

CHAPTER XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

Social services signify such activities of the state as are undertaken to correct social disequilibrium among persons, classes or group of persons. The scope of such activities has been continuously widening. The successive Five Year Plans have also provided fairly wide opportunities and scope for further improvement and expansion of social services.

Labour Welfare

Prior to independence, there was no regular Government Organization to look after the welfare of industrial workers, to settle industrial disputes and other connected labour problems. A separate Labour Department in the Composite Punjab was established in 1949. The Labour Officer, Rohtak and the Conciliation Officer, Bhiwani represented the Department for the areas now forming Kurukshetra district which was then a part of Karnal district. After the formation of Haryana in 1966, a Labour-cum-Conciliation Officer posted at Karnal and later on shifted to Panipat in 1970, was looking after the areas of this district. After the formation of separate district of Kurukshetra in January 1973, it was placed under the jurisdiction of Labour-cum-Conciliation Officer, Ambala Cantonment. In March 1986, an independent Labour-cum-Conciliation Officer was posted at Kurukshetra and Kurukshetra District was placed under his jurisdiction. This position continued till March, 2004. He works under the overall charge of the Labour Commissioner, Haryana at Chandigarh.

The Labour-cum-Conciliation Officer, Kurukshetra looks after the proper and effective implementation of various labour laws in the district and is assisted by one Labour Inspector stationed at Kurukshetra. As Conciliation Officer, he initiates proceedings for the settlement of industrial disputes under the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 and tries to settle them by mediation by holding joint discussions with the parties. If he fails to do so, he submits his report to the

Government and matter is referred to the Labour Court or the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication.¹

Labour Legislation

Labour legislation is necessary to tackle economic and social problems as civil laws, in general, do not deal with labour problems. The labour laws are motivated by humanitarian approach as propounded by the International Labour Organisation and are based on the principles of social justice. Labour, under the constitution of India, is a concurrent subject and as such both Central and the State Legislatures are empowered to make laws. The Factories Act, 1948 is the most important labour legislation. It is administered by the Inspectors of Factories, Ambala and one Senior Inspector of Factories, Panipat under the guidance of the Chief Inspector of Factories and Labour Commissioner, Haryana Chandigarh through Deputy Chief Inspector of Factories and Additional Chief Inspector of Factories.

To look after the health of the workers, the State Government has appointed a whole time Certifying Surgeon for the entire State with headquarters at Faridabad who has been provided with a mobile van having an X-ray plant and laboratory. His duties are to visit the factories involving hazardous operations, check on the health of workers and take remedial measures to forestall any deterioration.

To look after the general welfare of its employees, every factory employing 500 or more workers is required to appoint a Labour Welfare Officer. There is no such factory in the district.

Industrial Relations

The relations between the employers and the employees are governed by the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. The Labour-cum-Conciliation Officer, Kurukshetra is responsible for enforcing it in the district. His efforts are directed towards fostering amicable relations between management and workers by removing, as far as possible, the causes of friction by prompt intervention and by timely redress of the grievances of the parties. He lays emphasis on settlement of disputes

¹ There is National Tribunal also to which reference is made by the Central Government to cover such cases as are of National importance or those in which establishments in more than one state may be affected.

through direct negotiations across the table or voluntary arbitration rather than through adjudication.

The functions of the Conciliation Officer are advisory and he has no direct powers to announce awards. In 2003-04, 134 disputes were handled by the Conciliation Officer. Of these, 24 were settled through his intervention, 52 were referred for adjudication/ arbitration, 2 were withdrawn and 59 were rejected/ filed by the Government.

Works Committees

To promote harmonious relations between employers and workmen, to consider matters of mutual interest and to solve day-to-day problems, there is a provision in the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, for setting up of Works Committees in the industrial establishments employing 100 or more workers. Such Committees, consisting of an equal number of representatives of the management and workmen exist in Haryana Milk Foods Ltd., Pehowa, Shahabad Co-operative Suger Mills Ltd., Shahabad, Sain Sung Paper Industry.

