

CHAPTER VI

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

BANKING AND FINANCE

History of indigenous banking

The village money-lenders, namely, Sahukars and the Mahajans constituted the main bulk of the indigenous bankers for several generations. They played a conspicuous role in the rural economy and were the only agency engaged in providing agricultural finance. The village money-lenders were lending money to the needy people at an exorbitant rate of interest which differed from place to place. They lent money against pledge of gold and/or silver ornaments, land, household utensils, agricultural implements or standing crop in the field. The crop in the field was usually bought by the money-lender himself during the harvest time at a nominal rate and the price was adjusted against the loan including the interest. The Kabuliwallas were also found lending money to the poor village folk as well as the workers in the industrial area. Sometimes loans were advanced clandestinely and dubious ways of collection of arrears were adopted by the money-lenders.

General credit facilities available

The uneconomic holdings, insecurity of crops and concentration of land in the hands of a few were mainly responsible for indebtedness among the agricultural population.

Indebtedness

An economic survey¹ conducted by the Government of Orissa in 1954-55 reveals the indebtedness of the cultivating families only. Nevertheless, since these families constitute the overwhelming majority, the condition with regard to the debt will be a broad picture of the state of rural indebtedness. Besides, the survey took into account only those loans which remained undischarged at the time of survey. Loans which were fully paid during the year of survey were not taken into account.

The survey indicated that debts were incurred for family consumption which accounted for 27.73 per cent. To meet the expenditure on social ceremonies and litigation, 39.20 per cent of the total debt were incurred. These were responsible for 66.93 per cent of the total debt of the farmers which were noticeably burdensome. Of the total debt, 22.57 per cent were incurred for

1. Economic Survey of Orissa, (1954-55), vol. I, by Prof. Sadasiv Misra.

various productive purposes, of which 5.11 per cent accounted for expenditure on cultivation, 8.51 per cent for purchase of land and bullock, 8.86 per cent for house building, and 0.09 per cent for investment in business.

As regards the source of credit, the chief source was the money-lenders. The data showed that 92.60 per cent of the total amount of debt were obtained from money-lenders, some of them were professional and some others, agriculturists or zamindars. On certain occasions, some farmers secured loans either from Government on the plea of land improvement under the Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883 or for agricultural purposes under the Agriculturists Loans Act, 1884. This constituted only 7.40 per cent and were mostly used for consumption or for social purposes like marriage, etc.

Loans were incurred not only in cash but also in kind and the interest charged by one money-lender from the same debtor in respect of loans in cash and in kind was also different. The data revealed 98.24 per cent and 1.76 per cent of the total debt were incurred in cash and in kind respectively.

Of the total loan 27.22 per cent carried 25 per cent and 8.97 per cent carried 37.5 per cent rate of interest. 31.88 per cent of the loans carried interest rates at 3.5 per cent, but there were 6.5 per cent and 9.5 per cent loans from Government agencies, co-operative societies and banks. 6.74 per cent of the loans carried 50 per cent and above rate of interest, 6.52 per cent carried no interest which were usually lent out by friends and relatives for short time.

In the meantime more than three decades have passed and there has been a considerable change in credit facilities in the district. So in the present context the role of private financing has almost been replaced by institutional financing.

Role of private money-lenders

In recent years there has been considerable growth in the number of co-operative credit societies and banks. But the influence of private money-lenders has not totally waned in the district. The money-lenders charge higher rate of interest but still they are approached because, firstly, they are easily approachable; secondly, borrowers do not have to undergo any red-tapism; thirdly, they sometimes advance loans without any security. So borrowers have no fear of attachment of property.

The money-lenders of the district may be classified into rural and urban, professional and non-professional. The distinction between rural and urban money-lenders is based purely on their areas of operation. As regards the difference between a professional and non-professional money-lender, the former primarily combines his business with other trade, whereas the latter who are land-owners and affluent persons lend money on good security to those who are fairly known to them.

