

CHAPTER IX

ECONOMIC TRENDS

93. Introduction

The geographical situation of the district marks the transition from the thickly populated deltaic region of coastal district of Cuttack in the south to an undulating tract, conspicuous with hills and vast ranges of forests, alternate with well watered and cultivated valleys. It has extensive forests of Northern tropical semi-evergreen type covering about 6,355.86 square kilometres and contains valuable timbers, predominantly 'Sal'. The whole district is traversed by several hill streams which are hidden assets lying uncared for. If embankments are made upon the streams, a good amount of land can be acquired for cultivation.

Large portions of Pal Lahara, and Athmallik subdivisions are covered with dense forest. Towards the south of Angul subdivision is a mass of hills thickly clad with forest very sparsely populated, the greater portion of which constitutes reserved forest. Teak wood is one of the most valuable products of Tikarpada forest in Angul subdivision. The southern part of Hindol subdivision is continuous to the forest area of Angul subdivision and sparsely populated. A portion of Kama-khyanagar subdivision is thickly forested specially with 'Sal'. Wild life is better preserved than elsewhere and is represented by elephant, panther, bison, wolf, deer, poisonous snakes and fine birds like pea-cocks. Timber, Kendu leaves, sabai-grass, hides, honey, sandal wood, resin, etc., are the main products of the forest which add to the State's resources as well as to the economic status of the people. The soil belongs to mostly red soil type with patches of laterite and black cotton soil. The district has rich economic minerals like coal, chromite, graphite, iron ore, lime stone, and mica. Alluvial gold is also found in the sands of the rivers Aunli, Tikra, and Ramiala. Coal is available in abundance (indicated reserves 1,300 million tons) at Talcher which plays an important role in the modern age. It is used at present for thermal power generation as a result of which 250 M. W. Thermal Power Station has been established at Chainpal at a cost of rupees 32 crores. Besides, a portion is being exported outside Orissa for railways. The thermal station has enough power which can be profitably utilised for setting up of industries and development of agriculture. Under rural electrification programme, 45 villages of the district have been electrified apart from four towns namely, Angul, Talcher, Dhenkanal, and Bhuban. There is vast scope for utilisation of electric power.

The types of industries that are found in the district are lime industry 5, filigree industry 6, saw mills 3, Gurakhu factory 3, dairy farm 2, brick units 2, cement tile factory 1, carpentry unit 1, polythene hap and sheets 1, rice huller units 25, and cottage industries 166. The number of registered factories in 1968 was 42 and the average number of daily workers, employed was 1,411.

In the Fourth Five-Year Plan (April 1969 to March 1974) a proposal for Talcher Industrial Complex has been included. When the Talcher complex of industries comes into operation, it will open up opportunities for a number of small-scale industries. The project will produce quality pig iron economically to cater to the demand of various precision fabrication industries of the country. It has been estimated that the production potentialities per annum of Talcher Industrial Complex would be as follows* :

Main products :

Pig iron	..	168,300 tonnes
Urea	..	138,600 tonnes

Bye-Products :

Road Tar	..	16,000 tonnes
Ammonia Sulphate	..	11,000 tonnes
Fuel Oil	..	10,900 tonnes
Benzol	..	3,500 tonnes
Telvol	..	800 tonnes
Solvent Naptha	..	700 tonnes

Production of these items is of significance to the national economy. Low phosphorous content pig iron is suitable for malleable castings required for defence and other strategic industries. It will also eliminate the necessity of importing sophisticated castings which are extensively used by engineering industries.

Besides, a fertiliser plant in public sector is being set up by the Fertilisers Corporation of India, to produce urea. The facilities available at Talcher in railway, road communication, thermal power, and perennial water resources, creates immense potentialities of industrial development.

* Souvenir—Second All-Orissa Economics Conference, 1969.

The district is predominantly agricultural. A large section of the people is found to be under-employed as they grow only one principal crop in Khariff. In the absence of intensive cultivation increase in population will pose a serious problem, unless new methods of cultivation are quickly introduced and avenues of employment are found in the industries such as Talcher Fertiliser Plant, and Talcher Industrial complex contemplated to be set up in the area. As most part of it are high and dry lands, scientific dry farming practices will have to be introduced for developing cultivation of potatoes, pulses and oilseeds. Land utilisation in the river valleys will be facilitated by irrigation from tubewells energised by electricity. In other areas where the land is fertile and moisture retentive clusters of dig wells can be constructed fitted with low cost hand pumps so that the cultivators will be tempted to grow vegetables for which there is no dearth of market in the area.

