

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

REPRESENTATION OF THE DISTRICT IN THE STATE AND THE UNION LEGISLATIVES

The district had a double-member parliamentary constituency, i.e., Baleshwar in the first General Election of 1951-52 and second General Election of 1957. In these two elections the district was represented by twelve and eleven members respectively in the State Legislature. For this purpose, the district was divided into two double and eight single-member assembly constituencies in the election of 1951-52 and two double and seven single-member constituencies in the 1957 election. In pursuance of clause (C) of Section 4 of the two-members constituencies (Abolition) Act, 1961 each of the former two-members constituencies in the state of Orissa was divided into single-member constituencies. Thus, Baleshwar had two single-member Parliamentary constituencies in the elections of 1962, 1967, 1971, 1977 and 1980. Likewise in 1961, 1967 and 1971 Assembly elections the district was divided into eleven single-member constituencies. As a result of the report of the Delimitation Commission of 1973, the number of Assembly constituencies was raised to twelve during the elections of 1974, 1977 and 1980 and there was no change in the number of Parliament seats. According to the last delimitation in 1973, the present territorial extents of the Parliamentary as well as the Assembly constituencies of this district are as follows*.

Serial No.	Name of the constituencies	Extent of Parliamentary/Assembly constituencies
(1)	(2)	(3)

A. PARLIAMENTARY CONSTITUENCIES

1	Baleshwar	Baisinga (ST), Khunta (ST), Bhograi, Jaleshwar, Basta, Baleshwar and Soro.
2	Bhadrak (SC)	Similia, Nilagiri, Bhandaripokhari (SC), Bhadrak, Dhamnagar, Chandbali (SC) and Basudebpur.

*The Orissa Gazette Extraordinary, No. 1781, Cuttack, Monday, December, 31, 1973.

Serial No. (1)	Name of the constituencies (2)	Extent of Parliamentary/Assembly constituencies (3)
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B. ASSEMBLY CONSTITUENCIES

1.	Baisinga (ST) *	.. Baisinga police-station, Muruda police-station (excluding part Kohi, part Chadheigan, Nuhajhalia, Palasmundali, Gholmuhan, Chitrada, Muruda, Barkand, and Godigan Grama Panchayat) and Badasahi, Durgapur, Patisari, Kendudiha, and part Chandanpur Grama Panchayats in Badsahi police-station in Baripada subdivision.
2.	Khunta (ST)	.. Badsahi police-station (excluding Badsahi, Durgapur, Patisari, Kendudiha and part Chandanpur Grama Panchayats) and Betnoti, Dahikoti and Purinda Grama Panchayat in Betnoti police-station in Baripada subdivision; and Khunta police-station in Kaptipada subdivision.
3.	Bhograi	.. Bhograi police-station and Nampo and Paschimbad Grama Pachayats in Baleshwar police-station in Baleshwar subdivision.
4.	Jaleshwar	.. Raibania and Baliapal police-stations and Jaleshwar police-station (excluding Nampo and Paschimbad Grama Panchayat) in Baleshwar subdivision.
5.	Basta	.. Basta and Singla police-stations in Baleshwar subdivision.
6.	Baleshwar	.. Baleshwar police-station and Sergar police-station in Baleshwar subdivision.

*Baisinga and Khunta Assembly constituencies are in Mayurbhanj district.

Serial No.	Name of the constituencies	Extent of Parliamentary/Assembly constituencies
(1)	(2)	(3)
7.	Soro	.. Soro police-station in Baleshwar subdivision.
8.	Similia	.. Similia and Khaira police-stations in Baleshwar subdivision.
9.	Nilagiri	.. Remuna police-station in Baleshwar subdivision and Nilagiri subdivision.
10.	Bhandaripokhari (SC)	.. Bant and Bhandaripokhari police-stations and part Ganijanga, part Sendtira, Kenduapada and Kaupur Grama Panchayats in Bhadrak police-station in Bhadrak subdivision.
11.	Bhadrak	.. Bhadrak police-station (excluding part Ganijanga, part Sendtira, Kaupur and Kenduapara Grama Panchayats) in Bhadrak subdivision.
12.	Dhamnagar	.. Dhamnagar police-station and Chandbali police-station (excluding Motto, part Orasahi, Chandbali and Nalguda Grama Panchayats) in Bhadrak subdivision.
13.	Chandbali (SC)	.. Tihiri police-station, Motto, part Orasahi, Chandbali and Nalguda Grama Panchayats in Chandbali police-station and Bansada police-station (excluding (Dosinga, Bansada and Panchutikiri) Grama Panchayats) in Bhadrak subdivision.
14.	Basudebpur	.. Basudebpur police-station and Dosinga, Bansada and Panchutikiri Grama Panchayats in Bansada police-station in Bhadrak subdivision.

Political Parties and Organisations

At different times, all-India parties like the Indian National Congress, the Swatantra Party, the Praja Socialist Party, the Bharatiya Jana Sangha, the Communist Party of India, the Communist Party of India (Marxist), the Bharatiya Lok Dal, the Janata Party and the state parties like Ganatantra Parishad, the Utkal Congress and the Jana Congress have been the main political parties to be active in this district. The Indian National Congress was divided into two groups following a conflict in the year 1969 and were known as Congress and Congress (Organisation). The Congress (R) further disintegrated in 1977 and some of its members joined the Janata Party. The Communist Party, an all-India party, split after the Chinese aggression in 1962 and the groups were designated as CPI and CPI (M). The Communist Party was not a significant force in Orissa at any time. Its split made things worse for them in Orissa. The Praja Socialist Party was a major political force in Orissa, especially in the coastal districts of Cuttack, Puri and Balashwar. But the debacle of the party in 1971 elections and the socialistic actions of the Congress Party led by Indira Gandhi encouraged the P. S. P. leaders of Orissa to join with the latter and subsequently it merged with the Congress led by Indira Gandhi on the 27th May, 1972. The Bharatiya Jana Sangha has no sizeable influence in Orissa.

Among the regional parties the Ganatantra Parishad was formed with the association of some former rulers and tribal leaders of western Orissa. It merged with the Swatantra Party of C. Rajagopalachari subsequently. Other state parties like the Jana Congress and Utkal Congress were born out of reactions against the prominent leaders of the then Congress Party. The former was formed by the dissident leaders of Orissa Congress like Harekrushna Mahtab and Pabitra Mohan Pradhan on the 5th May, 1966 while the latter was formed by Biju Patnaik following his expulsion from Orissa Congress in 1969. It merged with the Congress (R) in 1971 and was revived in 1972. Subsequently it merged with the Bharatiya Lok Dal which merged with the Janata Party in 1977.

To face the elections to the Lok Sabha in 1977 there was immediate alignment of political forces in all parts of the country. In Orissa, the Bharatiya Lok Dal, the Socialist Party, the Congress (O), the Jana Sangh and the Congress for Democracy merged and the Janata Party was formed. The Janata Party disintegrated in the year 1979 and the factions were known as Lok Dal, Janata Party (JP), Bharatiya Janata Party, Democratic Socialist Party, etc.

In the General Elections to State Legislature, 1980, besides some Independent candidates, candidates belonging to the Indian National Congress headed by Indira Gandhi, Indian National Congress (U), Janata, Janata(S), Bharatiya Janata Party, CPI, CPI(M), All India Jharkhanda Party and Socialist Unit Centre of India entered the fray. In the election, Indian National Congress (I) won eight seats out of twelve seats in the district

In the General Elections to Lok Sabha, 1984, two political parties, Indian National Congress and Janata, contested the election. In addition, Independent candidates were also in the field. Baleshwar and Bhadrak Parliamentary seats went in favour of Indian National Congress.

Seven political parties, viz., the Indian National Congress, the Bharatiya Janata Party, the Forward Block, the Janata Party, Communist Party of India, Communist Party of India (Marxists) and Lok Dal took part in the General Elections to State Legislature, 1985. Besides, Independent candidates also participated in the elections. In the election Indian National Congress captured all the twelve seats. The strength of various political parties in the district can be seen from the results of the elections conducted during the years 1952 to 1985, as discussed below :

First General Elections, 1952

India achieved independence on the 15th August, 1947 after about two hundred years of foreign rule and the Constitution of India came into force on the 26th January, 1950. According to the provisions of Article 325 and 326 of the Constitution of India, every adult Indian citizen has the right to take part in the election. The First General Election was held in Orissa in January, 1952.

Lok Sabha (House of the People)

For the First General Election, the district of Baleshwar had one double-member parliamentary constituency, i.e., Baleshwar of which one seat was reserved for the candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes. Polling was conducted for 21 days beginning from 3rd January to 25th January, 1952 and a total number of 607,958 valid votes were polled. The Indian National Congress, the Socialist Party and the Ganatantra Parishad, all the three political parties had set up two candidates each and both seats were won by the candidates of Indian National Congress.

Informations relating to total number of votes, votes polled, percentage, parties contested and the party won, etc., are given in the following table.

Name of the constituency	No. of seats	No. of candidates		No. of electors
		Total	Contested	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1 Baleshwar	2	6	6	7,51,245

Total No. of votes	Total No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of Col. 8 to Col. 7	Parties contested	Votes polled by each party
(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
1502,490	(1) 6,07,958	40.46	INC	205,151
	(2) 3,03,979		INC	151,813
			Socialist	94,005
			Socialist	77,024
			Ganatantra	44,209
			Ganatantra	35,756

Vidhan Sabha (Legislative Assembly)

The district was divided into ten constituencies for the First General Elections to the State Legislature. Of these, two constituencies, i.e., Nilagiri and Chandbali were double-member constituencies whereas Jaleshwar, Bhograi, Basta, Soro, Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Bant and Dhamnagar each formed a single-member constituency. One seat each in the double-member constituencies of Nilagiri and Chandbali were reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates. For 12 seats there were altogether forty-two contestants. Besides 8 Independent candidates, the Indian National Congress, the Socialist, the Ganatantra Parishad and the Communist Party of India set up 12,10.7 and 5 candidates respectively.

The constituency-wise figures relating to the number of electors, total number of votes, total number of valid votes polled, percentage and the successful candidates are given below.

