandal-Kothi. The capacity of the lock-up is 97 for males and 7 for females at a time. It has a big barrack for accommodating 50 prisoners, two small barracks for 20 under-trial prisoners each, and two cells, one for males and another for females for 7 prisoners each. The lock-up was under the administrative control of the Revenue Department upto 30th November 1971 when it was transferred to the control of the Prisons Department. Mostly under-trial prisoners are lodged here. Prisoners sentenced for more than one month are transferred to the District Jail, Shimoga. The convicted prisoners are deployed on miscellaneous work such as cooking, sanitation, sweeping, etc. The expenditure including the cost of the prisoners' diet and the establishment during 1971 and 1972 was Rs. 17,307 and Rs. 23,924 respectively.

**Taluk Lock-up,
Sagar**

The male prisoners are supplied with two shirts, two knickers, two caps, two underwears, one towel, one woollen rug, one mat, one mug, and women convicts are given two sarees, two jackets, etc. There is a canteen attached to the District Jail. Adult Education classes are conducted with the help of literate convicts. Moral lectures are also arranged occasionally. There are facilities for doing *bhajan* and playing games during evening hours. Educational films are screened for the benefit of prisoners by the Information Department. Newspapers and magazines are also provided to them. The prisoners are allowed to carry on correspondence and to have interviews with the members of their families. In exceptional circumstances such as serious illness or death of nearest relatives, they are permitted to go home on parole. The District Surgeon, Shimoga, and the Medical Officer of the General Hospital, Sagar, are the visiting Medical Officers of the District Jail, Shimoga, and the lock-up at Sagar respectively. Minor ailments are treated in the jail itself. The Discharged Prisoners Aid Society extends help for the rehabilitation of the released prisoners.

**Amenities to
prisoners**

ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE

In olden days, the king was the supreme authority of justice in highly important cases. An upright ruler was acting impartially even in cases in which his own relatives were involved. The aggrieved parties in momentous and serious cases could appeal to him, and he heard them and the respondents, and dispensed justice in an open court. The king appointed high judicial officers who were to adjudge morals as well as to decide cases of civil and criminal nature. It was also their duty to see to the proper administration of charitable endowments, and to check disloyalty to

the throne in their capacity as *Drohagharattas*. The *Dandana-nayakas* and the chiefs of the *nadus* also exercised magisterial and judicial powers of control and meted out punishments. Some of the officers were designated as *Dharmadhikaranas* or *Dharmakaranikas* who enquired into revenue, land and other property disputes and criminal cases and administered justice.

There were very few civil cases to be settled by the king's court or the chief judicial officers. In practice, the responsibility for settlement of disputes devolved primarily on the village assemblies and corporations of towns. Their function in this respect was adjudication. Disputes and questions had to be decided generally on the evidence of the leading men of the locality. When important disputes about boundaries of lands arose, the officers of the *nadu* and leading citizens inspected the property, heard evidence and gave decisions in the matter. Deliberations were carried on until a consensus or a compromise was reached. The decisions were recorded and it was incumbent on the parties concerned to accept the award and act according to it. In social and professional matters concerning castes and communities, at local level, the *kula* (clan), the *shreni* (trade guild), the *puga* (corporation of a functional caste or an occupation) and leading residents of the place used to act as local courts. The officers of the king were superior to these local courts. In the administration of justice, local customs and privileges of castes, corporations, etc., were also taken into consideration and any infringement of a recognised law or usage was visited with heavy penalties. In trials concerning heinous offences such as treachery or disloyalty to the throne, assault or other violent acts, sometimes ordeals were resorted to. Criminal justice was dispensed sometimes in a rough and ready manner.

The Hoysalas followed mostly the system of administration of justice handed down by the Gangas and the Chalukyas. The *Mahajanans* forming an entire group of families in any village performed several public duties of which the adjudication of civil and criminal cases pertaining to the area of their jurisdiction was also one. The governors, who had control over provinces, were in charge of maintaining peace in their respective areas. During the times of the Vijayanagar kings, the imperial court was assisted by *Pradvivekas* and *Sabhayas*. Governors, *Amatyas* and *Dharmadhikaris* administered justice which was based on traditional regulations as set forth by the ancient law-givers. Penalties imposed on guilty persons were severe and deterrent in nature. Very few thieves could flourish in the kingdom particularly during the time of Krishnadeva Raya.

Under Keladi
Nayakas

During the period of the Keladi Nayakas, the king was the highest judicial authority, as during the earlier periods. Rewards were given to those who assisted in tracking down criminals.

