

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.

History of the  
Legislative  
Council

His Highness's attention having been directed to the desirability of establishing a Legislative Council for the purpose of making laws, orders for its establishment were promulgated in 1893.

Under these orders the Council was to consist of the Chief Justice, a Puisne Judge of the High Court, the Inspector General of Revenue, the Director of Public Instruction, the Inspector-General of Police, and the Financial Secretary. In 1884 Act I of 1304 Fasli received the Nizam's sanction, recognizing the right of the people to share in the work of framing laws and to representation. In 1900 this Regulation was reenacted with certain modifications as Act III of 1309 Fasli, and is still in force.

Constitution of the  
Legislative  
Council

The Legislative Council consists of a 19 members, of whom, besides the president and vice-president, 12 are official and 6 non-official members. The Minister is the president, and the Assistant Minister, whose department is concerned with a bill before the Council, is vice-president for the time being. Of the 12 official members, the Chief Justice, the Judicial Secretary and the Legal Adviser are *ex-officio* members, the remaining 8 official members being nominated by the Minister for two years. Of the 6 non-official members, 2 are elected by the *Jagirdars* and landowners, 2 by the pleaders of the High Court, and the remaining 2 are nominated by the Minister from among the residents of the State, of whom one must be nominated from the *paigah ilaka*. The non-official members are appointed for two years, but retiring members are eligible for re-election.

Public Criticism

To ensure facilities for ascertaining public opinion, the Council Regulation provides that bills, with the statements of objects and reasons, shall be published in the State Gazette in such language as the Council directs. Bills are based on Muhammadan law

prudence, the Hindu Shastras, special laws binding on a particular community, or customs and usages having the force of law. In addition to these sources, laws in force in British India and elsewhere are consulted.

**Principal Acts**

In 1304 Fasli (1894) Act I already referred to was passed. In 1305 Fasli (1895) five Acts were passed, Act II being the Gambling Act. In 1307 Fasli (1897) six Acts were passed, relating to Oaths, Criminal Tribes, Succession Certificates, Court Fees, Court of Wards, and Labour Contracts. The six Acts passed in the following year dealt with amendments to the District Police and Stamp Rules, General Clauses, Public Demands Recovery, Opium and Legal Practitioners. Of the thirteen Acts of 1309 Fasli (1899), the Army, the Local Cess, the Game Preservation, the Post Office, the Inventions and Designs, the Forest, and the Counterfeit Coins Acts are the more important. The principal Acts of 1310 Fasli (1900-1) were the Census, the Weights and Measures, and the Limitation Acts. In 1903-4 the Hyderabad Criminal Procedure Code, the Evidence Act, and Act, for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals were passed. The most important of the six Acts passed in 1904-05 were amendments to the High Court Regulations and to the Stamps Act, the Ferries Act, and an Act for inquiry into the behaviour of public servants.

**Civil and criminal justice**

For the administration of justice there are 123 civil and 271 criminal courts, including the High Court. *Tahsildars* can try suits up to a limit of Rs. 100, but only seventy-nine *tahsildars* and five *naib-tahsildars* exercise these powers; where Munsifs are appointed, the *tahsildars* have no civil jurisdiction. There are fifteen Munsifs who try suits up to Rs. 500, while the *Nazim-i-Diwani* or District Civil Judge and the Judicial Assistants to the First Talukdars can try suits