Sl. No.	Name of the constituency	No. of seats	No. of candidates	
			Total	Contested
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
1	Jaleshwar	1	3	3
2	Bhograi	1	4	4
3	Basta	1	2	2
4	Soro	1	3	3
5	Baleshwar	1	5	4
6	Nilagiri	2	8	8
7	Bhadrak	1	4	3
8	Bant	1	3	3
9	Dhamnagar	1	4	4
10	Chandbali	2	11	8

No. of electors	Total No. of votes	Total No. of valid votes polled	Percentage of Col. 8 to Col. 7	Successful candidates of Parties
(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
52,757	52,757	14,824	28.09	Congress
51,444	51,444	17,699	34.40	Independent
44,696	44,696	15,213	34.03	Congress
55,331	55,331	20,411	36.88	Congress
65,820	65,820	28,280	42.96	Congress
96,101	192,202	73,520	38.25	Both seats were won by Congress.
57,569	57,569	23,295	40.46	Congress
46,424	46,424	20,827	44.86	Congress
49,349	49,349	23,086	46.78	Congress
120,754	241,508	110,251	45.65	Both seats were won by Congress

It is revealed from the above table that out of 12 seats in this district eleven seats were captured by the candidates belonging to the Indian National Congress and one seat was won by an Independent candidate.

Second General Elections, 1957 (Lok Sabha)

The district was made a double-member Parliamentary constituency, i.e., Baleshwar for the purpose of the Second General Elections of 1957. Like the previous elections, one seat of the constituency was reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates. In this election, political parties like the Indian National Congress, the Praja Socialist Party and the Ganatantra Parishad had set up their candidates and altogether 693,456 valid votes were polled. Out of the total votes only 42.31 per cent were exercised and both the seats were won by the candidates belonging to the Indian National Congress.

The following statement gives in detail the figures relating to number of electors, total valid votes polled, candidates contested, votes polled by them, etc.

Name of the constituency	No. of seats	No. of candidates		No. of electors
		Total	Contested	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Baleshwar	2	6	6	8,19,485

Total votes	Total No. of valid votes polled with percentage	Parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate with percentage	Successful candidates of Parties
(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
16,38,970	6,93,456 (42.31)	Congress	1,58,978 (22.93)	Both seats were won by the Congress party.
		Congress	1,45,163 (20.93)	
		P. S. P.	124,795 (18.00)	
		P. S. P.	1,17,065 (16.88)	
		G. Parishad	86,974 (12.54)	
		G. Parishad	60,481 (8.72)	

Vidhan Sabha

The district was delimited into seven single-member and two double-member constituencies for the election of representatives to the State Legislature. In the double-member constituencies of Chandbali and Soro one seat each were reserved for the Scheduled Castes. For eleven seats there were altogether thirty contestants of whom eleven belonged to the Indian National Congress, six to Praja Socialist Party, five to Ganatantra Parishad and two to Communist Party of India. Apart from these, there were six Independent candidates also. In this election eight Congress, two P. S. P. and one Independent candidate were elected to the State Legislative Assembly.

The following table shows the figures relating to the number of electors, total votes, total valid votes polled with percentage, the candidates contested, etc., in the Second General Election.

Name of the constituency	No. of seats	No. of candidates	
		Total	Contested
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Dhamnagar	1	2	2
Chandbali	2	8	6
Bhadrak	1	2	2
Soro	2	5	4
Nilagiri	1	10	6
Baleshwar	1	2	2
Basta	1	3	3
Bhograi	1	5	3
Jaleshwar	1	4	2

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total No. of votes	Total No. of valid votes polled with percentage	Successful candidates of the party
(1)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
Dhamnagar	72,390	72,390	32,944 (45.50)	Congress
Chandbali	1,26,360	2,52,720	1,11,524 (44.12)	Both seats were won by Congress
Bhadrak	57,859	57,859	24,220 (41.86)	Independent
Soro	1,33,516	2,67,032	97,030 (36.33)	Both seats were won by Congress
Nilagiri	58,568	58,568	28,380 (48.45)	Congress
Baleshwar	51,113	51,113	25,014 (48.93)	Praja Socialist Party
Basta	51,209	51,209	22,430 (43.80)	Congress
Bhograi	52,162	52,162	26,815 (51.40)	Congress
Jaleshwar	55,349	55,349	28,649 (51.76)	Praja Socialist Party

From the above statement it is clearly observed that the Ganatantra Parishad had no hold in the district during this election.

Mid-term Elections to State Legislature, 1961

As the Second General Elections were completed by the end of March, 1957, the Third General Elections would have in the normal course, been held in February or March, 1962. But consequent upon the promulgation of the President Rule, the State Legislative Assembly was dissolved with effect from the 25th February, 1961. On the 27th March, 1961 the Union Home Minister announced in the House of the People that elections would be held on about the 4th June, 1961. Never before General Elections have been organised in any state within such a short period. In pursuance of clause (c) of Section 4 of the Two-member Constituencies (Abolition) Act, 1961 each of the former two-member Assembly constituencies in the State of Orissa had been divided into two single-member constituencies. Accordingly the district of Baleshwar was delimited into 11 single-member constituencies, of which two, i.e., Chandbali and Similia were reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates. The mid-term election was held from the 2nd to the 8th June, 1961.

In this district polling was completed within four days. On the 2nd June, Basudebpur, Chandbali and Bhadrak; on the 4th June Dhamnager and Similia, on the 6th June Nilagiri, Baleshwar and Soro and on the 8th June Basta, Bhograi and Jaleshwar went to the polls. For the smooth conduct of elections 711 polling stations were arranged. There were altogether 39 contestants of whom eleven belonged to Congress, nine to Ganatantra Parishad, four to Communist, seven to Praja Socialist and the rest non-party or Independent candidates. The poll result shows six Congress, one Ganatantra Parishad, three Praja Socialist Party and one Independent candidate to have been elected.

The figures relating to number of electors, total votes polled with percentage, number of votes rejected and percentage, candidates contested, number of valid votes polled by each candidate and the successful candidates are given in the next pages.

(1) Name of the constituency	(2) No. of electors	(3) Total votes polled/ percentage	(4) No. of votes rejected/ percentage	(5) Parties contested	(6) No. of valid votes polled by each party	(7) Successful candidates of the party
Dhamnagar	77,716	41,521 (53.43)	1,507 (3.63)	Congress	9,956	Congress
Basudebpur	66,545	38,000 (57.10)	1,791 (4.71)	G. Parishad P. S. P. Independent	5,379 4,128 22,114	Congress
Chandbali (S. C.)	66,267	30,654 (46.25)	1,321 (4.31)	Congress Independent G. Parishad	14,095 3,816 6,079	Congress
Bhadrak	60,296	25,774 (42.74)	906 (3.51)	Congress Independent G. Parishad	14,461 4,977 9,908	Independent

(Contd.)

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage	Parties contested	No. of valid votes polled by each party	Successful candidates of the party
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Soro	64,451	28,830 (44.73)	1,128 (3.91)	Communist Independent Congress G. Parishad P. S. P. Congress	6,488 6,413 7,709 1,601 5,491 9,228	Congress Congress
Similia (S.C)	69,997	23,383 (33.40)	968 (4.14)	P. S. P. Congress	8,475 4,712	Congress Ganatantra
Nilagiri	64,348	34,695 (53.91)	1,622 (4.70)	G. Parishad Communist	13,049 10,454	Congress Congress

(Contd.)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Baleshwar	59,588	24,323 (40.82)	928 (3.81)	P. S. P.	9,501	Congress
				Congress	11,511	
				G. Parishad	1,198	
				Communist	1,185	
Basta	57,896	25,114 (43.38)	943 (3.75)	Congress	10,409	P. S. P.
				G. Parishad	2,012	
				P. S. P.	11,750	
Bhograi	58,367	29,422 (50.41)	1,192 (4.05)	G. Parishad	512	P. S. P.
				Congress	10,855	
				P. S. P.	16,863	
Jaleshwar	65,952	27,519 (41.72)	1,005 (3.65)	G. Parishad	906	P. S. P.
				P. S. P.	14,054	
				Congress	11,077	
				Independent	477	

(Concl'd.)

Lok Sabha Elections, 1962

For the General Elections of 1962 to the House of People, the district of Baleshwar was divided into two single-member Parliamentary constituencies namely Baleshwar and Bhadrak. Though the Assembly Elections of 1961 was completed within four days it took seven days for the elections to Lok Sabha.

In Bhadrak Parliamentary constituency there was a straight fight between the candidates belonging to Congress and Praja Socialist Party; whereas in Baleshwar constituency it was a triangular contest among the candidates of Congress, P. S. P. and one Independent. The candidates belonging to Congress Party captured both the seats. In Bhadrak, the Congress got 36,893 votes whereas 30,596 votes went in favour of the P. S. P. candidate. In Baleshwar, the Congress, the P. S. P. and the Independent candidates polled 87,250, 57,691 and 6,953 votes respectively.

Fourth General Elections, 1967

Normally, elections to the State Legislature should have been held in 1966 as the Orissa Assembly was to continue up to the 20th August, 1966; but the Union Government postponed the elections. Parliament decided to extend the term of the State Legislative Assembly till the 1st March 1967 by enacting the Orissa Legislative Assembly (Extension of Duration) Act, 1966 so that the elections to the State Legislature could be held simultaneously with the country-wide elections.

The First General Elections were completed in 36 days whereas the polling days were reduced to 14 in the Second General Elections. The mid-term elections of 1961 took four days and polling for the 1962 Lok Sabha elections completed in seven days.

But the unique feature of the elections of 1967 is that polling for both the State Legislature and the House of People was completed in a single day, i.e., the 21st February 1967.

For this election the district was divided into eleven Assembly and two, Parliamentary constituencies. Of the Assembly seats, two, i.e., Similia and Chandbali and the Bhadrak Parliamentary constituency were reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates. Besides five Independents, candidates belonging to the Congress and Swatantra, Praja Socialist Party, Communist Party of India, Communist Party of India (Marxist) and Jana Congress, virtually a splinter group of the Congress, contested for the Assembly seats. Of the total electorate of 8,16,709 only 4,66,321 exercised their

franchise and elected four P. S. P., one Congress, one C P. J. (M.), one Swatantra and four Jana Congress candidates. From the elections results it is noticed that during this election the Congress got only one seat as against the six it captured in the previous election. The most prominent feature of the Fourth General Elections is the anti-Congress swing, that dwindled the party's prestige not only in the state, but all over the country.

A detailed account regarding elections to State Legislative Assembly is given below:

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Bhograi ..	72,845	44,218 (60.70)	2,194 (4.96)
Jaleshwar ..	68,988	38,162 (55.31)	2,230 (5.84)

Name of the constituency	Name of the parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidates of parties
(1)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Bhograi ..	Independent	4,695	P.S.P.
	Congress	15,105	..
	P.S.P.	21,598	..
	Swatantra	626	..
Jaleshwar ..	P.S.P.	24,080	P.S.P.
	Congress	11,852	

(Contd.)