Dhenkanal is one of the three districts of Orissa which has been selected for betterment of small farmers. The scheme is about to start. If it succeeds, it will clear the atmosphere of dejection which pervades the lowest strata of agriculturists.

94. Economic Landmarks

In the last quarter of the 19th century, the economic condition of the district was good although it was not free from natural calamities. There was scarcity of food grains in and around Angul in the years 1887, 1888 and 1900. In 1897, Hindol was affected by famine, which however, was localised. None of these calamities was as grave as the famine experienced in Sambalpur in 1900, and the famine frequently occurring in the coastal districts. In the Census decade of 1901—1911, harvest was good except in Dhenkanal ex-State on account of a famine known as 'Khuda famine' which occurred in 1908, and high mortality from cholera and other epidemics. Angul sub-division also lost population by 1.9 per cent due to low harvests in 1902, 1903 and 1908. In Athmallik ex-State, cultivation expanded considerably. There was also high immigration from other parts of the district due to repeated scarcities of food-grains in those parts. Between 1911 and 1920 the district suffered from a series of calamities, such as, failure of crops and epidemics. Rainfall was deficient for many years and crops were generally poor. Epidemics like cholera, small-pox and lastly the frightful epidemic of influenza of 1918 resulted in a heavy loss of working force for which agricultural operations were handicapped. In the next 10 years the district could quickly recuperate the loss as a coal field at Talcher was opened in 1921, and a railway line was opened in 1927 which connected the coal field with Cuttack. Agricultural conditions were quite satisfactory and road communications were also improved. There was rapid growth of development works around Talcher, which provided lot of employment to the labourers.

The years from 1931 to 1940 was a period of prosperity for the district. There was ample rainfall but no flood. There were bumper crops in almost all the ex-States in most of the years except in 1934, 1935 and 1938. But in Kamakhyanagar crop was good in 1936 only. Though public health was better than earlier, yet fever, specially malaria spread throughout the district and towards 1937, incidence of death became very heavy. During the Census decade 1941—51 the weather was favourable for agricultural purposes and the outturn of crop was good in most of the years. In the years 1946 and 1947, Dhenkanal ex-State had poor crop and some scarcity was felt.

The years from 1951 is a period of development. Five-Year Plans have been implemented all over the district. Through Community Development Blocks an attempt is being made to bring about all round upliftment of rural community giving emphasis on increased agricultural production and full utilisation of man-power providing adequate employment opportunities. There is an upheaval of social, cultural and economic life of the people. Although there is rise of prices, devaluation of currency, drought and epidemics, yet the economic condition of the people is better than earlier.

95. General Level of Prices

The district has good out-lets and flourishing markets in Angul, Dhenkanal, and Talcher although Pal Lahara, Kamakhyanagar, Athmallik, and Hindol Subdivisions have no such facilities. Cuttack market is near and well connected by rail, road and river. During the period 1893—1902¹ paddy was available at 45·800 Kg. per rupee in Dhenkanal ex-State. During this period, in the ex-States of Athmallik, Hindol, Pal Lahara, and Talcher rice was available at 16 Kg., 25 Kg., 23·500 Kg., and 24 Kg. per rupee respectively. In Angul, which was a British administered tract during the period 1896—1900, rice was available at 14·600 Kg. per rupee.

In Dhenkanal ex-State which now comprises Dhenkanal, and Kamakhyanagar Subdivisions, during the period 1882-83 to 1891-92, paddy was available at 49·450 Kg. per rupee in average. In next 10 years (1892-93 to 1901-02), the price of paddy became dearer and it was available at 45·800 Kg. per rupee. There were slight variations in the rates of pulses, such as, black-gram, green-gram, arhar, and kulthi. Black-gram was available at 15·900 Kg. to 16·800 Kg. during these periods. Green-gram was available at 13 Kg. to 15 Kg. The rates of arhar varied

1. The prices of rice, and paddy in the ex-States have been quoted from Feudatory States of Orissa. The price of rice in Angul, has been taken from Bengal District Gazetteers, Angul, 1908. The high prices of rice in Athmallik, and Angul may be due to printing mistake.

between 14 Kg. and 17·800 Kg. Wheat on the other hand became cheaper. It was available at 10·300 Kg. during the period 1882-83 to 1891-92, and in next 10 years(1892-93 to 1901-02) at 11 Kg., and in next 6 years (1902-03 to 1907-08) at 12 Kg. per rupee in average.