Strikes

There is industrial peace in the district. Prompt disposal of cases under various enactments has created an atmosphere of peace.

Trade Unions

The trade union movement in the district has gained momentum which is reflected in the number of registered trade unions under the Trade Unions Act, 1926. On March 31, 2004 the number of registered trade unions was 34 and their names are given in Table I.

Employees Provident Funds Scheme

The Employees Provident Funds Scheme framed by the Government of India under the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 was designated to provide security to workers. The scheme was introduced on November 1, 1952. Initially, it was applicable to the factories employing 50 or more persons, but the limit was lowered from December 31, 1960, and factories/ establishments employing 20 or more persons were covered under this scheme.

The provident fund contribution was deducted at the rate of 6¼ percent from the monthly wages of the employees subscribing to the

fund and an equal amount was contributed by the employers. The rate of contribution was enhanced from 6¼ percent to 8 percent on January 1, 1963 in respect of industries/classes of establishments employing 50 or more persons. This limit was further raised to 8.33 percent on August 1, 1988. As per the amendment dated 22.9.1997 in the Act, both the employees and employer contribute to the fund at the rate of 12 percent of the basic wages, dearness allowance and retaining allowance if any, payable to employees per month. The rate of contribution is 10 percent in case of following establishments:-

- (i) Any covered establishment with less than 20 employees for establishments cover prior to 22.9.97.
- (ii) Any sick industrial company which comes under the (Special Provisions) Act 1985 and which has been declared as such by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction.
- (iii) Any establishment which has at the end of any financial year accumulated losses equal to or exceeding its entire net worth.
- (iv) Any establishment engaged in manufacturing of (a) Jute, (b) Bread (c) Coir and (d) Guar gum industries/ factories.
- (v) Interest is credited to the members account on monthly running balance with effect from the last day in each year. The rate of interest for the year 2005-06 has been notified as 8.5 percent.

In Kurukshetra district 603 factories/establishments were covered under this scheme by March 31, 2007 and 9,787 workers out of a total of 18,207 subscribed to the scheme.

The entire amount is deposited with the State Bank of India in Employees Provident Fund Account. The administrative charges at a fixed rate are contributed additionally by the employers. The fund vests with the Central Board of Trustees having nominees of the Central Government, the State Government and representatives of the employers and employees. The Central Provident Fund Commissioner at New Delhi is the Chief Executive Officer. The Regional Provident Fund Commissioner at Faridabad is responsible

for the implementation of the scheme in Haryana and a Regional Office at Karnal deals with the cases of Kurukshetra district.

The subscribers can withdraw money from their provident fund for certain approved purposes. In the event of calamities of an exceptional nature, such as floods and earthquakes, the subscribers are entitled to draw an advance. In the case of factories, establishments having been continuously close down or locked up for more than six months, the advance can be taken subject to certain conditions. A non-refundable advance is also granted in case of individual retrenchment, successor's marriage, house building etc., in order to mitigate the immediate hardship.

To afford financial assistance to the nominees/ heirs of the deceased subscriber, a Death Relief Fund was set up in 1964 and a minimum of Rs. 1,000 was assured by way of Relief. The sum assured was enhanced to Rs. 1,258 since August 19, 1981. This has been further enhanced to Rs. 2,000 on April 1, 1988 and after that no such amount was enhanced under death Relief Fund.

A Subscriber is allowed to withdraw the full amount standing to his credit in the fund on cessation of service.

In Kurukshetra district 917 cases of provident funds claims were settled and Rs. 2,33,47,181 were paid to the claimants during 2003-04.

Deposit Linked Insurance Scheme, 1976.- Notified by the Government of India, this scheme came into force on August 1, 1976. The scheme applies to the employees of the factories/establishments which are covered under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. An employer is required to pay 0.5 percent of the aggregate of basic wages, dearness allowance (including the cash value of food concession) and retaining allowances, if any payable to the employees. As regards Administrative charges, the employer is required to pay an amount equal to 0.01 percent of the wages subject to a minimum of Rs. 2/- per month.