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Basta	64,819	38,266 (59.83)	1,778 (4.64)
Baleshwar	62,500	35,451 (56.72)	1,701 (4.79)
Nilagiri	72,924	42,043 (57.65)	2,719 (6.46)
Soro	75,145	36,563 (49.56)	1,895 (5.18)
Similia (S.C.)	81,092	38,433 (47.39)	2,027 (5.27)

Name of the constituency	Name of the parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidates of the party
(1)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Basta	Swatantra	1,481	Congress
	Congress	18,378	
	P.S.P	13,313	
	Jana Congress	3,316	
Baleshwar	Swatantra	3,919	P. S. P.
	P.S.P.	20,447	
	Congress	9,384	
Nilagiri	Swatantra	8,969	C. P. I. (M)
	Communist (M)	18,438	
	Congress	11,917	
Soro	Communist	7,433	Swatantra
	Congress	10,251	
	Swatantra	15,931	
	P.S.P.	1,053	
Similia (S. C.)	P.S.P.	19,585	P. S. P.
	Swatantra	13,798	
	Congress	3,023	

(Contd.)

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Bhadrak ..	73,085	38,924 (58.25)	1,993 (5.12)
Dhamnagar ..	88,425	54,719 (61.88)	2,459 (4.49)
Chandbali (S.C.) ..	74,695	44,895 (60.10)	3,126 (6.69)
Basudebpur ..	82,191	54,647 (66.48)	2,573 (4.70)

Name of the constituency	Name of the parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidates of the party
(1)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Bhadrak ..	Swatantra	1,898	Jana Congress
	Jana Congress	26,680	
	Congress	5,826	
	Independent	2,527	
Dhamnagar ..	Independent	3,691	Jana Congress
	Jana Congress	40,397	
	Congress	8,172	
Chandbali (S.C.) ..	Communist	5,137	Jana Congress
	Independent	1,346	
	Swatantra	3,543	
	Congress	7,276	
	Jana Congress	24,467	
Basudebpur ..	Congress	15,765	Jana Congress
	Jana Congress	36,309	

(Concl.)

Lok Sabha

As stated above, elections to the House of People were held simultaneously with the State Assembly. For the elections to the Lok Sabha, the district was divided into two Parliamentary constituencies as before, namely, Baleshwar and Bhadrak. Of these, Bhadrak seat was reserved for the Scheduled Castes. Besides one Independent candidate for Bhadrak, three all-India Parties, such as, Congress, Swatantra and Praja Socialist Party also contested. Altogether there were seven candidates in the fray. Out of the total electorate of 10,09,050 only 549,011 voters, i.e., 54.10 per cent exercised their franchise and elected one P. S. P. and one Independent from Baleshwar and Bhadrak seats respectively.

In the following table a detailed account of the Lok Sabha election is given.

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Baleshwar	461,493	2,38,787 (51.74)	11,590 (4.85)
Bhadrak (S.C.)	547,557	3,10,224 (56.65)	15,885 (5.12)

Parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidate of parties
(5)	(6)	(7)
Congress	77,653	P. S. P.
Swatantra	36,521	
P. S. P.	113,022	
Congress	61,012	Independent
Independent	104,484	
Swatantra	83,387	
P. S. P.	45,361	

Mid-term Elections, 1971**Vidhan Sabha**

The State of Orissa, faced again a mid-term poll for the second time in 1971. This time elections both for the State Legislative Assembly as well as the House of People were held on the same day, i.e., the 5th March, 1971. Like the Fourth General Elections, the district of Balleshwar was divided into eleven Assembly constituencies. The number of Parliamentary seats were also unchanged. Of these, the Similia and Chandbali Assembly constituencies and the Bhadrak Parliamentary seat were reserved for the Scheduled Caste candidates. In this election the number of contestants were almost double, i.e., 69 as against 38 in the previous election. Besides some Independents, all-India parties like the Indian National Congress (Ruling), Praja Socialist Party, Swatantra Party, Communist Party of India, Communist Party of India (Marxist), Bharatiya Jana Sangh and the Indian National Congress (Organisation) and the two state parties, i.e., the Utkal Congress and Jana Congress contested this election. Of the 69 candidates for Assembly seats, 10 belonged to I. N. C. (Ruling), 7 to P.S.P., 11 to Swatantra, 4 to C.P.I. (M), 4 to C.P.I., 3 to Bharatiya Jana Sangh, 5 to I. N. C. (O), 11 to Utkal Congress, 5 to Jana Congress and 9 Independents. The I. N. C. and the Utkal Congress captured four seats each while the P. S. P., the C. P. I. and the C. P. I. (M) were returned with one seat each. There were 1,074 polling stations with an average of 855 voters per booth. In this election 454 vehicles were used by the election machinery.

The number of electors, total votes polled, percentage of votes, number of rejected votes, percentage of rejection, the successful candidates, etc, are given in the following table.

Name of the constituency (1)	No. of electors (2)	Total votes polled (3)	Percentage of votes Col. 3 to Col. 2 (4)
Bhograi	84,446	53,928	63.86
Jaleshwar	82,578	47,347	57.33
Basta	74,227	46,453	62.58
Baleshwar	70,007	39,280	56.11
Nilagiri	79,478	43,446	54.66
Soro	84,110	48,402	57.54
Similia (S.C.)	89,778	43,320	48.25
Bhadrak	79,019	41,076	51.98
Dhamnagar	96,009	53,581	55.80
Chandbali (S.C.)	82,606	44,744	54.16
Basudebpur	90,170	54,662	60.62

(Contd.)

No. of votes rejected	Percentage of rejected votes Col. 5 to Col. 3	Successful candidates of parties
(5)	(6)	(7)
2,443	4.53	I. N. C. (R)
2,137	4.51	P. S. P.
2,258	4.84	Utkal Congress
2,835	7.22	I. N. C. (R)
2,337	5.37	C. P. I. (M)
3,033	6.26	Utkal Congress
3,156	7.28	C. P. I.
2,104	5.12	I. N. C. (R)
2,212	4.12	Utkal Congress
1,894	4.23	I. N. C. (R)
2,612	4.77	Utkal Congress

Lok Sabha

In 1971, there was two Parliamentary constituencies, i.e., Baleshwar and Bhadrak of which the latter was reserved for the Scheduled Castes. In the mid-term poll five political parties, viz., Swatantra, Utkal Congress, Indian National Congress (R), P. S. P. and Congress (O) and one Independent candidate entered in the election contest.

Baleshwar Parliamentary constituency witnessed the poll among the candidates belonging to Swatantra, Utkal Congress, Indian National Congress (R) and Praja Socialist Party. Of the total 5,24,558 electors 2,72,407 voters, i.e., 51.93 per cent exercised their franchise and 11,850 votes, i.e., 4.35 per cent of the total votes polled were rejected.

In the Bhadrak (S.C.) Parliamentary constituency besides one Independent, the Indian National Congress (R), the Congress (O), the Swatantra and the Utkal Congress had set up their own candidates. Of the, 6,01,170 voters 3,29,173 adults, i.e., 54.74 per cent cast their votes and 13,902, i.e., 4.22 per cent of the votes polled were rejected.

Both the Parliamentary seats were captured by the candidates belonging to the Indian National Congress (R).

By-election

Consequent upon the resignation of the Indian National Congress (R) candidate elected from Bhadrak Assembly constituency a by-election became necessary to fill-up the vacancy

and on 22nd September, 1971 by-election was held for Bhadrak. In this by-election besides one Independent candidate, the Indian National Congress and the Utkal Congress also set up their candidates. Out of the total electorate of 83,688 only 43,780, i.e., 52.31 per cent cast their votes and 1,601, i.e., 3.66 per cent votes were rejected. In this by-election the Indian National Congress (R) lost the seat to the Utkal Congress.

Mid-term Elections to State Legislature, 1974

The Fifth General Elections to the State Legislative Assembly having been held in the year 1971, normally the Sixth General Elections would have been held in 1976. But the Orissa Legislative Assembly was dissolved on the 1st March 1973. The Election Commission of India decided to hold poll of the Assembly constituencies of Orissa on the 24th February, 1974 after the finalisation of delimitation of constituencies in the state.

As a result of the delimitation, the district of Baleshwar was added with a new Assembly constituency, i.e., Bhandaripokhari and the strength of Assembly seats of this district was raised from eleven to twelve.

Originally it was decided to complete the voting on the 24th February, 1974. But due to the strike by a section of the non-gazetted Government servants, the date of poll was staggered from one day to three days. Accordingly election for Bhograi, Dhamnagar and Chandbali was completed on the 22nd February, 1974. On 24th February voting was conducted for Jaleshwar, Soro, Bhandaripokhari and Basudebpur Assembly seats and Basta, Baleshwar, Similia, Nilagiri and Bhadrak Assembly seats went into polls on the 26th February, 1974. There were 9,88,797 voters in all and 1,255 polling stations were arranged with an average of 788 voters per polling station. In these elections, 314 vehicles including 20 private buses were used.

In this election, the district was divided into 12 Assembly constituencies, and Bhandaripokhari and Chandbali constituencies were declared as reserved constituencies for the Scheduled Castes. Besides 11 Independents, ten political parties had set up their candidates. Of them, the Indian National Congress and the Utkal Congress had eleven candidates each. The Socialist Party and the Jana Congress had five and eight candidates respectively. The Swatantra, C. P. I. and the C. P. I. (M) had set up two candidates each whereas Bharatiya Jana Sangh, Forward Block and Socialist Unit Centre had set up one candidate each.

The following table gives a detailed account in respect of the mid-term elections held in 1974.