In Athmallik ex-State during the period 1893 to 1902 the average price of wheat, rice, gram, and salt was 8·00 Kg., 16·00 Kg., 9·800 Kg., and 9·800 Kg. per rupee respectively.

In Hindol ex-State rice was the principal crop. During the period 1893 to 1902 the average price of wheat, rice, gram, and salt was 9 Kg., 25 Kg., 38·800 Kg., and 7·500 Kg. per rupee respectively.

In Pal Lahara ex-State during this period (1893 to 1902), rice, gram, and salt was available at 23·500 Kg., 30·800 Kg., and 6·650 Kg. per rupee respectively.

During the same period (1893 to 1902) in Talcher ex-State the average price of wheat, rice, gram, and salt as available was 8 Kg., 24 Kg., 13·500 Kg., and 9·800 Kg. per rupee respectively.

Angul which was British administered tract, suffered from famine in 1889 and scarcities in 1897 and 1900. The effects of a failure of the monsoon were less disastrous for the people were not so dependent on rice and cereal, the products of the forests went far to help them in times of drought ; but when, as in 1889, there was not only a failure of the rains but also of the mahua and mango crops, distress was most severe.

The following is a brief account of the famine of 1889.

“The majority of the cultivators were in far better condition owing to the stocks of grain they held in reserve, but some were reduced to abject want, having sold a considerable portion of their slender stock at high prices, to find subsequently that they had to buy grain for their sustenance at a much higher price. In many cases, they parted company with their last piece of gold or silver, with their brass ornaments and with the last utensil of their household ; and a few actually sold their plough-bullocks. The distress during the months of April and May and part of June was naturally at its height, there being no work available in the fields, while a severe epidemic of cholera broke out. In the latter part of June, however, rain fell, and there was fresh vegetation ; and at about the same time organized measures of relief were set on foot. The hopes of the people revived ; the landed classes obtained agricultural loans, the able-bodied labourers found work, the infirm or helpless of both sexes received gratuitous relief, and jungle produce became again procurable. In this manner the people continued to live till the maize and millet crops, which happily yielded a bumper outturn, were gathered. They were followed by the early rice, which was also an excellent one.

By this time the labourers were getting their usual work, the price of food-grains had begun to fall, and relief operations were gradually reduced until they were closed entirely in November, when the early winter rice crop was harvested¹."

There was some distress in 1897 due to the partial failure of crops for want of rains and visitation of an insect pest locally known as mahua (*Leptocorisa acuta*). After this the people had a series of bad years, owing to the short crops, which exhausted their resources and culminated in generally scarcity in 1900-1901. After three years all signs of distress disappeared and there was a marked improvement in the condition of the people.

During the period 1891-95 in Angul sub-division, the average price of common rice, wheat, and gram as available per rupee was 18.750 Kg., 7.800 Kg., and 14.00 Kg. respectively. In the next 5 years (1896-1900) there was rise in the prices of common rice and wheat. Common rice, wheat, and gram was available at 14.700 Kg., 7.340 Kg., and 14.340 Kg. per rupee respectively. However, in the next 5 years (1901-1905) rice and wheat became a little cheaper, while gram was dearer. Common rice of 15.700 Kg., wheat of 7.500 Kg., and gram of 9.330 Kg. was available per rupee in average during this period.

The failure of the monsoon in 1918-19 and the consequent bad harvests of that year made their effect felt in the first half of 1919-20. Dhenkanal, Hindol, and Talcher ex-States were famine stricken. From April to the end of October relief in the shape of test works and gratuitous relief were given. Rice was imported in large quantities from Cuttack, and Sonpur ex-State through river and was supplied at the rate of 9 Kg. per rupee. In the next year floods damaged the lands of the villages in Dhenkanal ex-State but at the same time covered the fields with a deposit of silt which did much to set the people on their feet again. After 1921 price began to decline and in the year 1922-23, the maximum and minimum price of rice per rupee was 20.500 Kg. and 10.250 Kg. in Athmallik ex-State; 13.0 Kg. and 10.700 Kg. in Dhenkanal ex-State; 18.650 Kg. and 15.00 Kg. in Hindol ex-State; 18.650 Kg. and 12.400 Kg. in Pal Lahara ex-State, and 18.650 Kg. and 15.00 Kg. in Talcher ex-State. It has been noticed that during the period 1923-24 to 1929-30, rice was available in average in the maximum 16.77 Kg., and in the minimum 9.330 Kg. per rupee in the district. The price level again shot up with the declaration of Second

