

to enable them to purchase cattle, and cheap grain shops are opened for the relief of others.

Administration,
the Minister and
Council

The present form of administration was prescribed by the original instructions issued by the Nizam in the *Kanuncha (edict)* of 1893, subsequently modified in some respects. According to those, the *Madar-ul-Maham* or Minister is the chief controlling authority in the State. To assist him in the work of administration there are four Assistant Ministers: namely, Financial, Judicial, Military and Miscellaneous, known as *Muin-ul-Mahams*. All questions of importance are referred to the Council, which is composed of the Minister as president and the *Muin-ul-Mahams* as members. Matters on which there is a difference of opinion between the Minister and an Assistant Minister may also be referred to the Council. Business disposed of by the Council is immediately reported to the Nizam, and the orders of the Council are carried out without awaiting his sanction unless he is pleased otherwise to direct.

Distribution
of work

The work is distributed as follows: The Financial Assistant Minister has charge of the departments of finance, mint, railways and mines, and stud. The Judicial Assistant Minister has under him the judicial department, jails, registration, medical, post office, and religious institutions. The Military Assistant Minister disposes of the work of the regular and irregular and the Imperial Service troops; and the Miscellaneous Assistant Minister has under him police, public works, education, municipalities, and sanitation. The Revenue department is directly under the Minister who exercises control over the departments of land revenue, revenue survey and settlement, *inam*, customs, excise and *abkari*, forests, agriculture and commerce, and local funds. The Secretaries are responsible for the work of their

departments, both to the Minister and to the Assistant Ministers concerned. The number of Secretaries at present is as follows: (1) financial ; (2) two joint for revenue work; (3) judicial, police, and general departments; (4) public works; (5) military secretary; and (6) the private secretary to the Minister. The financial department has charge of the accountant-general's office and the audit branch; and the public works department is under a Secretary with two Super intendig Engineers for the Irrigation and the General Branches as executive officers. The other departments are as follows: the judicial, under the High Court, consisting of a Chief Justice and five Puisne Judges; the District Police and jails, under an Inspector-General; the city police, under a Kotwal; customs, under a Commissioner; education, under a Director; stamps and mint, under a Superintendent; forests, under a Conservator; postal, under a Postmaster-General; and medical, under a Director.

Administrative divisions

Until lately the whole State, excluding the *Sarf-i-khas* or Crown District of *Atraf-i-balda*, was divided for administrative purposes into four *Subahs* or Divisions, 15 Districts and one *Amaldari* or sub-District. In 1905 certain changes were made in the constitution of the Districts; and though the number of *Subahs* remains the same, one District (Lingsugur) has been broken up and the *Amaldari* has been made a District, so that there are still 15 Districts. Each *Subah* or Division is under a *Subahdar* (Commissioner) and each District under a first *Talukdar* (Collector). The latter officers have two or more assistants, known as Second and Third *Talukdars*. At the head of each *taluk* is a *tahsildar*. There are now 101 *taluks*, managed by Government, instead of 117 prior to the recent changes. Excluding the *Atraf-i-balda* or crown District, but including all

the *Jagirs* and *samasthans*, each of the four *Subahs* had an average area of 19, 825 in square miles and an average population of 2, 567, 993 in 1901. Exact details of the areas as reconstituted are not available, and the following particulars are based on the statistics of 1901. The average District area and population were 4, 956 square miles and 641, 998 persons respectively. These were subdivided into 117 taluks, with an average area of nearly 678 square miles and 87, 794 persons. The *tahsildar* has charge of the revenue and the magisterial work of his *taluk*, with a *peshkar* (assistant) and a *girdavar* (revenue inspector) to assist him in his work. The last class of subordinates is found only in the Telingana Districts, where remissions are given on 'wet' cultivation in case of excessive or scanty rainfall, or breach of tanks, it being the duty of the revenue inspector to verify and report the extent of the injury thus caused.

Village officers

The headman of the village is called *patel* and the village accountant *patrvari*, *karnam*, or *kulkarni*; there are generally *patels* in villages the revenues of which exceed Rs.500, the *mali* or revenue *patel* and police *patel*. Up to 1870, the *patels* and *patwaris* enjoyed *inams* or grants of land in payment for their services; but since that year the *inams* have been resumed and cash payments introduced, the *inam* lands, after assessment, remaining in their possession as before.

Estates

Besides the ordinary territory of the State, large areas are held as estates, known as *samasthans* or *jagirs*. The most important *samasthans* are those of GADWAL, AMARCHINTA, WANPARTI, JATPOL, PALONCHA; the smaller are Gopalpet, Narayanpur, Anegundi, Gurgunta, and the Medak *samasthans*. These are scattered all over the southern half of the State. The largest *jagirs* are those of *Nawab Salar Jang*, the three *paigah* nobles,

Maharaja Sir Kishan Prasad Bahadur, Nawabs *Hisam-ul-mulk* and *Fakhr-ul-mulk Bahadur*, Maharaja Sheoraj, and Raja Rai Rayan Bahadur. The *jagirs* are dispersed in all parts of the State. Besides these large jagirs, there are numerous smaller ones containing from one village to 60 villages. In 1901 *jagirs* and *samasthans* covered an area of 24, 400 square miles, with a population of 3, 259, 000. Separate articles explain the constitution of the PAIGAH ESTATES, the SALAR JANG ESTATE, and the *samasthans*.

Legislation
History of
legislation.

In 1870 Sir Salar Jang I, then Minister, appointed a committee of Muhammadan lawyers to frame laws for the State on the model of those enacted in British India. Later on, the Council of State, composed of the principal nobles, with the Nizam as president, became a Legislative Council also; and to supplement its labours, and prepare drafts of bills for its consideration, a special committee was nominated. In 1890 a Law Commission, with a president and a secretary, was appointed. The president was required to tour in the State, and lay his notes of inspection before the Commission, to enable it to prepare and submit drafts of laws required, in such form as to admit of their being finally cast into a code. Reports were to accompany these drafts, explaining the existing laws, the defects observed in their working, and the proposals for removing those defects. The High Court was also directed to submit, for the information of the Commission, the drafts of any laws in which might have under consideration, and to communicate any matters for which, in its opinion, new laws or amendments of existing laws were necessary. Other officers also were requested to communicate to the Judicial Secretary their opinions as to any reforms they might consider necessary in existing laws.