On the death of an employee who is a member of the fund, the person entitled to receive the provident fund accumulations of the deceased shall in addition to such accumulations, be paid an amount

equal to the average balance in the provident fund account of the deceased during the preceding one year provided that the average balance in the account of the deceased in the fund during the proceeding 12 months or during the period of his membership which even is less, except where the average balance exceed Rs. 25,000/- amount payable shall be Rs. 25,000 plus 25 percent of the amount in excess of Rs. 25,000/- subject to a ceiling of Rs. 35,000/-. The form prescribed for claiming the assurance benefits under the Employees' Deposit Linked Insurance 1976 is Form 5 (IF).

In Kurukshetra district, during 2003-04, only one case was settled under this scheme and Rs. 25,501/- were paid.

Family Pension-cum- Life Assurance Scheme, 1971.- This scheme was introduced by the Government of India by amending the Employees Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and was enforced on March 1, 1971. It provides family pension to the heirs of the members of the fund who die prematurely while in service. Employees who were subscribing to the fund before February 28, 1971, were given choice to opt for this scheme which has been made compulsory since March, 1971 for all those subscribing to the fund.

Although no additional liability on the members is levied under the scheme, 1 percent of his wages is transferred to Family Pension Fund out of the amount of the subscriber as well as employees contributions payable under the employee's contributions payable under the Employees Provident Fund Scheme. The following benefits are available under this scheme:-

Monthly Family Pension.- If a member of family pension scheme dies during service before attaining the age of 60 years, family pension will be paid to the nominees at the rate of 30 to 40 percent of the pay (subject to the minimum of Rs. 225) provided the member had contributed to the Family Pension Fund for not less than three months. If the member has contributed to family pension fund for not less than 7 years before his death, the beneficiary will get additional 20 percent of the pay last drawn as pension for a period of seven years from the date of death or till the date on which the member would have reached

the age of 60 years, had he remained alive, whichever is earlier. A sum of Rs. 5,000 is also paid to the nominees as life insurance benefit.

The members who join the family pension-cum-life assurance scheme at the age of 25 years or less and retire after attaining the age of 60 years, are eligible for retirement benefits not less than Rs. 110 and not more than Rs. 19,825 under this scheme.

In Kurukshetra district, Family pension fund claims worth Rs. 7,25,995 were settled during 2003-04.

Social Welfare

Old Age Pension.- The protective umbrella of social security in the form of old age pension was provided to the old, destitute and disabled persons in 1964 for the first time. The pension amount was fixed at Rs. 15 per month. The old, destitute or disabled persons who were in the age group of 65 years or above in the case of women and who were without subsistence or support were made eligible for the pension. However, relaxation of 10 years from the prescribed age limit was allowed to the permanent disabled persons. The scheme was scrapped in 1967 but was revived in April, 1969 and the pension amount was enhanced to Rs. 25 per month. The quantum of pension was enhanced to Rs. 50 per month in April 1977. In October, 1981, the age limit was lowered by 5 years both for men and women and the amount of pension was enhanced to Rs. 100 per month with the introduction of new old age (liberalized) pension scheme, the registration of new applicants were stopped w.e.f. 17.6.1987. The scheme was discontinued but a new scheme of old age pension had been introduced w.e.f. July 1st 1999.

New (liberalized) Old Age Pension.- Under this scheme, such men/women of the age of 60 years or more as on 1.7.1999 were eligible for old age pension provided the persons are Haryana domicile, not liable to pay income tax and are not getting pension @ Rs. 300 per month or more from any other source. The rate of old age pension is Rs. 300 per month per head. Both husband and wife can avail this benefit separately. During 2003-04, 37,886 persons were covered under this scheme in the district.