Name of the constituency	(1)	(2)	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage	Candidates contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidate of the party
			(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Bhograi	83,139	57,962 (69.72)	2,053 (3.66)	I. N. C.	24,890	I. N. C.	
Jaleshwar	90,914	66,937 (73.63)	2,350 (3.52)	Utkal Congress Socialist Socialist	20,565 10,454 25,510	Socialist	
Basta	76,424	58,438 (76.46)	1,514 (2.59)	I. N. C. Utkal Congress Independent Jana Congress	21,263 9,937 7,433 444	I. N. C.	
				Utkal Congress Jana Congress	17,198 465		

(Contd.)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Baleshwar	85,487	52,890 (61.86)	1,854 (3.50)	C. P. I.	12,620	C. P. I.
				I. N. C.	11,928	
				Socialist	11,092	
				Swatantra	7,471	
				Utkal Congress	3,988	
				Bharatiya Jana Sangha	2,690	
				Independent	833	
				Jana Congress	414	
Soro	79,446	55,250 (69.54)	2,514 (4.76)	I. N. C.	30,144	I. N. C.
				Swatantra	19,900	
				Socialist	1,001	
				Independent	908	
				C. P. I. (M)	783	
Similia	76,537	52,237 (68.25)	2,726 (5.22)	I. N. C.	25,690	I. N. C.
				Utkal Congress	20,469	
				Independent	2,571	
				Forward Block	781	

(Contd.)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage	Candidates contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidate of the party
Nilagiri	84,490	54,537 (64.54)	2,498 (4.58)	C. P. I. (M)	14,346	C.P.I.(M)
				Utkal Congress	14,297	
				I. N. C.	12,312	
				Independent	10,244	
				Jana Congress	840	
Bhandaripokhari (SC)	74,521	47,089 (63.19)	2,219 (4.71)	Utkal Congress	17,352	Utkal Congress
				C. P. I.	14,361	
				Socialist	1,549	
				Jana Congress	159	
				Independent	11,449	

(Contd.)

(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Bhadrak	78,226	48,204 (61.62)	1,906 (3.95)	I.N.C. Utkal Congress Socialist Jana Congress	25,522 18,723 1,476 577	I.N.C.
Dhamnagar	86,462	53,135 (61.45)	2,375 (4.46)	Utkal Congress I. N. C. Independent	21,795 21,082 7,885	Utkal Congress
Chandbali (SC)	91,818	53,382 (58.13)	2,822 (5.28)	I.N.C. Utkl Congress Independent Jana Congress	27,461 19,587 3,104 408	I.N.C.
Basudebpur	81,333	53,204 (65.41)	2,162 (4.06)	I.N.C. Utkal Congress Jana Congress	26,603 23,945 494	I.N.C.

(Concl'd.)

The above statement reveals that in the mid-term election of 1974 out of 12 seats, the Indian National Congress bagged seven seats while the Socialist Party, the Communist Party of India and the C.P.I. (M) captured one seat each. Two seats were won by the candidates of Utkal Congress.

Election cases

The election of the Indian National Congress candidate to the State Legislature from Bhadrak Assembly constituency was declared void by the Honourable High Court of Orissa due to improper rejection of the nomination paper of the petitioner, Shri Ratnakar Mohanty.

An election petition by Shri Chittaranjan Sarangi was filed in the Orissa High Court against the election of the C.P.I.(M) candidate to the State Legislature from Nilagiri constituency and the election of the sitting C.P.I. (M) M.L.A. was set aside by the Honourable High Court and the candidate belonging to the Utkal Congress was declared elected.

Sixth General Elections to Lok Sabha, 1977

After the proclamation of the Emergency in June, 1975, the duration of the Fifth Lok Sabha was extended by one year by the House of People (Extension of Duration) Act, 1976. This period was further extended for another year by the House of People (Extension of Duration) Amendment Act, 1976. Thus, normally, the term of the Fifth Lok Sabha was due to expire in March, 1978. However, the fifth Lok Sabha was dissolved on the 18th January, 1977 and soon after, the Election Commission of India called upon the people to elect their representatives afresh to the House of People as required under the Constitution of India.

There was no change in the number of Parliamentary constituencies of the district in this election and one seat, i.e., Bhadrak was reserved for the Scheduled Castes. Election was held on the 16th March, 1977. There were 700 polling stations including 17 temporary structures with an average number of 879 voters per booth. Besides five motor lunches, the election machinery used 596 vehicles. For two seats of this district there were five contestants fielded by three political parties. In Baleshwar constituency there was a triangular contest among the candidates belonging to C.P.I., Indian National Congress and Bharatiya Lok Dal; whereas, it was a straight contest between the Indian National Congress and the Bharatiya Lok Dal in Bhadrak seat. Both the seats were captured by Bharatiya Lok Dal.

A detailed account concerning the number of electors, total votes polled with percentage, number of votes rejected with percentage, candidates set up by different political parties, votes polled by them and successful candidates is given in the following table.

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Baleshwar ..	6,15,737	3,50,771 (56.97)	9,511 (2.71)
Bhadrak (S. C.) ..	6,14,684	3,36,054 (54.67)	9,677 (2.88)

Parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidates of the parties
(5)	(6)	(7)
C.P.I.	20,283	
I.N.C.	1,30,758	
B.L.D.	1,90,219	B.L.D.
I.N.C.	1,27,400	
B.L.D.	1,98,977	B.L.D.

In this election, out of 12,30,421 electorate, 6,86,825 or 55.82 per cent had exercised their franchise.

Seventh General Elections to State Assembly, 1977

The Sixth General Elections to the State Legislature was held in the year 1974. The Seventh General Elections to the State Assembly was due in the year 1979. But after the Lok Sabha Elections of March, 1977 things took a different turn. The Assembly was dissolved by the President under Article 356 of the Constitution of India with effect from the 30th April, 1977. The Election Commission of India decided to hold poll of the Assembly constituencies of the state in one day on the 10th June 1977.

The polling was held from 7.30 a. m. to 4.30 p. m. on that day. For this election there were 1,236 polling stations in the district. The election machinery used 295 vehicles, besides 14 government motor lunches. This time 5,26,841 (2,96,535 males and 2,30,306 females) voters exercised their franchise.

In the Assembly Elections of 1977, the district was divided into 12 constituencies. Besides 14 Independent candidates, four political parties of all-India status entered the fray. Of them the Janata Party and the Indian National Congress fielded 12 candidates each and the C.P.I. and C. P. I.(M.) had four and one candidate, respectively. The most prominent feature of this election was the anti-Congress wind blowing almost all over the country as a result of which the Janata Party got landslide victory and the district was no exception. In this district, all the 12 seats were captured by the Janata Party.

A statement showing the number of electors, total votes polled with percentage, total votes rejected with percentage, parties contested, votes polled by them and successful candidate is given below.

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Bhograi ..	90,995	51,450 (56.54)	615 (1.20)
Jaleshwar ..	98,590	48,150 (48.84)	727 (1.51)

Name of the constituency	Parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidate of the parties
(1)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Bhograi ..	INC	17,617	Janata
	Janata	31,586	
	Independent	1,632	
Jaleshwar ..	Janata	29,615	Janata
	INC	13,943	
	Independent	3,865	

(Contd.)

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/ percentage	No. of votes rejected/ percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Ba sta ..	81,612	50,823 (62.27)	820 (1.61)
Baleshwar ..	96,141	42,577 (44.29)	743 (1.75)
Soro ..	83,662	37,470 (44.79)	685 (1.83)
Similia ..	80,865	37,994 (46.98)	810 (2.13)

Name of the constituency	Parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidates of the parties
(1)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Basta ..	INC	19,779	
	Janata	28,334	Janata
	Independent	1,890	
Baleshwar ..	C.P.I.	10,509	Janata
	Janata	20,742	
	INC	8,965	
	Independent	1,618	
Soro ..	CP.I.	8,103	
	INC	4,762	
	Janata	23,920	Janata
Similia ..	Janata	14,514	Janata
	INC	9,935	
	Independent	12,735	

(Contd.)

Name of the constituency	No. of electors	Total votes polled/percentage	No. of votes rejected/percentage
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Nilagiri ..	91,781	42,116 (45.89)	967 (2.30)
Bhandaripokhari (S.C.) ..	78,617	37,572 (47.79)	693 (1.84)
Bhadrak ..	85,607	33,736 (39.41)	727 (2.15)
Dhamnagar ..	91,171	46,560 (51.07)	961 (2.06)
Chandbali (S.C.) ..	96,816	43,776 (45.22)	828 (1.89)
Basudebpur ..	90,182	54,617 (60.56)	1,232 (2.26)

Name of the constituency	Parties contested	Votes polled by each candidate	Successful candidates of the parties
(1)	(5)	(6)	(7)
Nilagiri ..	INC	6,277	
	C.P.I.(M)	14,928	
	Janata	17,246	Janata
	Independent	2,698	
Bhandaripokhari (S.C.) ..	Janata	20,683	Janata
	INC	9,340	
	C.P.I.	4,863	
	Independent	1,993	
Bhadrak ..	Janata	18,605	Janata
	INC	10,612	
	C.P.I.	2,589	
	Independent	1,203	
Dhamnagar ..	Janata	24,720	Janata
	INC	20,879	
Chandbali (S.C.) ..	Janata	26,493	Janata
	INC	16,455	
Basudebpur ..	Janata	28,646	Janata
	INC	24,739	

(Concl.)

From the above table it is revealed that there was a straight contest between two political parties in only three constituencies and in the remaining nine constituencies there was either triangular or multi-cornered contest. Another important feature was the percentage of rejection of votes. This time it was lower by 1.88 per cent than in the previous election which was 4.20 per cent of the votes cast.

Seventh General Elections to Lok Sabha, 1980

The Sixth Lok Sabha Elections having been held in March, 1977, the elections to Seventh Lok Sabha was due to be held sometime in March, 1982. But due to conflict among the partners of the party in power, the Parliament was dissolved and the Election Commission of India decided to conduct polls for the Seventh Lok Sabha. Hence, elections were held in January 1980.

Like the previous election, this time the number of Parliamentary seats of this district was also unchanged and the Bhadrak seat was reserved for the Scheduled Castes candidates. For these two seats, besides two Independents, there were, eight candidates. Of these, the Indian National Congress headed by Indira Gandhi, the Janata (Secular) and the Janata had fielded two candidates, one for each seat. The Indian National Congress headed by Devraj Urs and the Jharkhand Party had also one candidate each in the Baleshwar Parliamentary constituency.

In Bhadrak (S. C.) Parliamentary constituency out of the total 6,76,438 electors 3,83,819, i.e., 56.74 per cent exercised their franchise. Of these, 10,926, i.e., 2.84 per cent votes were rejected. Among the contestants the INC (I) candidate got 2,18,002 votes and was declared elected while 93,967, 43,870 and 17,054 votes were casted in favour of Janata (S), Janata and Independent candidate, respectively.

Out of a total electorate of 6,73,782 in Baleshwar Parliamentary constituency 3,98,950, i.e., 59.21 per cent exercised their franchise. Of this, 11,324, i.e., 2.83 per cent votes were rejected. The INC (I) candidate got 2,29,040 votes and was declared elected. Other candidates who contested in this seat belonged to Janata (S), Janata, INC. (U) Jharkhand and Independent. They got 43,820, 89,151, 10,718, 9,162 and 5,735 votes respectively.