1. Bengal District Gazetteers, Angul, 1908, p. 100

World War. Price ruled high since 1941, owing to the great outside demand of rice. Rice was available at 11 Kg., 12 Kg. and 12 Kg. at harvest time in Talcher, Pal Lahara, and Hindol ex-States respectively. In 1942, rice became dearer and it was available at 5·600 Kg. to 9 Kg. per rupee in the district. Blackgram and green-gram was available at 8·400 Kg. and 5·600 Kg., per rupee respectively. From 1943-44 to 1946-47, prices of all foodgrains rose and rice, blackgram, and green-gram were available in average at 5·600 Kg., 6·00 Kg., and 2·800 Kg., per rupee respectively. In Hindol ex-State, the price of rice was controlled and fixed at 4·700 Kg., per rupee.

It was thought at first that this sharp rise might be only a temporary phase, but the prices started stabilizing at the high level without any prospect of recession. Towards 1953, the retail prices of rice, wheat, and gram were 2·300 Kg., 1·9 Kg. and 2·0 Kg. per rupee respectively. This price level was, more or less, maintained from 1954 to 1962. With the launching of Third Five-Year Plan, prices began to rise rapidly and in 1963 the retail prices of rice, wheat, green-gram and black-gram as available was 1·320 Kg., 2·00 Kg. 1·220 Kg., and 1·170 Kg., per rupee respectively. Towards 1967 prices of all commodities still grew higher and rice, wheat, green-gram and black-gram were sold at 0·925 gram, 1·740 Kg., 0·670 grams and 0·630 grams in retail per rupee respectively.

96. General Level of wages

In the beginning of the present century practically the only skilled labourers were artisans, such as masons, blacksmiths and carpenters who were paid in between Re. 0·12 to Re. 0·50 per day. Unskilled labour did not cost more than Re. 0·50 per day, while agricultural labour was paid generally in kind. The custom of paying the village artisans and others, such as washermen, barbers and sweepers in kind at harvest time was common.

During the period 1893—1902, a superior mason could get Re. 0·37 per day in the ex-States of Dhenkanal, Pal Lahara, and Talcher and Re. 0·50 in Athmallik, and Hindol. During this period, a superior carpenter got the same wage as that of a mason, except in Hindol, and Talcher where the rate was higher. Superior black-smiths got Re. 0·31 in Athmallik, and Dhenkanal; Re. 0·50 in Hindol, and Talcher, and Re. 0·37 in Pal Lahara. Common carpenters, masons and blacksmiths got less wage. An ordinary labourer got Re. 0·15 per day in all the ex-States, except Dhenkanal where the wage was little less.

The following table shows the wage rates of different labourers during the period 1893-1902 in the ex-States of the district :

Name of ex-States	Superior mason	Superior Carpenter	Superior Blacksmith	Common mason	Common Carpenter	Common Blacksmith	Ordinary Labourer
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Athmallik ..	0·50	0·50	0·31	0·28	0·25	0·19	0·15
Hindoi ..	0·37	0·37	0·31	0·31	0·12	0·12	0·12
Pal Lahara ..	0·37	0·37	0·37	0·25	0·25	0·25	0·15
Talcher ..	0·37	0·50	0·50	0·25	0·25	0·25	0·15
Dhenkanal ..	0·37	0·37	0·31	0·31	0·12	0·12	0·12

In Angul, in the beginning of the present century the only skilled labourers were masons, blacksmiths and carpenters, brought from Cuttack and other places. A common mason earned a daily wage of Re. 0·31 to Re. 0·44, while a blacksmith got Re. 0·19 and a carpenter Re. 0·19 to Re. 0·44 ; superior masons, and carpenters were paid Re. 0·50 a day, while expert blacksmiths received a wage of Re. 0·37 to Re. 0·50 per day. Local labourers, if employed by contractors received Re. 0·12 to Re. 0·19 per day ; and if employed in field work by cultivators, they were paid in food and grain. Village artisans, such as blacksmiths, who prepared and repaired plough-shares and other agricultural implements and other workers, such as washermen and sweepers were allotted service lands and also received in many places an allowance of rice and other grains at harvest time. This allowance was generally 9·330 Kg. of paddy per plough in case of blacksmiths. Adult barbers, and washermen also got the same amount from each of their clients.