Foster Care Service Scheme.- Under this scheme, orphan and destitute children upto the age of 21 years are placed in the foster

families to provide homely atmosphere to the children. A foster family is provided a sum of Rs. 30 per month per child towards maintenance of the child. Upto March 2003-04, 1,685 children were benefited under this scheme.

Financial Assistance to destitute children.- This scheme was started during 1978-79. Under this scheme, children (below 21 years, of age) deprived of parental support or care due to death, continued absence from home or physical or mental incapacity of parents and whose parents or guardian's income does not exceed Rs. 10,000/- per annum are eligible for financial assistance at the rate of Rs. 30 per month.

Financial Assistance to Destitute Women and Widows Pension.- The scheme was started during 1979-80. Under this scheme, financial assistance has been raised from time to time and now the widow pension has been raised from Rs. 300 to Rs. 350 per month w.e.f. May 1st 2006 to those widow and destitute women who are between the age group of 18-65 years and have no means of livelihood after the demise of their husbands or due to their continued absence from home on account of their physical or mental incapacity, Girls who remain unmarried due to mental deficiency or any other social malice are also entitled to this aid. Upto 2003-04, 14,216 widows and destitute women obtained benefits under this scheme.

Pension to Physically Handicapped.- The scheme for pension to physically handicapped was started during 1979-80. Under this scheme physically handicapped persons between the age group of 21-65 years and have no means of subsistence or cannot do any work to earn their livelihood and their close relatives are not supporting them, are eligible for pension provided that in either case they are domiciled and have resided in Haryana for more than 3 years at the time of making application. The earlier rate of pension was Rs. 50 per month which has since been increased to Rs. 600. Upto 2003-04, 4,093 physically handicapped persons got benefit under this scheme.

Integrated Child Development Service Scheme.- This scheme was started in Ladwa and Shahabad blocks in 1979-80 and 1986-87 respectively. Under this scheme, a package of services such as supplementary nutrition, immunization, health check up, referral services, pre-school education is being provided to pre-school children, expectant and nursing mothers in an integrated manner. The

programme covers the weaker section of the community in rural and urban areas. During 2003-04, 36,160 children below 6 years of age and 26,561 pregnant and nursing mothers and other women in the age group of 15-45 years were benefited under this scheme.

Advancement of Backward Classes¹

The Scheduled Castes and Other Backward Classes residing in the district are as under.-

Scheduled Castes	Other Backward Classes
Balmiki Chuhra, Bhangi	Barra, Bairagi,
Bazigar, Chamar, Ramdasi	Bharbhunja, Bharbhaja
Ravidasi, Jatia Chamar, Rehgar	Bhat, Lohar, Chimba, Chippi
Deha, Doom, Maha-sha,	Chimpa, Darzi, Dhobhi,
Kabirpanthi, Julaha, Khatik	Dakaut, Kashyap Rajput,
Kori, Mazhabi Sikh, Mazhabi,	Jhinwar, Dhinwar, Galaria
Megh, Nat, Od, Pasi, Samela,	Hajjam, Nai, Jhangra, Brahman
Sikligar, Sirkiband, Bangali,	Khati, Jogi Nath, Kumhar, Kamboj
Sainsi, Bhedkut, Banjare, Dhanak	Labana, Mirasi, Pinja, Penja, Rai Sikh, Shorgir, Singhikat, Singhi- wala, Sunar, Thathera, Teli, Vanzara, Banjara, Julaha, Fakir, Gadi Lohar,
	<i>Acherj (Maha Brahman)</i>

The different professions adopted by these classes include agricultural labour, sweeping and scavenging, leather tanning, shoe-making, basket and rope-making, pigs and sheep rearing, hair cutting, ironsmithy, washing and dyeing, etc.

¹ Scheduled Castes have been defined in Article 341 of the constitution of India. Vimukata Jatis connote such a tribe, gang or class of persons or any part of a tribe, gang or class of persons which were deemed to be criminal Tribes under the Criminal Tribes Act VI of 1924. Other Backward Classes include backward classes other than Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, recognized as such by the State Government on the basis of educational and economic backwardness coupled with some social stigma akin to untouchability.