The private money-lenders and financiers still supply a sizable portion of rural credit. Their oppressive character is not very different from that of their counterparts elsewhere but they now operate under severe restrictions imposed by the Orissa Money-lenders Act, 1939 as amended by the Orissa Money-lenders (Amendment) Act, 1975. By these Acts, the money-lender is required to register himself and obtain a licence for carrying on business. He is also required to maintain regular account books and to deliver statement of accounts to the licencing authority. The rate of interest on different types of loans has been legally fixed, such as, simple interest of 9 per cent per annum in case of secured loan and up to 12 per cent per annum in case of unsecured loan. A money-lender is punishable with imprisonment or pecuniary fine or both in case of default. The law provides that the total amount including the principal loan and interest thereon shall not exceed twice the amount of loan taken.

All possessory mortgages now stand discharged after expiry of a period of 7 years from the date of mortgage and the money-lender has to deliver back all mortgaged land within a period of three months from the date of expiry of the period of 7 years. Violation of the provision of this law attracts penalty of imprisonment up to one year and fine up to Rs. 1,000. The offence is triable by the Sub Collector and not by the Judiciary. As a measure of liquidation of rural indebtedness the State Government have also enacted "The Orissa Debt Relief Act, 1980" in order to extend the benefit to small and marginal farmers whose land is not more than one standard acre and the landless agricultural labourer and the rural artisans whose total annual income does not exceed Rs. 2,400. This Act came into force with effect from 13.3.1981. This contains provision to the effect that every debt incurred by the scheduled debtors before 13.3.1981 including the principal and the interest, if any, payable on such date shall be deemed to have been wholly discharged and no Civil Court shall institute any suit or proceedings against them for recovery of debt and interest. All suits and proceedings pending or the recovery of the same shall abate. Besides every property

pledged by a scheduled debtor shall stand discharged in favour of such debtor, and the creditor shall be bound to return the same to the debtor forthwith.

The Orissa (Scheduled Areas) Money-lenders Regulation, 1967 was brought into force with effect from 1st November, 1969 in order to control and regulate the business of money-lending in the Scheduled Areas of the state. Nilagiri C. D. Block I in Nilagiri sub-division is a Scheduled Area. This contains provisions similar to those contained in the Orissa Money-lenders Act which underwent extensive amendment in 1975.

As a positive measure, the Government have amended the Orissa Co-operative Societies Act, so that people can avail loans easily. Paddy loan is advanced under 'Crop Loan System' to the agriculturists at the time of their need. Moreover, the commercial banks have come up to render credit assistance to the agriculturists, manufacturers, businessmen, and others for productive purposes at a low rate of interest which has forced the private money-lenders to be somewhat moderate in their demand.

It is difficult to give any reliable statistics regarding number and volume of business of the money-lenders. There are many private money-lenders carrying on business without a licence. In 1985, there were 21 registered money-lenders who advanced a total loan of Rs. 3,49,955 to the borrowers in the district.

Commercial Banks

There are twelve commercial banks with 83 branches and one Regional Rural Bank (Gramya Bank) with 61 branches operating in the district as on 31st March, 1986. The United Commercial Bank is the lead bank of the district. By the end of above mentioned year the nationalised banks accepted deposits of Rs. 35,59,72,000 and advanced loans of Rs. 31,95,78,000 in the district.

Regional Rural Bank

The Regional Rural Bank operating in the district is named as Baleshwar Gramya Bank. This bank is functioning with sixty-one branches spreading all over the district.

By the end of 31st March, 1986, the Baleshwar Gramya Bank accepted deposits amounting to Rs. 3,42,76,000 and made advances of Rs. 3,76,27,000 in the district.

The location of branches of different nationalised banks and the Baleshwar Gramya Bank is given in Appendix I of this chapter.

Post-Office Savings Bank

Post-offices are the most important outlets for the savings of the people. The number of account holders in post-office savings banks is increasing steadily from year to year.

The following tables give details of the Small Savings collections, Savings Accounts, Recurring Deposit Accounts, Time Deposit Accounts, Public Provident Fund, 7-years National Savings Certificate-II Issue, Cumulative Time Deposit Accounts, National Savings Certificate-VI Issue, National Savings Certificate-VII Issue and 10-years Social Security Certificates, from 1981-82 to 1985-86.