Field labourers during this period were divided into two classes, 'Mulias, and 'Halias'. 'Mulias' were day labourers paid almost invariably in kind and 'Halias' were farm servants employed permanently by well-to-do cultivators, on a monthly allowance of 55·986 Kg. of rice, and at harvest time 6·60 quintals of rice, two pieces of cloth, and a rupee in cash. On the whole, Halias were better off than the day labourers who could get little employment from February to May. During these months they had to subsist on their own little crops, on wild roots and fruits, by cutting and selling bamboos, and fuel, and by making and selling mats, baskets, etc.

Towards 1934-35, wages of labouring classes had increased. In Talcher ex-State, on account of the coal mines and railway works, the condition of the labouring classes were much better. Skilled labourers were earning Re. 1.00 to Rs. 3.00 and unskilled labourers Re. 0.25 to Re. 0.37 per day. During this year in Hindol ex-State, the average daily rate of wages was increased and skilled masons, carpenters, and blacksmiths earned Re. 0.75 and Re. 0.56 respectively. Common masons, carpenters, and blacksmiths were remunerated at Re. 0.50, Re. 0.37, and Re. 0.31 respectively per day. Daily labourers were paid at Re. 0.19 and field labourers at Re. 0.12. In the next year the wage of skilled carpenter was increased by Re. 0.06 in comparison to that of previous year. The wages of all other labouring classes remained stationary. This trend was maintained up to 1939.

Since 1940 the rate of wages of all labouring classes rose steadily. In 1940, skilled carpenters, blacksmiths, and masons could get Re. 1.00 each per day. Common carpenters, blacksmiths, and masons got Re. 0.40, Re. 0.35, and Re. 0.50 per day respectively. Daily labourers and field labourers were paid at Re. 0.25 each per day. In Talcher ex-State in 1941, the system of bonded labour in agricultural operations was abolished. But they were at liberty to get advance from their employers and to pay off the same according to their convenience. The average working hours in a week in the collieries were 48 hours and the weekly wage of a labourer in the mines was Rs. 3.35.

In 1942, with the rise of prices in foodgrains the rate of daily wages was also increased. Skilled carpenters, blacksmiths, tailors, and masons were getting Rs. 1.25 each. Common tailors and masons got Re. 0.62 each. Goldsmiths were receiving Rs. 1.15. Field labourers and day labourers were paid at Re. 0.31 each.

In the next year there was no rise in the wages of skilled labour, but wages of unskilled labour rose by Re. 0.12 in each class.

During 1944-45, the wage level of all classes of labour went up. Carpenters, blacksmiths, tailors, masons, and sawyers were getting Rs. 1.50 each per day. Goldsmiths were receiving Rs. 2.50 per day instead of Rs. 2.00 in the previous year. Field labourers and day labourers were paid at Re. 0.44 each.

Towards 1952, with the rise of prices in foodgrains, wage level has also been increased. A carpenter could get Rs. 3.00 and a blacksmith Rs. 2.00 per day during the periods 1952 to 1961. During this period field labourers and herdsmen were paid at Re. 0.88 to Rs. 1.25. Other agricultural labourers, such as, those who water fields, carry loads, and dig wells, etc., were paid at Re. 1.00 per day.

After 1965, the wage rates have been enhanced further with the rise of prices. At present carpenters, blacksmiths, and masons are getting Rs. 5.00 each per day. A cobbler used to get Rs. 3.50 for a day's work. In town areas wages of skilled artisans are a little higher. Field labourers, and other agricultural labourers are getting at the rate of male Rs. 3.00, female Rs. 2.50, and child Rs. 1.50 per day. A herdsman, whose work is grazing the cattle, gets Rs. 2.25 per day.

97. Standard of living

O' Malley, in his Angul District Gazetteer, written in 1908 equated the material conditions of the people to those of the people of Tributary States by which it was surrounded. Angul subdivision was bounded on the east by Talcher, Dhenkanal, and Hindol ex-States and on the west by Athmallik ex-State which now comprise the major part of Dhenkanal district.

O' Malley has written, "The population consists almost entirely of cultivators and labourers; and there are practically no middle class families (bhadra lok) and only a few skilled artisans, mainly men brought from Cuttack for work on Government buildings. There are no carpenters, every cultivator being his own carpenter, while the village blacksmith seldom knows how to make anything but a plough-share. As a class, the peasants of Angul are industrious cultivators, but the generality of them are improvident and far from thrifty. Here, as elsewhere, grain is borrowed to meet the cost of agricultural operations and is mostly paid off at the time of harvest, but the debts incurred to meet the cost of social ceremonies run on from year to year. Generally speaking, however, the ryots of Angul are not heavily in debt, except the Sarbarahkars, who have fallen into the clutches of Marwari money-lenders and cannot easily extricate themselves. A large proportion of the labouring classes hold small plots of land, but their connection with land is generally nominal and they subsist chiefly by labour. When the season is favourable, the whole body of labourers find employment in the fields, so that in the cultivating or reaping season it is difficult to get a cooly."