According to the "Shivatattvaratnakara" of Keladi Basavaraja, the king had to decide cases impartially in consultation with learned counsellors. As he could not attend to this work personally, learned men had to be authorised to preside over the trials of cases. The work gives an interesting account of the ways of detecting guilty persons, about deciding cases in which witnesses could not be found, disputes relating to properties, land boundaries, etc., and punishments to be meted out. The provincial governors had their own courts. The *panchayats*, the temple trustees, the caste elders, the heads of monasteries and merchant-guilds had powers to administer justice in their own spheres. Foreign travellers have spoken highly of the law and order situation during the rule of the Keladi Nayakas.

Under Haidar Ali and Tipu Sultan, administration of justice was mainly a local concern. The revenue officers acted also as judges. It was the duty of the *Amils* to investigate serious criminal cases and report to higher authorities for decision. There was a *Sadar* (Chief) Court at the capital for administering justice in accordance with the Muhammadan law. *Qazis* in important towns decided matters concerning succession, inheritance and other matters as per the provisions of the Muhammadan law.

In the administration of justice, during the regime of Dewan Purnaiya and thereafter, due regard was paid to age-old institutions and doctrines of the Hindu Law. Matters were usually determined according to earlier precedents and practices. The administration of civil justice was conducted in a manner analogous to that of criminal justice. As per the proposal of Purnaiya, a separate department of justice was constituted at Mysore. It consisted of two *Bakshis* as judges, two *Sheristedars*, six persons of respectability taken from the *Mutsarkhat* styled *Panchayatdars* who formed a standing *Panchayat* with one *Qazi* and one *Pandit*. In this Court, both civil and criminal cases were heard. Matters relating to caste or community were referred for decision to the *Pandit* or *Qazi* as the case may be, who was aided by a *Panchayat* of such individuals as were considered competent. In the taluks also, the parties to a dispute either nominated a *Panchayat* of individuals of their choice themselves for the purpose of adjudication and agreed to abide by their decision, or they applied to the taluk authorities who ordered a *Panchayat* usually composed of the *Killedar* and two or three of the principal *Yajamans* and *Shettis*, and the matter was settled as they decided. In cases of difficulty or when life or liberty of a prisoner was concerned, the case was fixed for final hearing before the Dewan who pronounced his decision in consultation with the Resident. The penalty of death was inflicted only in cases of murder or plunder. Theft and robbery were punished with imprisonment and hard labour in proportion to the nature of crimes.

During later period

Dewan K. Seshadri Iyer, who headed the administration from 1883 to 1901, elaborated a system of judicial administration which won a high reputation in the country. In 1884, a plurality of judges was introduced in the Chief Court. In cases where traditional laws and customs were not applicable, the courts were to act according to justice, equity and good conscience. In 1887, a system of trial by jury was introduced in sessions cases. Under the Chief Court were District Courts, Subordinate Judges' Courts and Munsiffs' Courts on the civil side, and Courts of Sessions, District Magistrates and Magistrates of the First, Second and Third classes on the criminal side. In 1895, the District Court of Shimoga had jurisdiction over Shimoga and some other districts.

Separation of
Judiciary from
Executive

The present pattern of administration of justice is evolved out of many changes which were introduced from time to time, having regard to the requirements of the public. In 1919, a scheme for the separation of judicial functions from the executive ones was introduced in the districts of Shimoga and Bangalore, and it was extended to other districts later on. Under this scheme, the revenue officers were divested of judicial functions and a separate magistracy was constituted. A stationary magistrate of the rank of a Munsiff was appointed for every two or three taluks for disposing of second and third class cases, and a magistrate of the status of a subordinate judge was appointed at the district headquarters for trying first class cases. These special magistrates formed a separate branch of the judicial service. The Assistant Commissioners and the Amildars no longer tried criminal cases, but they were *ex-officio* magistrates and exercised only the police powers connected with maintenance of law and order. The Deputy Commissioner continued to have the powers of district magistrate. The objective of the scheme was *inter-alia*, to obtain speedier disposal of criminal cases and more efficient performance of the revenue work. The new arrangement was a decided improvement upon the old system. This introduced separation at the trial stage. But the magistrates continued to be under the control of the District Magistrates till 1956, when this position was changed.