The interesting feature of this election is that this time the INC (I) captured both the seats from the B.L.D. which had won in the elections of 1977.

Eighth General Elections to State Legislature, 1980

After the General Elections to Seventh Lok Sabha in January 1980 things took a different turn throughout the country and as in 1977 the State Assembly was dissolved and fresh elections

were held for the State Legislature. Accordingly voting was conducted on the 31st May, 1980. There was no change in the number of Assembly constituencies of this district and as before, the Chandbali and Bhandaripokhari constituencies were reserved for the candidates of Scheduled Castes.

Out of the total electorate of 11,80,128 in this election 6,77,326 or 57.39 per cent voters exercised their franchise. In this election the INC, headed by Indira Gandhi, captured eight, the Janata Party two, and the Communist Party of India two seats.

A detailed account of the 1980 elections to the State Assembly is given below,

Name of the constituency (1)	Number of seats (2)	Number of persons contested (3)	Number of electors (4)	Total votes polled (5)
Bhograi ..	1	3	98,547	69,330
Jaleshwar ..	1	6	1,09,513	64,969
Basta ..	1	5	89,989	59,194
Baleshwar ..	1	5	1,06,936	54,964
Soro ..	1	6	95,868	52,689
Similia ..	1	7	89,888	40,852
Nilagiri ..	1	7	98,801	54,568
Bhadrak ..	1	6	97,027	50,895
Dhamnagar ..	1	3	99,459	62,373
Basudebpur ..	1	5	1,00,831	65,271
Bhandaripokhari (S.C.)	1	7	86,553	49,104
Chandbali (S.C.) ..	1	4	1,06,716	53,117

Name of the Constituency (1)	Per-centage (6)	Total number of rejected votes (7)	Number of polling stations (8)	Successful candidass of the parties (9)
Bhograi ..	70.35	1,161	131	Congress (I)
Jaleshwar ..	59.32	889	163	Janata (JP)
Basta ..	65.77	1,033	127	Congress(I)
Baleshwar ..	51.39	1,106	150	C. P. I.
Soro ..	54.95	1,170	124	C. P. I.
Similia ..	45.44	958	121	Janata (J.P.)
Nilagiri ..	55.23	1,303	134	Congress(I)
Bhadrak ..	52.45	917	122	Congress(I)
Dhamnagar ..	62.71	1,195	133	Congress (I)
Basudebpur ..	64.73	1,236	132	Congress (I)
Bhandaripokhari (S.C.)	56.73	949	118	Congress (I)
Chandbali (S. C.) ..	49.77	843	144	Congress (I)

Eighth Lok Sabha Elections, 1984

For the eighth time the General Elections to the Lok Sabha in the state was held in the month of December, 1984. Like the previous election, the number of Parliamentary seats of the district remained unchanged and one seat, i. e., Bhadrak was reserved for the Scheduled Castes. Three political parties set up eight candidates for two seats. Besides, four Independent candidates, the Indian National Congress, the Janata had fielded two candidates for each Parliamentary seat.

The number of candidates set up by different political parties is given below.

Political Parties	Baleshwar Parliamentary constituency	Bhadrak Parliamentary constituency	Total
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Indian National Congress ..	1	1	2
Janata ..	1	1	2
Independent ..	2	2	4
Total ..	4	4	8

The Baleshwar Parliamentary constituency comprised Bhograi, Jaleshwar, Basta, Baleshwar and Soro Assembly constituencies of Baleshwar district and Baisinga (S. T.) and Khunta (S. T.) Assembly constituencies of Mayurbhanj district. Out of total electorate of 7,36,899 in this election, 4,94,847, i.e., 64 per cent exercised their franchise. In the contest, Indian National Congress candidate won the election by capturing 2,74,294 votes.

In Bhadrak (S. C.) Parliamentary constituency out of total 7,36,023 electors 4,71,134, i.e., 64 per cent exercised their franchise. Of these, 8,218 votes were rejected. Among the contestants the Indian National Congress candidate got 2,56,854 votes and was elected.

The number of candidates set up by different political parties, number of valid votes polled by the candidates of both Baleshwar and Bhadrak Parliamentary constituencies are as follows.

Name of the Political Party	Number of valid votes polled in Baleshwar Parliamentary constituency.	Number of valid votes polled in Bhadrak Parliamentary constituency.
(1)	(2)	(3)
Indian National Congress	2,74,294	2,56,854
Janata ..	1,95,109	1,89,435
Independent	16,627	15,648
Total ..	4,85,960	4,61,937

Ninth General Elections to Vidhan Sabha, 1985

The Ninth General Elections of the Orissa State Legislative Assembly were held in March, 1985.

Out of 12 Assembly constituencies, two, namely, Chandbali and Bhandaripokhari constituencies were reserved for the Scheduled Caste candidates. Seven political parties and Independent candidates took part in the election. The number of candidates set up, the number of seats won and the number of valid votes polled by the candidates set up by different political parties were as follows.

Name of the Political Parties	Number of candidates set up	Number of seats won	Number of valid votes polled
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Indian National Congress	12	12	42,9,204
Janata Party ..	11	..	2,07,743
Communist Party ..	5	..	76,098
Lok Dal ..	1	..	1,115
Forward Block ..	1	..	478
Communist Party of India (M)	2	..	23,677
Bharatiya Lok Dal ..	7	..	12,759
Independent ..	30	..	26,815
Total ..	69	12	8,40,889

Altogether 69 candidates contested for twelve Assembly seats in which Indian National Congress candidates captured all the seats.

The following table shows more information about the Ninth General Elections, 1985.

Name of the constituency	(1)	No. of seats	(2)	No. of persons	(3)	No. of electors	(4)	Total votes polled	(5)	Percentage of votes polled against total No. of electors	(6)	Total valid votes polled	(7)	Percentage of valid votes polled as against total No. of electors	(8)	Party won	(9)
Bhograi	...	1	8	1,12,601	78,480	69.69	77,626	68.94	INC								
Jafeshwar	..	1	5	1,26,976	86,479	68.11	85,622	67.43	INC								
Basta	..	1	4	1,04,180	65,215	62.59	64,453	61.87	INC								
Baleshwar	...	1	6	1,24,910	76,781	61.46	75,619	60.54	INC								
Soro	...	1	5	1,05,506	66,421	62.95	65,714	62.28	INC								
Similia	...	1	9	99,473	52,463	52.74	51,620	51.89	INC								
Nilagiri	...	1	6	1,09,818	66,226	60.30	65,265	59.43	INC								
Bhandaripokhari (SC)	...	1	7	96,745	65,184	67.37	64,464	66.63	INC								
Bhadrak	...	1	7	1,11,920	74,040	66.15	72,781	65.03	INC								
Dhamnagar	...	1	5	1,14,413	71,482	62.47	70,477	61.59	INC								
Chandbali (SC)	...	1	3	1,24,771	75,704	60.67	74,731	59.89	INC								
Basudebpur	...	1	4	1,12,425	73,266	65.16	72,509	64.49	INC								
Total	...	12	69	13,43,740	8,51,741	63.38	8,40,881	62.58									

Polling Stations

The number of polling stations have changed from time to time according to the number of electors. The following table presents the number of polling stations in each of the Assembly constituencies in the district for elections of 1961, 1967, 1971, 1974, 1977, 1980, 1984 and 1985.

Number of Polling Stations

Name of Assembly Constituencies	1961 Mid-term Elections	1967* General Elections	1971* General Elections	1974 General Elections
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
Bhograi	61	..	..	104
Jaleshwar	68	..	..	117
Basta	55	..	..	96
Baleshwar	53	..	..	110
Soro	68	..	..	99
Similia	69	..	..	95
Nilagiri	67	..	..	107
Bhandaripokhari (SC)	..	..	..	94
Bhadrak	60	..	..	107
Dhamnagar	79	..	..	112
Chandbali (SC)	65	..	..	120
Basudebpur	66	..	..	94
	711	749	1,067	1,256

*Assembly constituency-wise figures are not available.

Source:—Home (Elections) Department, Orissa, Bhubaneshwar.

Number of Polling Stations

Name of Assembly Constituencies	1977 General Elections		1980 General Elections	1984 General Elections	1985 General Elections
	Lok Sabha	Vidhan Sabha	Lok Sabha & Vidhan Sabha	Lok Sabha	Vidhan Sabha
(1)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)
Bhograi ..	103	103	131	131	131
Jaleshwar ..	117	122	163	163	163
Basta ..	93	93	127	127	128
Baleshwar ..	111	116	150	151	153
Soro ..	95	96	124	124	124
Similia ..	95	98	121	122	122
Nilagiri ..	110	111	134	135	136
Bhandaripokhari (SC.)	91	91	118	118	118
Bhadrak ..	98	98	122	126	129
Dhamnagar ..	110	112	133	133	134
Chandbali (SC.)	114	114	144	144	145
Basudebpur ..	98	99	132	134	134
Total ..	1,236	1,254	1,599	1,608	1,617

Newspapers and Periodicals

The publication of newspapers in the district may be dated back to 1868-69. The Baleshwar Sambad Bahika (ବାଲେଶ୍ଵର ସମ୍ବାଦ ବାହିକା) was published under the editorship of famous novelist Fakir Mohan Senapati and Govind Chandra Pattanaik. At first it was being published as a monthly. Later on it became a fortnightly and ultimately a weekly. In 1878 with the encouragement and assistance of Raja Baikunthanath Dey of Baleshwar the Utkal Darpan (ଉତ୍କଳ ଦର୍ପଣ) was published for sometimes. It flourished by the endeavour of Kabibar Radhanath Ray and Bhaktakabi Madhusudan Rao. The Sikshya-bandhu (ଶିକ୍ଷା ବନ୍ଧୁ) and the Dharmabodhini (ଧର୍ମ ବୋଧିନୀ) was published from Baleshwar by Bhaktakabi Madhusudan Rao. The Prajatantra, a well-known Oriya daily was published from Baleshwar by Dr. Harekrushna Mahtab in 1923 as a weekly with the aim of carrying the message of National Movement to the people. This paper became a daily in the year 1947 and was published from Cuttack. The Dagar (ଦଗର) a well-known literary magazine was being published in 1936 from Baleshwar by Katakabi Lakshmikanta Mahapatra which was subsequently published from Cuttack. At present the Ajikali (ଅଜିକାଲି), an Oriya daily on current affairs is being published from Baleshwar since April, 1986 by Bismay Mohanty. A newspaper in Oriya, namely, the Rashtradoot (ରାଷ୍ଟ୍ର ଦୂତ) on current topics is being published from Baleshwar since 1972 by the founder Ray Shri Upendra Prasad Nayak. At first it was being published as a weekly. Later on it became a daily since June, 1975. The Janapriya (ଜନପ୍ରିୟା) a daily Oriya was published from Baleshwar district since 1985 but it has since been discontinued. Besides these, the well-known daily newspapers in Oriya such as the Samaj, the Prajatantra and the Matrubhumi published from Cuttack; the Swarajya, the Dharitri, the Sambad, the Pragatibadi and the Dinalipi published from Bhubaneshwar are in circulation in this district. Among the English dailies, the Statesman, the Amrit Bazar Patrika, the Telegraph, the Indian Express, the Times of India, the Hindu, etc. published from outside the state and the only English daily of Orissa, The Sun Times, published from Bhubaneshwar have a fair circulation in the district. Among the newspapers in Hindi, the Nav Bharat Times, the Biswamitra and the Sunmarg, published outside the state are in good circulation among the Hindi-knowing people. Bengali newspapers such as, Jugantar and Basumati have good circulation among the Bengali-knowing persons. Certain Urdu and south Indian language newspapers also have their circulation in the district. Apart from dailies, a good number of periodicals published outside and inside the state in different languages are also in good circulation.