On the whole, it is reported, the cultivators in Angul may be regarded as prosperous and fairly comfortable; but the labouring classes are scantily clad, meagrely fed and of poor physique. At the same time, it must be remembered that their needs are very few and they are not entirely dependent on the produce of the fields for their food-supply".¹

1. Bengal District Gazetteer (Angul), 1908, pp. 44-45

Towards 1945, the general condition of the people, on the whole, was better. Since most of the people were agriculturists, their economic condition was good on account of high prices of agricultural products which helped them to pay their rents, etc. and to meet the increased expenditure in meeting other needs. Measures were adopted for procurement of rice, the staple food and supplied to the needy people. Export of paddy and rice, was banned which afforded a great relief to the landless people. Rationing was adopted and cloth, yarn, sugar, wheat, wheat products and kerosene were available. Price Fixation Committees were formed in ex-State whose main functions were to advise the Durbars in fixing the prices of various commodities from time to time and to work out details of distribution of controlled commodities such as cloth, yarn, sugar, kerosene, wheat and wheat products and various other articles under control. Control shops were started at different centres to ensure supply at a reasonable rate.

According to the provisional figures of 1971 Census, 78.1 per cent of the working population are dependent on agriculture. All the cultivators do not own the lands cultivated by them. Therefore, it is not possible for most to maintain themselves on the agricultural produce. About 26.9 per cent of the population are agricultural labourers who have either no land or very little land to support themselves. During the off season, that is to say, from March till middle of June, they collect fuel, bamboo and timber from forest and earn wages in various development projects.

Among the articles of general consumption families of upper middle-class spend about 30 to 40 per cent of their income on food. Rice, mung, arhar, chana, milk, and vegetables constitute their usual diet. Sugar, wheat, and beverages like tea also find a place in their shopping. Fish, meat and egg are taken for a change. Chewing betel leaf is a common habit with the people. Some expenditure is incurred on entertainment, and medicine. Expenditure on clothing is significant in the annual budget.

Families of lower middle class spend about 66 per cent of their income on food. Rice, chana, and green-gram occupy a permanent place in their diet. Wheat is mostly used for night meals. Black-gram is used for cakes on festival occasions. Meat and egg are occasionally taken and consumption of fish is limited to few summer months. A notable percentage of the income is spent on tobacco and betel leaf. Milk is available for children only. Dresses are purchased on festival occasions. Expenditure on entertainment is not much.

In the lowest class, pulses are rare in the daily menu. Rice, salt and some sour articles are usually taken almost daily. A good amount is spent on intoxicants. Various edible fruits and roots collected from

forests are taken during half of the year. Expenditure on other items like clothing, entertainment, medicine and travel is insignificant in the annual budget. In recent years, the impact of urban life and modern developments have some bearing on food habits and luxuries in the remote country-side.

98. Employment Exchange

The office of Employment Exchange at Dhenkanal was opened in March 1960. In the next year one unit of Employment Market Information was introduced with a view to collect the statistics of total employees in public and private sectors, occupational information and vacant jobs. In December 1964, one unit of Vocational Guidance was opened. The prime work of the unit is to suggest ways and means to the students and job-seekers to build up their career. It gives guidance in regard to choice of careers, information on job opportunities and training facilities and recommend the names for training, admission and appointment.

The jurisdiction of the Employment Exchange is extended to the whole of Dhenkanal district, except Talcher, and Pal Lahara subdivisions for which one Colliery Employment Exchange was opened at Talcher. It works separately except collection of employment market information and vocational guidance.

There is an Advisory Committee consisting of official and non-official members under the Chairmanship of the Collector and District Magistrate, to advise on matters relating to employment problems.

The staff consists of 16 persons including one District Employment Officer and 3 Junior Employment Officers.

In 1969-70, 4,857 persons had registered their names and 553 were given employment. During this year, there were 209 employers and 21,266 employees including 492 females, in both public and private sectors. Under Vocational Guidance Scheme, 121 individual talks, 773 group discussions, 126 individual informations, and 174 placements were made. 51 applicants were placed for training.