Small Savings Collections

Year	Deposits (in rupees)	Withdrawals (in rupees)	Net balance (in rupees)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1981-82	8,03,08,185	6,84,77,090	1,18,31,095
1982-83	9,62,89,537	7,60,25,976	2,02,63,561
1983-84	10,32,27,896	10,07,59,372	2,46,85,524
1984-85	10,14,72,226	9,43,52,661	71,19,565
1985-86	12,21,15,857	9,16,41,539	30,47,43,118

Savings Accounts

Year	Deposits (in rupees)	Withdrawals (in rupees)	Net collections (in rupees)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1981-82	6,14,63,209.68	5,87,60,717.40	27,02,492.28
1982-83	7,31,78,730.91	6,46,47,865.41	85,30,865.50
1983-84	7,46,94,465.00	8,49,37,970.07	(—)1,02,43,505.07
1984-85	6,64,79,073.00	7,74,05,738.00	(—)1,09,26,665.00
1985-86	7,67,85,102.00	7,03,60,947.00	64,24,155.00

Recurring Deposit Accounts

Year	Deposits (in Rs.)	Withdrawals (in Rs.)	Net collections (in Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1981-82	23,72,984.80	14,41,188.63	9,31,776.17
1982-83	28,14,487.04	20,53,424.15	7,61,062.89
1983-84	32,90,818.05	27,02,572.71	5,88,245.34
1984-85	39,72,856.00	31,20,218.00	8,52,630.00
1985-86	49,39,807.00	37,55,064.00	11,84,743.00

Post-office Time Deposit Accounts

1981-82	51,69,343.20	57,59,331.22	(—)5,89,998.02
1982-83	41,44,847.85	64,16,526.79	(—)22,71,678.94
1983-84	44,17,970.00	82,95,801.60	(—)38,77,831.60
1984-85	54,43,139.00	87,54,507.00	(—)33,11,368.00
1985-86	62,91,611.00	93,14,873.00	(—)30,23,262.00

National Savings Certificate VI Issue

1981-82	88,71,895.00	2,000.00	88,69,895.00
1982-83	1,34,85,970.00	13,486.50	1,34,72,483.50
1983-84	1,74,95,470.00	2,42,315.15	1,72,53,154.85
1984-85	2,31,03,810.00	4,62,553.00	2,26,41,257.00
1985-86	3,17,78,020.00	1,25,119.00	3,05,19,901.00

National Savings Certificate VII Issue

1981-82	7,37,100.00	4,080.00	7,33,020.00
1982-83	12,20,310.00	1,10,421.60	11,09,888.40
1983-84	20,47,230.00	2,86,054.75	17,61,175.25
1984-85	11,22,180.00	4,57,349.00	6,64,831.00
1985-86	11,13,100.00	7,75,469.00	3,37,631.00

Year	Deposits (in Rs.)	Withdrawals (in Rs.)	Net collections (in Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
10- Year Social Security Certificates			
1981-82	N. A.	N. A.	N.A.
1982-83	88,000.00	Nil	88,000.00
1983-84	21,000.00	Nil	21,000.00
1984-85	1,000.00	Nil	1,000.00
1985-86	1,000.00	Nil	1,000.00
Public Provident Fund			
1981-82	5,110	..	5,110
1982-83	18,910	..	18,910
1983-84	11,850	..	11,850
1984-85	1,500	700	800
1985-86	2,100	..	2,100
7-Year National Savings Certificate II Issue			
1981-82	3,44,020.00	3,78,474.84	(—)34,454.84
1982-83	3,15,300.00	3,07,367.57	8,122.43
1983-84	1,92,100.00	2,98,433.65	1,06,333.65
1984-85	2,77,580.00	4,10,044.00	(—)1,32,464.00
1985-86	2,07,600.00	3,62,927.00	(—)1,55,327.00
Cumulative Time Deposit Accounts			
1981-82	9,62,457.35	10,02,829.23	(—)70,371.88
1982-83	10,22,891.71	9,53,832.87	69,058.84
1983-84	10,56,993.27	14,80,351.45	(—)4,23,358.18
1984-85	10,71,088.00	14,61,260.00	(—)3,90,172.00
1985-86	9,97,517.00	15,40,830.00	(—)5,43,313.00

Co-operative Banks and Credit Societies

The Baleshwar Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., with headquarters at Baleshwar is the first co-operative banking organisation in the district. The bank has branch offices at Bhadrak, Tihiri, Basudebpur, Nilagiri, Soro, Jaleshwar and Baleshwar Sadar. The membership of the bank consists of 511 co-operative societies and the State Government.