Of the Oriya weeklies published in the district, the Balanga Barta (ବଳଙ୍ଗ ବାର୍ତ୍ତା) began its publication from Baleshwar in 1972. The Charampa Patra is being published from the district. The Pragati Sikha started its publication from Baleshwar in 1963.

One Oriya fortnightly, namely the Remuna Samachar started publication in 1975.

Among the Oriya magazines mention may be made of monthly, Galpajhar (ଗଳ୍ପ ଝର), Nabarag (ନବରାଗ), Prava (ପ୍ରଭା), Kridalok (କ୍ରୀଡ଼ାଲୋକ) and Swastik (ସ୍ଵସ୍ତିକ). The Galpajhar started its publication from Bhadrak in 1977. It mainly publishes short stories and essays.

The Prava (ପ୍ରଭା) and Nabarag (ନବରାଗ) both monthly literary periodicals, started their publications from Akhuapada and Nimpur in the year 1972 and 1979, respectively. The Kridalok (କ୍ରୀଡ଼ାଲୋକ) which deals with sports started its publication in 1983. The Swastik is being published since 1977. Besides these, an English quarterly namely Aswini was published from Soro since 1953. An Oriya quarterly named Udgata appeared from Isamnagar, in the year 1979. An English half-yearly, namely, Image, started publication in 1976 from Baleshwar.

Apart from the above newspapers and periodicals most of the educational as well as literary and cultural institutions in the district bring out their own souvenirs and magazines.

Voluntary Social Service Organisations

There are a number of voluntary social service organisations in the district. The main objective of these organisations is to extend necessary co-operation for the social upliftment of the down-trodden mass. A brief account of some of these organisations are given below.

Zilla Nari Sangha, Baleshwar

The Baleshwar Zilla Nari Sangha was formed in 1955. It is a district level women's organisation having fifty branches in the rural areas. The aims and objectives of this Sangha are to work on the principles of social justice, integrity

and equal rights and opportunities for all; to secure recognition of the inherent right of every human being to work and to the essentials of life, such as, food, clothing, housing, education, social amenities and security by planned distributions; to support the claim of every citizen to the right to enjoy basic civil liberties; to promote greater national integration and unity; to work actively for the general progress and welfare of women and children particularly of Orissa and to co-operate with the people and the organisation of Orissa to assure permanent national unity.

Nizgarh Mahila Samiti, Raj-Nilagiri

The Nizgarh Mahila Samiti established on the 1st April, 1959, was registered under the Societies Registration Act, vide Registration No. 489/26 of 1962-63. This Samiti renders social services during natural calamities like flood and drought. It also renders voluntary services in Eye Camps and Family Planning Camps. The main objective of this organisation is to promote social and educational activities among the womenfolk and children. A condensed course for adult women is being conducted by this Samiti financed by the Central Social Welfare Board. Apart from these, a Supplementary Nutrition Programme, with 100 beneficiaries of expectant mothers and children is also being implemented by this Samiti.

It is managed by a committee. The sources of income of this organisation is the Central Social Welfare Board, State Social Advisory Board, Bhubaneswar and the sale proceeds of vegetables and handicrafts produced by the members of the Samiti. The strength of the Samiti is 65.

Binoba Mahila Samiti, Paramanandpur

With a view to uplifting the down-trodden women and to providing them social prestige and right in the society, this Samiti was established on the 2nd October, 1960. Registered under the Societies Registration Act, this Samiti was named after the great Sarvodaya leader Binoba Bhabhe. There are 75 members and its management lies with a Working Committee constituted from among the members. The activities of the Samiti include sewing and embroidery, cultivation of vegetables, and handicrafts. It also extends assistance in Family Planning camp. The financial resource include the income from the landed property of the Samiti and fees from the members and Government grant-in-aid. Since four years this Samiti is assisted by the Human Resource Department of Government of India for its two

Early Children Care Education Centres for 3 to 6 age group children with a strength of 60 children.

Balipatna Mahila Samiti

Established on the 1st April, 1973, the Balipatna Mahila Samiti became a registered organisation in November, 1975. It has 52 members. The main aims and objectives of this organisation are (i) to organise new Mahila Samitis in neighbouring villages, (ii) to promote general health of children, expectant and nursing mothers, (iii) to spread knowledge in family planning, (iv) to help the needy women and orphans, (v) to impart training to village women regarding poultry, gardening pisciculture, etc. and to organise economic programme in Mahila Samiti in order to earn money during leisure hours. Feeding, poultry, goat rearing, gardening and vegetable cultivation are the main activities of the Samiti. It is managed by a seven-member governing body. It derives its income from poultry farms, goat rearing, sale proceeds from cultivation, membership and donation. It also gets grants from the State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Bhubaneshwar, occasionally.

Kasturba Mahila Samiti, Khamunhani

The Kasturba Mahila Samiti was started on the 1st June 1976 with a view to enhancing the out-look of the village women suffering from ignorance. At present it has 37 members and it is managed by an executive body consisting of five members. The institution has made literate more than 250 men and women in 1979-80 and for this purpose it received Rs. 750 from the State Social Welfare Advisory Board. Under the socio-economic programme it has got ten sewing machines from the Central Social Welfare Board on loan basis repayable in 28 monthly instalments. The other activities of the Samiti are to impart training on sewing, cutting of garments and embroidery works. The sources of income of this Samiti include membership, donation, government grant-in-aid, sale proceeds of handicrafts, etc.

Kaupur Grama Panchayat Mahila Samiti

This Mahila Samiti was registered under the Societies Registration Act in the year 1975-76. The aims and objectives of this organisation are to initiate a sense of co-operation among the womenfolk and to increase the skills of self-dependence of the women of rural community. The Samiti has undertaken a condensed course programme for adult women (destitutes) since 1980. Besides, a nutrition programme of 40 children is also in operation from 1976. Under the socio-economic

programme a dairy scheme has been launched. Apart from this, a programme to educate the rural illiterate women has been undertaken by its members.

Bijay Sisusadan, Mukundpur

The organisation had its inception in the year 1957. In that year a Yubak Sangh was organised by some young men for the developmental works of the village. But later it could not continue due to want of sufficient fund. In 1962, the Yubak Sangh changed its name to Bijay Sisusadan. It had its registration in the same year. At present the strength of this organisation is 350 members. The organisation is managed by a managing committee consisting of eleven members. The financial resource of this Sadan are public donation, membership fees and subscriptions. Besides, it gets grant-in-aid from the State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Bhubaneshwar. The aims and objectives of the organisation are (i) to render voluntary social service to the local people, (ii) to promote education and health services and to manage craft-training-cum-production centre for women and children, and (iii) to give financial assistance to the poor and needy people. It manages a Balwadi centre with 40 children. The institution also provides mid-day meal to the children. It maintains a library consisting of nearly one thousand books. The institution provides magazines, newspapers and indoor and outdoor game facilities.

Gopabandhu Youth Club, Kuard

The Gopabandhu Youth Club is an outcome of the revival of an old library named Gopabandhu Pathagar established in 1955. Though this organisation started functioning on 12th June 1968, institutionally, it got registered in the year 1974. It has 35 members. This institution is managed by a committee consisting of seven members. The aims and objectives of the organisation are to (i) cultivate healthy atmosphere in rural areas, (ii) create competitive spirit among the rural students, (iii) provide facilities for cultural activities and (iv) take up development of the villages through social service. Other activities of the club include creche programme for working women's children under Central Social Welfare Board, New Delhi supervised by the State Social Welfare Advisory Board, repair and construction of village roads; pisciculture and implementation of adult literary programme. It also organises Oriya essay, debate, song and general knowledge competitions among the students and arranges football tournaments. The financial resource of the organisation are membership fees, donation, income from pisciculture and aids from Central Social Welfare Board, Directorate of Cultural Affairs and Raja Ram Mohan Roy Library foundation.

Ramkrushna Club, Kulana

This organisation started functioning since November, 1955. It owes its name to the saint Ramakrushna Paramahansa. The present strength of this institution is more than sixty. The aim and objectives of this club are to (i) foster, encourage and improve the cultural activities of the villagers by means of organising debates, discussions, meetings, seminars and staging drama, (ii) help the people at the time of natural calamities like flood and cyclone, (iii) arrange sports and games, (iv) provide newspapers and periodicals to its members and (v) maintain a library for the cultural upliftment of the villagers. The management of the club is vested with an executive committee consisting of six members. To develop the educational and physical standard of children within the age-group of 2 to 6 years, a Balwadi school is being managed by the club since 1976. The financial sources of this club are government grant, membership fees and sale proceeds of the outturn from its land. The organisation has a good library.

Palimangal Yubak Sangh, Padhuan

Established on the 1st January 1974, this organisation got registered in 1975. There are twenty members in this institution and it is managed by a governing body consisting of seven members. The aims and objectives of the Yubak Sangh are to (i) promote general health of children, expectant and nursing mothers, (ii) develop qualities of leadership, (iii) promote literature, science and fine art, (iv) develop rural recreational and cultural activities and (v) extend assistance for charitable purposes. The income source of the Sangh include members subscription, donation, pisciculture, agriculture, poultry, etc. It also gets grants from the Government. Thirty adult education centres and one childhood education centre are managed by this Sangh. This organisation takes steps for abolition of dowry, untouchability and to spread the idea of family planning. A Balwadi centre was opened by the Sangh to adopt supplementary nutrition programme for children.