The Department of Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes has adopted certain measures for the benefit of these classes in pursuance to the Directive Principles of State Policy embodied in the constitution of India. The following scheme have been taken up to ameliorate their lots and to bring them at par with other Castes.

Removal of Untouchability.- Article 17 of the Constitution of India abolished untouchability and forbade its practice in any form which is punishable under Untouchability (Offences) Act, 1955, now known as the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955. Despite these Constitutional and legal guarantees, it is existing in one form or the other, especially in rural areas.

To eradicate untouchability, a special programme carried on through community centres known as training centres and *balwadis*. These have been started at places where there are large concentration of members of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes. These centres are open to all classes irrespective of Caste or creed. Under this scheme, women are taught cooking, first aid, home nursing, care of baby, mending of cloths and some crafts by a Lady Social Worker. The children play games and are trained in cleanliness, good conduct and good habits. The expenditure incurred on cloth, sewing machines and books is met by the Government.

Three community centres located at villages Sambala, Siana Saidan and Jhansa are functioning in the district. The staff in each centre consists of one lady social worker and one lady attendant preferably a trained midwife (*dai*), who attends to maternity cases in villages.

For setting up a community centre, the building is provided free of rent by the village panchayat. The centre is maintained in the village as long as necessary.

Promotion of Education.- The person belonging to these classes are, by the large illiterate. Special measures taken by the Government to spread education amongst them have been described in chapter on 'Education and Culture'.

Subsidy for Construction of New Houses.-In order to provide shelter to the homeless members of the Scheduled Castes, subsidies

are granted for the construction of new houses. Such a subsidy is given to a person who has no house of his own. From 2001-02, the amount of subsidy has been increased from Rs. 2000 to Rs. 10,000. The proprietary rights of the house remain vested in the Government for 20 years after which the house becomes the property of the beneficiary. The latter, of course, has free use of the house during this period. A house consists of a room, verandah, kitchen and courtyard on a total area of 50 square yards. The unskilled labour at site are provided by the beneficiary himself. Year-wise details of subsidy provided are given below:-

Year	Amount (Rs.)	Beneficiaries (No.)
1993-94	3,40,000	69
1994-95	3,30,000	66
1995-96	3,55,000	71
1996-97	4,05,000	81
1997-98	3,55,000	71
1998-99	3,60,000	72
1999-00	2,50,000	50
2000-01	2,45,000	49
2001-02	2,40,000	24
2002-03	2,40,000	24
2003-04	2,40,000	24

Legal Assistance.- The members of the Scheduled Castes and Vimukat Jatis are provided with legal assistance to defend themselves in cases involving ejection from land, abduction cases, etc. This scheme came into force in 1958-59. Its implementation is under the charge of Deputy Commissioner who is assisted in this work by District Welfare Officer. From 1993-94 to 2002-03, 577 persons were benefited under this scheme.

Subsidy for Construction/ Repair of Chopals.- Scheduled Castes have no place of their own where they can celebrate festivals or marriages of their children. In order to remove this difficulty the government introduced a scheme in 1970-71 under which Rs. 5,000

were given as subsidy for the construction of new *chopal* and Rs. 2000 for the repair of old one. In 1992-93, the subsidy has again raised to Rs. 10,000/- for repair and Rs. 20,000 for completion of the *Chopal* under the subsidy scheme of the State Government. The year-wise detail of subsidy and the number of *chopals* receiving the benefit are given below:-

Year	Amount (Rs.)	Chopals (No.)
1998-99	2,90,000	16
1999-00	1,80,000	8
2000-01	1,50,000	12
2001-02	1,60,000	9
2002-03	2,20,000	10
2003-04	2,20,000	13

Environmental Improvement in Harijan Bastis Scheme.-The Scheme was introduced in 1981-82 for better sanitary facilities in Harijan *bastis*. A grant upto Rs. 50,000 is given in a village for the payment of streets, drainage, public latrines in the *bastis* where the population of Scheduled Castes is 25 percent. The labour charges are met from N.R.E.P. (National Rural Employment Programme). The village Panchayats maintain it after it has been provided by the State Government. Year-wise details of subsidy are given below:-