The administration and control over all the Magistrates' Courts in the district had been vested till the 1st June 1956 in the District Magistrate (who was also the Deputy Commissioner). But from that date, separation of the judiciary from the executive was brought into force and the Magistrates' Courts came under the control of a Judicial District Magistrate who also exercised general administrative supervision over them. The Civil Judges were being appointed as Judicial District Magistrates by the State Government. The Sessions Judge inspected the court of the Judicial District Magistrate as a nominee of the High Court. The functions of the judicial magistrates and executive magistrates

have been separately shown in the schedule attached to the Government Order dated 29th May 1956, by which the scheme of separation of the judiciary from the executive was introduced.

The scheme of separation of the judiciary from the executive, when it was introduced in 1956, was designed within the then existing frame-work of the Criminal Procedure Code. It was an arrangement whereby all the functions of a magistrate were divided between two sets of magistrates, namely judicial magistrates and executive magistrates. The judicial functions were entrusted to the judicial magistrates while the executive functions were entrusted to the Deputy Commissioner and his subordinate revenue officers. Later on, the scheme of the separation of the judiciary from the executive was incorporated in the Criminal Procedure Code itself by a State amendment (the Code of Criminal Procedure (Karnataka Amendment) Act, 1965).

Formerly, the District Court had jurisdiction over the three districts of Shimoga, Chitradurga and Chikmagalur. Its jurisdiction was confined to the Shimoga district after new District Courts were established at Chitradurga and Chikmagalur with effect from 1st October 1964 and 1st November 1965 respectively. The District and Sessions Judge is the highest judicial authority in the district, and the District Court is the principal civil court of original jurisdiction within the limits of the area. As the head of the administration of justice in the district, the District and Sessions Judge exercises control over the Civil Judge's Court, Shimoga, and all the Munsiffs' Courts, Munsiff-Magistrates' Courts and Special First Class Magistrates' Courts in the district.

**District Court,
Shimoga**

The District Court entertains and hears appeals in respect of decrees and orders passed by the Civil Judge, the value of which does not exceed Rs. 20,000 ; in other cases, appeals from the Civil Judge's Court lie direct to the High Court. The District Judge also entertains and tries civil cases under some special enactments. The District Judges are appointed by the Governor in consultation with the High Court. A spacious composite court building has been recently constructed near the Deputy Commissioner's office to house the various courts at Shimoga.

When the scheme of separation of the judiciary from the executive was introduced in the year 1956, a Civil Judge's court was established at Shimoga on 1st June 1956. The Civil Judge was also appointed as First Class Magistrate and District Magistrate on the judicial side. After the Code of Criminal Procedure (Karnataka Amendment) Act, 1965, was brought into force from 1st November 1965, the Civil Judge-cum-District Magistrate ceased to be the Judicial District Magistrate and was relieved of criminal work. From that date, the functions of the Judicial District Magistrate were vested in the Session Judge.

**Civil Judge's
Court, Shimoga**

This Civil Judge's Court, Shimoga, has jurisdiction over all the taluks of the district in respect of all original suits and proceedings of a civil nature. The appeals from the decrees and orders passed by a Munsiff in original suits and proceedings of a civil nature, when such appeals are allowed by law, lie to the court of the Civil Judge. There are two Civil Judges in this district, viz., Principal Civil Judge and Additional Civil Judge in the court of the Civil Judge, Shimoga. This court has unlimited jurisdiction for original suits, the value of which exceeds Rs. 10,000, and also decides cases relating to insolvency, pecuniary small causes, guardians and wards, matrimony, elections to municipalities, etc., and hears appeals against the judgments and orders passed by the Munsiffs in original suits and miscellaneous and execution cases. The Civil Judges are appointed by the High Court by promotion from the cadre of Munsiffs.

Munsiffs' Courts

The Principal Munsiff's Court, Shimoga, has jurisdiction over original suits and proceedings of a civil nature (not otherwise excluded from the Munsiff's jurisdiction), the value of which does not exceed Rs. 10,000. The territorial jurisdiction of this court extends to the taluks of Shimoga and Tirthahalli. Similarly, there are a Principal Munsiff's Court and the II Additional Munsiff's Court at Sagar. They have jurisdiction over the taluks of Sagar, Hosanagar and Sorab. These Munsiffs' Courts at Shimoga and Sagar handle civil cases exclusively, there being separate Magistrates' Courts at those places for trying criminal cases.

Sessions Court, Shimoga

The Sessions Court, Shimoga, had formerly jurisdiction over the Shimoga, Chitradurga and Chikmagalur districts. Since 1st November 1965, its jurisdiction is limited to the Shimoga district only. The Sessions Judge conducts trials of the sessions cases committed to the Sessions Court and hears appeals which lie to the Sessions Court from the orders of the subordinate Magistrates in the district. He is also empowered to try cases under the Prevention of Corruption Act. The powers and functions of the Judicial District Magistrate are vested in him and as such, he exercises general administrative superintendence and control over the Judicial Magistrates in the district in addition to special powers such as revision and transfer of cases.