Gandhi Seva Sangha (Purubai Kanyashram), Soro

The Gandhi Seva Sangha was started with only seven orphans in the year 1930. Registered under the Societies Registration Act in 1973-74, this institution was founded by Smt. Purubai Ben, a philanthropic lady of Gujarat. It is an orphanage for girls only. The chief aims and objectives of this Kanyashram is to take care of orphans and destitutes and poor children belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes.

In order to make them useful and self-reliant in the society, general education as well as training in various crafts, arts and agriculture are imparted to them with the provision of free lodging, fooding and clothing. There are 100 orphans in this Kanyashram at present. The affairs of the institution is managed by a managing committee consisting of 13 members. It is one of the Gandhian institutions and the daily programme is performed on Gandhian line. The main sources of income for the management of this institution are subscription and donation from the public. It also gets government grant-in-aid.

Gandhi Orissa Balashram, Bhadrak

This organisation was founded in 1927 by Seth Jivaram Kalyanaji Kothari, a man from Gujarat. Registered under the Societies Registration Act, this institution is managed by a managing committee consisting of fifteen members from different districts of the state. This institution was established with a view to imparting education to the Adivasi and Harijan boys and orphans. Training in different crafts, arts, agriculture, gardening, bee-keeping, animal husbandry, etc., are also imparted to them. The inmates of this Balashram are provided with free boarding, lodging, clothing, sanitation and other facilities. Generally the boys are admitted at the age of six and required to stay till they attain 18 years. A music college with affiliation to Allahbad University is functioning here. A condensed course programme for adult women is continuing here since 1968 and it has achieved a remarkable result at the H. S. C. examination in 1977. The main financial sources of this Ashram are subscription and donation from public and grant-in-aid from the Government,

Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust

The Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust is an all-India organisation established in 1945 with its central office at Kasturba-nagar, Indore, Madhya Pradesh. The head office of its Orissa branch is at Satyabhamapur, Cuttack. Out of 14 Seva centres in Orissa there is one in the district at Phulgadia under Bant C. D. Block. The main aim and objective of this organisation is to look after the welfare of the women and children in rural areas. The Phulgadia Seva Centre, like its other sister organisations, is dedicated for the upliftment of women and children through different activities. A Maternity and Child Welfare Centre is continuing here since 1957. From the 1st February 1972, a Balwadi centre and Nutrition Programmes are being managed here. There are four lady workers to look after the centre. The expenditure of this centre is met from the grants by the Central Social Welfare Board,

New Delhi, State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Bhubaneswar, Indian Red-cross Society and the Kasturba Gandhi National Memorial Trust, Orissa Branch.

Shanti Anathashram, Haripur

The establishment of the Shanti Anathashram can be traced back to 1971 when Government started the relief programme to feed the unfed and distressed cyclone-affected people of Tihiri area through Mahila Samitis. All the Mahila Samitis of Tihiri C. D. Block gradually became united and it took the shape of a district level organisation in 1973-74. It became a registered institution under the Societies Registration Act, in the year 1976-77. The aims and objectives of the Anathashram is to (i) promote the educational, social and cultural welfare of the backward communities, specially the orphans, (ii) spread the idea of co-operation, (iii) organise and take-up all constructive programmes preached by Mahatma Gandhi and Vinoba Bhave and (iv) organise relief work among the people during the period of natural calamity. Tailoring, embroidery and training in agriculture is also imparted here. The management of the Ashram is vested with a governing body consisting of nine members. For the maintainance of the Ashram., donations are collected from the executive members, the public and the secretaries of the Mahila Samitis. Besides pisciculture, poultry, dairy and grant-in-aid from the Government are sources of income.

District Council for Child Welfare, Balেশwar

The District Council for Child Welfare is functioning since 1961-62. The council has six centres under it, located at Dahamunda, Kedarpur, Radhaballabhpur, Sahidnagar, Panchutikiri and Balimed. The aims and objectives of this organisation are to undertake welfare works of the children, adolescents, expectant and nursing mothers. The affairs of the council is managed by an executive committee. About 75 per cent of the total expenditure is met by the State Social Welfare Advisory Board and the rest 25 per cent is raised by contributions from the public.

Manmohan Sangeet Parishad, Bhadrak

Manmohan Sangeet Parishad, a college of Indian music, dance and drama was established on the 26th January, 1950. The institution is dedicated to the sacred memory of late Manmohan Sabat, a renowned musician and it is affiliated to the Pracheen Kala Kendra, Chandigarh. It has been recognised and is being aided by the Orissa Sangeet Natak Academy, State Social

Welfare Board, Government of Orissa, and Central Government as well. The Parishad has been declared as an examination centre for conducting examinations in music and dance. The subjects taught in this institution are vocal music, instrumental music and dance. Duration of course is 8 years and Bhav Sangeet Course is up to six years. At present, there are 161 students and 8 teachers in the Parishad.

Neela Chakra

Neela Chakra, a socio-cultural organisation was established in the year 1970 with headquarters at Cuttack and was recognised by the State Government in 1971.

The main objectives of this organisation are (i) propagation and expansion of 'Jagannath Cult' in different parts of the state as well as outside the state (ii) to look after the social welfare of the people (iii) to present the legitimate demands of the public before the Union and State Governments and (iv) to work for a social and cultural renaissance of the people of Orissa.

In the district, the organisation has three branches located at Chandbali, Remuna and Baleshwar. It has submitted a number of memoranda to the Union and State Governments for the establishment of industries and factories in the district. This organisation has also requested different public and private sector employers to provide 90 per cent of employment opportunity to local candidates. A number of seminars have also been organised on Jagannath cult by this institution in the district.

Netaji Jubak Sangh, Paramanandapur

This organisation is functioning in the rural areas of Bhandari-pokhari under Bhadrak subdivision since 1971 and got registered under Societies Registration Act, 1860 during 1972-73. It has 52 active members and managed by an executive body of ten members elected by the general members once in a year. As per the aims and objectives of the organisation the Sangh has undertaken vocational training on tailoring and managing a creche centre for of children. To co-ordinate youth power through sports and cultural activities, to implement socio-developmental works of the Government to facilitate health and family welfare programme of the Government, and to extend library facility to common people are the aims and objectives of

this organisation. The financial resources are public donation, subscription of members, and aids from Central Social Welfare Board, Union Government, State Government and State Youth Welfare Board.

The Aurobindo Students Mission, Matrupuram

The Aurobindo Students Mission was started on the 25th December 1971. At present the strength of the Mission is 105 and it is managed by a committee consisting of 9 members. All its activities are based on spiritual background. The aim and object of this mission is to propagate the ideas of Shri Aurobindo in all spheres of life i.e., science, education, industries, agriculture, games, sports culture, social work, etc. The mission runs a residential school with 150 students as boarders, a diary farm, an agricultural farm, a music and dance school, a Khadi centre and a public library, a child home consisting of 50 orphans, an early education centre, a Matric condensed course for woman and a unit of adult education centre. The financial resources of the mission are donations from public, awards from state and Central Government and income from its agriculture and diary farm.

Bisalakshi Mahila Samiti, Nampo

The Bisalakshi Mahila Samiti was formed in the district of during the February 1963. The management of the Samiti is vested in a Managing Committee. The aims and objectives of the Mahila Samiti are (i) to free the female-folk from their age-old bondage, eradicate dowry, untouchability, superstition and lead them towards education, (ii) preparation of care food for distribution among needy children and mothers, and (iii) to make females self-employed whether at home or outside (iv) to teach the members about maternity and child welfare and also domestic science. The financial resources are donations, pisciculture, membership fees and income from its own land. The present membership of the Samiti is 32.

Pallishree Yubak Sangh, Chudamanipur

The Pallishree Yubak Sangh started functioning in 1979 and registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860. It has forty members. The Sangh is managed by a executive committee. All the members of the committee are for 5 years. The financial resources of this Sangha are public donation, subscriptions, contributions, Government and non-Government aids, loans, etc. This institution is working to develop cultural activities, to nurse and feed the children of the locality, to work for the protection of the environment and developmental work of the village.

Aurosikha Mahila Samiti, Matrupuri

Aurosikha Mahila Samiti was established in 1976 and registered in November 1979. It has 32 active members and managed by seven members elected from the general members. The financial resources of the samiti are from Block Development Office, Bhograi; Social Welfare Advisory Board, member fees and donations. One Balwadi centre is running by the Samiti. To take health care of children and nursing mother, nutrition programmes and to spread knowledge on family planning are the aims and objectives of the Samity.

Chakeswari Indira Mahila Samiti, Kharidchak

The Chakeswari Indira Mahila Samiti started functioning on 3rd June 1973 and registered in the year 1976. This institution is managed by an executive committee consisting of nine members. There is also an Advisory Committee to help for the smooth management. The financial resources of this Samiti are donation, member fees, and from the cottage industries like chalk-making, tailoring, incense-stick manufacturings, etc. It has 75 members. The aims and objectives of this organisation are (i) to promote general health of children, pregnant and nursing mothers and spread knowledge on family planning, (ii) organisation of Balwari schools for children in rural areas, (iii) to work for the improvement of needy women and orphan children in the society, (iv) recreation and cultural programme for women and children, (v) training to village women in tailoring, chalk-making, incense-stick manufacturing, poultry, gardening, pisciculture, etc., and (vi) to work for adult education.

Tarun Yubak Sangh, Khanbad

The Tarun Yubak Sangh, Khanbad started functioning in the year 1970. It has 30 members. Membership fees, government aids and donations are the financial resources of this Sangh. The aims and objectives of the Sangh are (i) to perform social services like cleaning of roads, ponds, etc., (ii) to render education to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes children through Balwadi centre, (iii) to hold annual sports once every year among U. P. and M. E. school children of the local schools, (iv) to check the health of the children of the local schools and (v) to help the members of the Sangh and other active people to develop their standard in farming, community life, etc.

Sital Mahila Samiti, Khuluda

The Sital Mahila Samiti is functioning since 1975 and registered in 1976. The present strength of this Samiti is 21 members. Five members out of these 21 members are functioning as President, Vice-President, Secretary, Assistant Secretary and Treasurer. The Samiti is managed by these 5 members. The aims and objectives of this Samiti are tailoring, family planning, feeding, etc.