Year	Amount (Rs.)	Beneficiaries (No.)
1994-95	3,15,000	18
1995-96	3,50,000	27
1996-97	2,92,000	17
1997-98	1,20,000	5
1998-99	1,20,000	6
1999-00	84,000	3
2000-01	50,000	3
2001-02	1,00,000	6
2002-03	90,000	4
2003-04	1,00,000	3

Scheme for Encouraging Intercaste Marriages.- This Scheme was introduced in 1984-85 for diminishing Caste-consciousness among the people. Under this Scheme Rs. 5,000 (Rs. 2,000 in cash and Rs. 3,000 in fixed deposit in the joint account of the married couple) is granted in case where a non-Scheduled Castes boy marries a Scheduled Caste girl or vice-versa. The amount of incentive has been increased from Rs. 5000 to 25000 in 1996-97. Year-wise details of subsidy are given below:-

Year	Amount (Rs.)	Beneficiaries (No.)
1994-95	-	-
1995-96	5,000	1
1996-97	-	-
1997-98	25,000	1
1998-99	-	-
1999-00	-	-
2000-01	50,000	2
2001-02	-	-
2002-03	75,000	3
2003-04	25,000	1

Monetary Relief to Victims of Atrocities due to Caste Consideration on Scheduled Castes.- This Scheme was introduced in 1983-84. Under this financial assistance, compensation to the victims of atrocities committed on members of Scheduled Castes by members of other communities is given as under:-

(1) Death per person killed in a family	Rs. 10,000
(2) Permanent incapacitation per member in a family	Rs. 10,000
(3) Temporary incapacitation	Rs. 2,000
(4) Grievous hurt short or incapacitation	Rs. 1,000
(5) Rape	Rs. 5,000
(6) Loss of house	Rs. 2,000
(7) Loss of immoveable property	Rs. 2,000

Year-wise details of relief provided from 1993-94 to 2003-04 are given below:-

Year	Amount (Rs.)	Beneficiaries (No.)
1993-94	10,000	1
1994-95	23,500	4
1995-96	25,000	1
1996-97	37,500	3
1997-98	75,000	9
1998-99	1,62,500	10
1999-00	1,36,115	13
2000-01	43,750	3
2001-02	93,750	15
2002-03	2,62,500	11
2003-04	1,81,250	3

Loans Advance by Haryana Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation Limited.- The role of this corporation is to give financial assistance to the members of Scheduled Castes for their economic development. The Corporation at present is implementing three types of Schemes, namely:-

- (a) Bank tie-up schemes.
- (b) National Scheme of Liberation & Rehabilitation of Scavengers/ Dependents.
- (c) Schemes in collaboration with National Scheduled Castes & Scheduled Tribes Finance & Development Corporation (NSFDC).

As per the guidelines issued by the Govt. of India, the Corporation provides loan/benefit to only those identified Scheduled

Castes families whose annual family income does not exceed Rs. 20,000/- in rural areas and Rs. 27,500/- in urban areas for various bank assisted income generating Schemes such as dairy farming, sheep rearing, piggery, *Karyana* shop, animal driven carts, leather and leather goods making, tea shop, bangles shop, etc. In case of National Scheduled Caste Finance and Development Corporation (NSFDC) assisted schemes such as purchase of Light Commercial Vehicles, Auto-Rickshaw (Diesel) etc. the income ceiling is Rs. 40,000/- per annum in rural areas and Rs. 55,000/- per annum in urban areas. There is no income limit under

National Scheme of Liberation & Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents (NSLRS).

SUBSIDY

(a) Under Banks assisted schemes

As per the latest instructions of Govt. of India, the Corporation (HSFDC) provides subsidy @ 50 percent (Maximum amount of subsidy is Rs. 10,000/-) of the total project cost.