Chief Judicial Magistrate

Before 1st April 1974, there were two Special First Class Magistrates' Courts in the district, one at Shimoga and the other at Sagar. While the jurisdiction of the first extended to the taluks of Shimoga and Tirthahalli that of the second covered Sagar, Hosanagar and Sorab taluks in respect of criminal cases. With effect from 1st April 1974, the post of a Chief Judicial Magistrate, who is above the rank of a Civil Judge and below that of a District and Sessions Judge, was sanctioned in lieu of the post of Special First Class Magistrate, Shimoga.

The Government established with effect from 1st April 1974 Munsiffs-Magistrates in the district the following courts of : (i) Judicial Magistrate, First Class, Shimoga, (ii) Munsiff and Judicial Magistrate, First Class, Bhadravati, (iii) Additional Munsiff and Judicial Magistrate, First Class, Sagar, and (iv) Munsiff and Judicial Magistrate, First Class, Shikaripur. There are a Munsiff-Magistrate's Court and an Additional Munsiff-Magistrate's Court at Bhadravati, with jurisdiction over the taluks of Bhadravati and Channagiri. There is another Munsiff-Magistrate's Court at Shikaripur with jurisdiction over the Shikaripur and Honnali taluks. The Munsiff-Magistrates decide both Civil and Criminal cases. They have powers of a First Class Magistrate under the Criminal Procedure Code within their territorial jurisdiction. The Munsiffs (who are also designated as Munsiff-Magistrates whenever necessary) are appointed by the Governor in accordance with the Karnataka Munsiffs (Recruitment) Rules, 1958, in consultation with the State Public Service Commission and the High Court.

There is no separate juvenile court in the district, but the Chief Judicial Magistrate, Shimoga, is empowered to try the cases of juvenile offenders in Shimoga District.

The Land Tribunals, which were established at Shimoga and Sagar, with effect from 4th December 1967 to deal with the cases coming under the Karnataka Land Reforms Act, 1961, were continued as such till 13th January 1970 and then they were redesignated as the Additional Munsiff's Court, Shimoga, and Second Additional Munsiff's Court, Sagar, respectively. The Second Additional Munsiff's Court, Sagar, was abolished with effect from 1st April 1974, and the Additional Munsiff's Court of Shimoga was shifted to Arasikere in Hassan District. The Courts of Munsiff and Judicial Magistrate (First Class), Bhadravati and Shikaripur, were dealing with cases under the Land Reforms Act from 4th January 1971 and 5th June 1972 respectively, there being no separate Land Tribunals at Bhadravati and Shikaripur. The following statement shows particulars in respect of each Land Tribunal in Shimoga district pertaining to the calendar year 1973* (see Chapter XI) :—

Sl. No. of Land Tribunal*	No. of pending cases	No. of cases instituted during year	Total cases disposed of	No. of Balance cases
1 Shimoga	3,615	1,225	4,963	2,693
2 Sagar	7,495	1,780	9,283	643
3 Bhadravati	24	4	28	..
4 Shikaripur	1,096	2	1,442	79
Total	12,230	137	15,716	3,415

*In 1974, fresh Land Tribunals were formed on a new basis.

**Executive
Magistrates**

Some executive officers of the Revenue Department are *ex-officio* executive magistrates having the responsibilities for maintaining law and order in their jurisdiction, for which purpose they can give directions to the police force. While the Deputy Commissioner is the District Magistrate, the Special Deputy Commissioner and the Headquarters Assistant to the Deputy Commissioner are the Additional District Magistrates. Similarly, the Revenue Sub-Divisional Officers, i.e., the Assistant Commissioners, are *ex-officio* First Class Magistrates and the Tahsildars are *ex-officio* Second Class Magistrates. They exercise their magisterial powers under the supervision and control of the District Magistrate (*See* also Chapter X).

Bar Associations

There are four Bar Associations functioning in the district at Shimoga, Bhadravati, Sagar and Shikaripur. In 1973-74 in all, there were 150 lawyers practising at these places (Shimoga 102, Bhadravati 12, Sagar 27, and Shikaripur 9). The Bar Association, Shimoga, has a library which consists of about 2,000 volumes on several branches of law. The State Government has been giving an annual equipment grant of Rs. 2,000 to this Association.