Utkal Pallisevak Sangh, Turigaria

The Utkal Pallisevak Sangh is working in the rural areas since 1970 to follow the path of Gandhiji and Jayprakash Narayan. It has 11 members. The Director of this Sangh is functioning as the head of the Sangh. It is running by donation from public and subscription from Sangh members. The aims and objectives of this Sangh are to serve downtrodden people, movement against dowry system, family planning, adult education, to organise public meetings on hygiene and sanitation, formation of Mahila Samitis, Yubak Sangh, etc.

Netaji Yubak Sangh, Dharamdwar

The Netaji Yubak Sangh has started functioning since 26th January 1976 and registered in 1977. The present strength of the Sangh is 43 members. This organisation has a managing committee consisting of 7 members. The resources are being collected from membership fees, grant from Social Welfare Board and Central Social Welfare Board, donation, etc. The aims and objectives of the organisation are to develop moral sense of the members, to develop the standard of the members to lead a better and peaceful community life.

Shrima Dhyana Mandir, Gopinathpur

The foundation of Shrima Dhyana Mandir, Gopinathpur was laid on the 28th January 1979 and registered in 1981. It has 200 members and is being managed by an executive committee consisting of seven members. The main aim and objective of the Dhyana Mandir is to serve the society and help in the solution of various problems in the community for a better social life both spiritually and economically. The Mandir accorded grant-in-aid from the State and Central Governments besides donations from public.

Handicapped Welfare Organisation, Baleshwar

The Baleshwar District Handicapped Welfare Organisation was established in Baleshwar on the 1st day of January, 1981. Subsequently the name of the organisation was changed to Handicapped Welfare Organisation, Baleshwar. The administration of the organisation is manned by an Executive Committee elected by the general body. In the general body there are 8 patrons, 279 life members and 153 annual members. The organisation is providing (a) artificial limbs, (b) school for mentally retarded children, (c) vocational training-cum-production centre, (d) physiotherapy, and (e) immunisation programme. Under this immunisation programme children are vaccinated against polio with the help and co-operation of Rupsa Public Health Centre. Rehabilitation Camps are being held for disabled people for self employment, training, treatment, etc. The organisation is running on public donation, grant-in-aid from Oxfam and State Government.

Bijayananda Club, Palia

Bijayananda Club, Palia is functioning with effect from the 15th August, 1967 and has been registered in 1976. It has 132 members. This organisation is managed by an executive committee consisting of 11 members. The expenditure is met by donation, membership fee and grant from State and Central Social Welfare Boards. The main objectives of this club are to establish physical, cultural, sports organisations, plantation, repairing of roads, immunisation programmes, etc.

Pragati Yubak Sangh, Panchapada

The Pragati Yubak Sangh, Panchapada was established in 1970 to improve the economic standard and social welfare of the community. Its other objectives are to organise adult education, provide good library, recreational and cultural facilities. The Sangh meets its expenditure from donations and membership fees. It has 55 members and is managed by a committee consisting of 6 members.

Banchhanidhi Smarak Natya Niketan, Eram

Banchhanidhi Smarak Natya Niketan was established in 1962 and is named after the poet late Banchhanidhi Mohanty of Eram. The institution is running for the cultural, social and academic upliftment of the locality. It has 35 members. The aims and objectives of this institution are to

organise recreational programmes, summer camps, dramas, organisation of sports, seminars on academic and literary aspects, social service during the local festivals, etc.

Lion's Club, Baleshwar

The Lion's Club, Baleshwar was inaugurated by Biju Patnaik, the then Chief Minister of Orissa on the 2nd February, 1975 and the Charter presentation was given by the then Governor of Orissa, Akbar Ali Khan on the 22nd June, 1975. The present membership of the club is 39. The main aim and object of this institution is to serve the poor and backward people of the society and to take active interest in the cultural, social and moral welfare of the community. The club has adopted Tamulia village consisting of 37 families belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for their development. On every Sunday, polio vaccine and Triple Antigen are given to the children in Motiganj area of Baleshwar town by this club. It has undertaken the work of constructing a hospital at Baleshwar for the treatment of children. The affairs of the club is managed by a board. Its financial resources include subscription from the club members and funds from Lion's International.

Rotary Club, Bhadrak

The organisation started functioning in the year 1972. Social services is the main aim and object of this club. It is affiliated to the Rotary International with headquarters at Evanston, Illinois, U.S.A. At present there are 23 members. The affairs of the club is managed by an elected body as per Rotary Internationals rules.

The club has constructed a rest-shed on Chandbali crossing for the passengers. Four free eye operation camps have been successfully organised and about 450 operations have been conducted by the club. A sewing centre for ladies has been started by this organisation. Besides, a library and reading room for children and an adult education centre is also managed by it. Polio vaccines are frequently provided to children free of cost. Apart from these, the club has undertaken the job of constructing a Maternity and Child Welfare Centre in the town. The financial resource of the club is donation.

Bharat Scouts and Guides

The Scout movement in the district was quite active till 1955. But later it became almost dormant for some years. Since 1960 Baleshwar and Mayurbhanj district formed the

Baleshwar-Mayurbhanj circle districts association and this arrangement continued till 1963-64. In the year 1968-69, Baleshwar district was divided into two district organisations. Baleshwar I and Baleshwar II educational districts formed the Baleshwar District organisation and a separate district organisation was created for Bhadrak Educational district. In the year 1978-79, there were 232 registered scouts and 24 Guides in the Baleshwar district organisation and 384 scouts and 128 guides in the Bhadrak district organisation. The aims and objects of this organisation are four-fold, viz., (i) formation of character, (ii) formation of sound health habits. (iii) training in handicrafts and acquiring useful skills and (iv) cultivation of proper spirit of service and to training for rendering services efficiently.

The affairs of the District Associations of the Bharat Scouts and Guides are managed by their respective District Councils and Executive Committees. The Presidents, Vice-Presidents of the District Council and the Chairman of the District Executive Committees are elected from among the members of the District Association for term of three years as per rules of the organisation. The District Commissioners for Scouts and Guides and Assistant District Commissioners are appointed by the State Chief Commissioner of the State Association.

The main sources of income of the District Associations are (i) the share money out of registration fees collected from the Scout Guide funds of the schools, (ii) donations from generous public and (iii) annual as well as life-membership fees.

Indian Red Cross Society, Baleshwar District Branch

The Baleshwar District Branch of the Indian Red Cross Society constituted under the provisions of the Indian Red Cross Society Act, 1920 is functioning since 1963.

Being a noble and philanthropic organisation, prevention of disease, promotion of health, mitigation of human sufferings and rendering all possible assistance at the time of natural calamities like flood, drought, cyclone, fire, accidents, etc., are the main aims and objectives of this society.

There were altogether 29,730 members in this branch at the end of 1985 of which 4 are Honorary Vice Presidents, 1 Patron, 1 Vice Patron, 80 life members, 162 life associate members, 131 Institutional members, 614 annual members and 28,737 annual associates.

This organisation makes contributions to the eye camps organised in this district. It also gives immediate assistance to the fire-affected people. Poor persons suffering from serious diseases and poor students are helped by this society. Besides, at the time of natural calamities relief materials are donated by the State Red Cross Society or other philanthropic organisations are distributed among the affected people. A Blood Bank has been established at Bhadrak. A warehouse has been built at Baleshwar with the aid of Indian Central Branch, New Delhi.

A paediatric ward has been started with a provision of 16 beds. Two power generators have been donated by the district branch to meet the emergent need of the patients at the time of power cut. A dispensary has been established in the Chandbali C. D. Block by the state branch.

The affairs of the society is managed by a committee consisting of 28 ex officio and 8 non-official members.

For financial resources the District Branch of the Indian Red Cross Society depends upon :—

- (i) Membership subscription
- (ii) Public donation
- (iii) Funds raised by it by exhibiting charity film shows
- (iv) Theatre parties showing charity shows
- (v) Contributions by local cultural associations by means of staging dramas
- (vi) Grant-in-aid received from the state branch

OXFAM

OXFAM is an international organisation with its headquarters at Oxford, U.K. It is an agency which provides funds to local organisations to undertake relief, humanitarian and development works.

In the district, its activities are confined to Baliapal Block. It has provided a grant to Samagra Vikas Parishad of Baliapal for assisting poor fishermen to replace their nets and equipments which they lost in the 1978 flood. This organisation has given funds to the Sarvodaya Relief Committee, Cuttack to undertake varieties of activities associated with the people affected by the floods of 1978. In addition, provision has been made by this organisation for assisting small village communities to strengthen their village credit funds in Baliapal Block.

UNICEF

UNICEF is the abbreviation of the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund. This international organisation has provided four vehicles for the district which are being used in Baleshwar Sadar, Tihiri, Nilagiri and Khaira Blocks exclusively for Community Development works.

Besides the above mentioned organisations, there are many other active voluntary social service organisations in this district. Of them, the names of Utkal Balashram Baleshwar; Padmapur Mahila Samiti, Padmapur; Arunoday Yubak Sangh, Parbatipur; Godabarish Pathagar, Uparkundi; Sri Durga Yubak Sangh, Jaleshwar; Sri Sri Mukteswar Yubak Sangh, Berhampur; Merangaburu Patharchati Anathashram, Patharchati; Krusikha Mahila Samiti, Gopinathpur; Kurusinga Yubak Sangh, Kurusinga; Basanti Mahila Samiti, Bankabazar, Bhadrak; Radhakantajeu Jubak Sangh, Nalabara; Pragati Yuba Sansad, Patna (Katasahi) Sriganga; Grama Mangal Yubak Sangh, Pahanga; Amarjyoti Yubak Sangh, Nawrangipur; Jai Jagannath Youth Cultural Society; Arjunbindha; Sri Jagannath Yubak Sangh, Tihiri; Basanti Pallimangal Kendra, Sadanandpur; Bijayee Meenamandali, Bhadrak; Mandaruni Seva Sangh, Badamanderuni; Binobha Mahila Samiti, Balipokhari; Utkal Laxmi Pathagar, Bankabazar, Bhadrak; Sugo Sava Sangh, Sugo; Sahid Memorial Committee, Sahidnagar, Bhadrak; Kaupur Grama Panchayat Yubak Sangh, Kaupur; Sarvodaya Sevak Samaj, Talapada; Thakkar Bapa Ashram, Sahara; and Binapani Mahila Samiti, Nandigram may be mentioned here. These institutions get financial assistance from the State Social Welfare Advisory Board, Bhubaneswar for implementation of different programmes for the welfare of the people.