(b) Under NSFDC assisted schemes

In case of NSFDC assisted schemes the Corporation provides subsidy @ 50 percent of the project cost. The maximum amount of subsidy is Rs. 10,000/-

NSLRS (National scheme of Liberation & Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their dependents)

As per scheme, Corporation provides subsidy @ 50 percent (maximum limit of subsidy is Rs. 10,000/-) to the identified scavengers/ dependents for taking up various income generating scheme.

MARGIN MONEY

(a) Under bank assisted Schemes

As per guidelines issued by the Govt. of India, Corporation provides margin money @ 100 percent of the project cost.

(b) Under NSFDC assisted schemes

The Corporation contributes its share in the shape of margin money as per financing pattern approved by NSFDC under the particular scheme.

(c) National Scheme of Liberation & Rehabilitation of Scavengers & their Dependents (NSLRS)

Margin money is provided @ 15 percent of the project cost in individual cases.

Project Cost Ceiling**(a) Under Bankable Scheme**

The Corporation provides financial assistance for various bankable income generating schemes costing upto Rs. 50,000/-.

(b) Under NSFDC assisted Schemes

Corporation follows the unit cost as approved by NSFDC under various Schemes. The NSFDC, Haryana Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation and beneficiaries contribute towards the scheme in the ratio approved by NSFDC.

(c) Under National Scheme of Liberation and Rehabilitation of Scavengers and their Dependents (NSLRS)

As per National Scheme, Corporation provides financial assistance to the identified scavengers and their dependents for various income generating schemes costing upto Rs. 50,000/-.

The loans advanced by Haryana Scheduled Castes Finance and Development Corporation to the members of Scheduled Castes in the district for various trades/ professions during 1990-91 to 2003-04 are given in Table II.

Working Women Hostel Kurukshetra

A working women hostel with a capacity to accommodate 84 working women is functioning at Kurukshetra since July, 1986 under the aegis of District Red Cross Society. It was built at a cost of

Rs. 18.57 lakhs, of which, Rs. 13.93 lakhs were contributed by the Department of Women and Child Development, Government of India while the State Government released a grant of Rs. 2.79 lakhs to the Red Cross Society. Rest of the expenditure was borne by the District Red Cross Society, Kurukshetra from its own resources. This hostel has 28 rooms with attached kitchen and toilet. It also has a crèche and a Ward residence. A day care centre for 30 children has also been set up in this hostel. In 2004, 43 working ladies were residing in the hostel.

Prohibition

A programme of partial prohibition of observing two dry days i.e. Monday and Tuesday in a week besides three closed days (i.e. Independence Day-15, August Acharaya Vinoba Bhave's birthday-September 11 and Mahatma Gandhi's birthday-October 2), was introduced on April, 1, 1969, in the whole of state including areas which now comprise the Kurukshetra district. The intention was to increase the number of dry days gradually in each successive year and thus achieve complete prohibition within three or four years.

The Policy of two dry days in a week did not deliver the desired result. The people have either been stocking liquor for consumption during the dry days or purchased their requirements from bootleggers. It also encouraged illicit distillation. The licensees also sometimes indulged in mal-practice of selling on prohibited/dry days. The whole situation was, therefore, reviewed and from April 1, 1970, it was decided to enforce only the Policy of observing three closed days in a year. Further, no liquor shop was to be opened within a distance of 150 meters from any educational institution or bus stand or a place of public worship or public entertainment.

The maximum limit of keeping six bottles of country liquor and IMEL in an individual possession has been fixed from 2000-01.