TABLE I

Statement showing the number of civil cases of all types instituted, disposed of and pending in various courts of Shimoga District as in 1970-71.

Original Civil Suits

Name of Court	Pending at beginning of the year	Instituted during the year	Number of		Decided	Transferred to other courts	Total disposed of	Pending at the end of the year	Total receipts	Total charges
			Refiled, remanded or received by transfer	Total for disposal						
									Rs.	Rs.
District Judge's Court ..	6	..	1	7	1	1	2	5	3,519	1,27,175
Civil Judge's Court ..	149	59	3	211	70	..	70	141	1,11,439	1,05,999
Munsiffs' Courts ..	1,383	1,584	50	3,017	1,660	..	1,660	1,357	2,21,163	3,08,192
Total ..	1,538	1,643	54	3,235	1,731	1	1,732	1,503	3,36,121	5,41,366
Miscellaneous Civil Cases										
District Judge's Court ..	45	63	..	108	69	..	69	39	..	..
Civil Judge's Court ..	369	467	39	875	601	..	601	274	..	..
Munsiffs' Courts ..	13,270	3,797	201	17,268	3,339	..	3,339	13,929	..	..
Total ..	13,684	4,327	240	18,251	4,009	..	4,009	14,242	..	..

(Source : Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in Mysore State for the year 1970-71, the High Court, Bangalore).

TABLE II

Statement showing the number of criminal cases instituted, decided and pending in various courts in Shimoga District as in 1970-71

Name of Court	Number of cases						
	Pending at the beginning of the year	Instituted during the year	Total for disposal	Disposed of during the year	Pending at the end of the year	Total receipts	Total charges
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
						Rs.	Rs.
Sessions Court	13	15	28	25	3	714	4,592
Magistrates' Courts.	564	7,699	8,263	7,330	920	1,12,177	96,166
				13 (transferred)			
Total :	577	7,714	8,291	7,368	923	1,12,891	1,00,758
Criminal Miscellaneous Cases							
Sessions Court	..	19	19	19	..	..	..
Magistrates' Courts	159	443	602	504	98	..	..
Total :	159	462	621	523	98	..	..

(Source : Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Mysore State for the year 1970-71, the High Court, Bangalore).

TABLE III

Statement showing the number of civil cases of all types instituted, disposed of and pending in various courts of Shimoga District as in 1971-72

Original Civil Suits

Name of Court	Pending at beginning of the year	Number of			Total Decided	Transferred to other courts	Total disposed of	Pending at the end of the year	Total receipts	Total charges
		Instituted during the year	Refiled, remanded or received	Total for disposal						
District Judge's Court ..	5	1	1	7	1	..	1	6	Rs. 22,161	Rs. 1,24,752
Civil Judge's Court ..	141	66	6	213	91	..	91	122	2,12,815	96,073
Munsiffs' Courts ..	1,357	1,711	229	3,297	1,528	137	1,665	1,632	2,34,715	3,91,899
Total ..	1,503	1,778	236	3,517	1,620	137	1,757	1,760	4,69,691	6,12,724

Miscellaneous Civil cases

District Judges' Court ..	39	51	1	91	30	..	30	61	..	..
Civil Judge's Court ..	274	560	20	854	656	..	656	198	..	..
Munsiffs' Courts ..	13,917	3,354	834	18,105	3,888	133	4,021	14,084	..	..
Total ..	14,230	3,965	855	19,050	4,574	133	4,707	14,343	..	..

(Source : Report on the Administration of Civil Justice in Mysore State for the year 1971-72, the High Court, Bangalore).

TABLE IV

Statement showing the number of criminal cases instituted, decided and pending in various courts in Shimoga district as in 1971-72

Name of the Court	Number of cases					Total Receipts	Total charges
	Pending at beginning of the year	Instituted during the year	Total for disposal	Disposed of during the year	Pending at the end of the year		
						Rs.	Rs.
Sessions Court	3	47	50	41	9	1,138	..
Magistrates' Courts ..	920	8,223	9,143	7,529 transferred 156	1,458	1,17,416	76,878
Total ..	923	8,270	9,193	7,726	1,467	1,18,554	76,878
Miscellaneous Criminal Cases							
Sessions Court .. ..	..	11	11	11	..	..	..
Magistrates' Court ..	98	368	466	358	108	..	..
Total ..	98	379	477	369	108	..	..

(Source: Report on the Administration of Criminal Justice in Mysore State for the year 1971-72, the High Court, Bangalore).