Complete prohibition was never enforced in the areas now comprising Kurukshetra district except Kurukshetra town which being a holy city was declared a dry place since 1981-82 and Pehowa was declared dry in 1982-83 keeping in view the sanctity of the place. Country liquor vends were opened in 1966 for the first time in villages Ratgal and Raogarh in the periphery of Kurukshetra. The other vend

near Kurukshetra was opened at Pipli in 1972. In March, 2003-04, the number of country liquor and Indian made foreign liquor vends was 45 and 19, respectively. The details of the consumption of excisable articles and country liquor vend and India made foreign liquor vends in the district during 2002-03 and 2003-04 are as follows:-

Year	Country Liquor vends	Indian made Foreign Liquor Vends	Country liquor	Foreign Liquor
2002-03	45	19	22,45,000 (PL)	6,47,000 (PL)
2003-04	45	19	Combined	2,76,700 (PL)

The consumption of country liquor and Indian made foreign liquor has considerably increased. The suppression of illicit distillation, opening of new vends, improved financial position of the people in the rural and urban areas are mainly responsible for the increased consumption of liquor in the district. Illicit liquor is consumed in some rural areas of the district. It has also not been possible to check the illicit distillation of liquor completely. The cases detected under Excise Act during 2002-03 and 2003-04 are shown below:-

Year	Number of cases detected
2002-03	4,716
2002-04	4,004

TABLE-1
Trade Unions

Sr. No.	Name of the Trade Union
1.	Military Farm, Workers Union, Military Farm, Dhantori.
2.	Carpenters General Labour Union, Pipli.
3.	Kurukshetra Central Co-operative Bank Employees Association.
4.	Municipal Karamchari Association, Kurukshetra.
5.	Municipal Employees Workers Union, Pehowa.
6.	Nagar Palika Shramik Sangh, Pehowa.
7.	Haryana Milk Foods Employees Union, Pehowa.
8.	Markanda Vanaspati Karamchari Union, Shahabad Markanda.
9.	Chemical Mazdoor Union, Shahabad.
10.	Haryana Spun Pipe Factory Workers Union, Kurukshetra.
11.	Mess Welfare Employees Union, Kurukshetra.
12.	Boring Workers Union, Pehowa.
13.	Kurukshetra Sheller and Chakki Mazdoor Sangh Thenesar.
14.	Khokha Union, Pehowa.
15.	Tonga Union Kurukshetra.
16.	Tonga Union, Pehowa.
17.	Haryana Rickshaw Chalak Workers Union, Kurukshetra.
18.	Haryana Pradesh Auctioneers Association, Kurukshetra.
19.	Municipal Safai Mazdoor Union, Ladwa.
20.	Janta Darbar Union, Kurukshetra.
21.	Haryana Associated Press Popular Union, Kurukshetra.
22.	Haryana State Electricity Board Karamchari Union, Kurukshetra.

23. Baba Vishavkarma General Labour Union, Pehowa.
24. Vikas Mandal Karamchari Union, Kurukshetra.
25. Vishvkarma Workers Union, Village Fatehapur.
26. Food Corporation of India Employees Congress Haryana, Kurukshetra.
27. Haryana Co-operative Marketing Societies Employees Union, Kurukshetra.
28. Shahabad Cooperative Sugar Mills Ltd. Karamchari Union, Shahabad.
29. The Kaul Labourers Association Sangh, Kurukshetra.
30. Kurukshetra Kendriya Sahkari Bank of Mini Bank Managers Sangh, Kurukshetra.
31. Shiv Shakti Mazdoor Union, Village, Siana Saidan.
32. Kurukshetra University Hostel (Mess) Workers Union, Kurukshetra.
33. Private Construction Contractors Union, Kurukshetra.

TABLE-II
**Loan Distributed by Haryana Scheduled Castes Finance and
Development Corporation to the Members of
Scheduled Castes in various professions.**

Year	Amount (Rs. in lakhs)	Beneficiaries (No.)
1990-91	29.50	442
1991-92	45.18	627
1992-93	41.50	640
1993-94	44.22	535
1994-95	59.77	600
1995-96	61.20	475
1996-97	73.38	401
1997-98	98.35	531
1998-99	113.96	602
1999-00	48.33	253
2000-01	119.55	552
2001-02	107.36	507
2002-03	106.67	500
2003-04	99.41	493