Baleshwar Central Co-operative Bank, Ltd.

In 1983-84, the bank had a share capital of 212 lakhs. During the above period the other reserve fund, deposits and borrowings were Rs. 62 lakhs, Rs. 318 lakhs and Rs. 123 lakhs respectively. The working capital of the bank was Rs. 2001 lakhs. The bank advanced Rs. 1623 lakhs as short-term and medium term loans for processing of agricultural produce, purchase of cattle, purchase of machinery, sinking and repairing of wells and improvement of land. The total loan outstanding was Rs. 1653 lakhs of which an amount of Rs. 794 lakhs was overdue.

Urban Co-operative Bank

In 1983-84, there were two Urban Co-operative Banks operating in Baleshwar and Bhadrak. The banks had a total membership of two thousand persons at the end of 1983-84. These banks had a total of Rs. 17 lakhs and Rs. 2 lakhs as working capital and share capital respectively. A total loan of Rs. 5 lakhs were advanced by these banks. The loans outstanding were Rs. 14 lakhs.

Land Development Banks

In 1983-84, there were three land development banks operating in Baleshwar, Nilagiri and Bhadrak. The banks had a total membership of 46 thousand persons. These banks had a total working capital of Rs. 551 lakhs of which paid-up capital was Rs. 41 lakhs. Their total reserve fund was one lakh rupees. During the year, the loans outstanding were Rs. 460 lakhs of which an amount of Rs. 46 lakhs was overdue. These banks advanced loans of Rs. 60 lakhs to members for purchasing tractors, pumpsets, for digging wells and for land improvement.

Large-sized Agricultural Multipurpose Co-operative Societies

In 1983-84, there were two LAMPS situated at Nilagiri and Matiali with a total membership of 10,000 persons. These banks had a total working capital of Rs. 69 lakhs of which paid-up capital was Rs. 7 lakhs, deposits Re. 1 (one) lakh and borrowing Rs. 42

lakhs at the end of 1983-84. During the year the loans-outstanding were Rs.37 lakhs of which an amount of Rs.10 lakhs was overdue. These banks advanced Rs.391 lakhs as short-term and one lakh rupees as medium term loans.

Primary Agricultural Credit Co-operative Societies

In 1983-84, there were 247 Primary Agricultural Credit Co-operative Societies with a total membership of 252,000 persons in the district. These societies function at village level as the agencies for the distribution of agricultural inputs and agricultural credit to the farmers. The societies had a total working capital of Rs.2,058 lakhs of which paid-up capital was Rs. 224 lakhs, deposits Rs. 31 lakhs and borrowing Rs. 1471 lakhs. The societies during the above period advanced Rs. 550 lakhs and Rs.30 lakhs as short-term and medium term loans respectively. Out of the total 241 P. A. C. S., 178 societies made a net profit of Rs. 18 lakhs. Sixty-nine societies sustained a loss of Rs. 11 lakhs.

Employee's Credit Co-operative Societies

In 1983-84, there were 60 Employee's Credit Co-operative Societies with a total membership of 5,000 persons in the district. The societies had a total working capital of Rs. 44 lakhs of which paid-up capital was Rs. 6 lakhs. Rupees 21 lakhs were advanced by these societies as loans. An amount of Rs. 33 lakhs stands as outstanding loan against these societies out of which Rs. 3 lakhs have been overdue.

General and Life Insurance

With the nationalisation of insurance companies, a branch office of the Life Insurance Corporation of India was opened on the 1st September, 1956 with headquarters at Baleshwar. Till 1973, it had been working as a branch office with the jurisdiction of Baleshwar, Kendujhar and Mayurbhanj districts. At present, Kendujhargarh in Kendujhar district and Baripada in Mayurbhanj district have been raised to the status of branch office, and hence the Baleshwar branch office is transacting business only for its own district. A second branch office is opened at Bhadrak for furthering L. I. C. activities in the district.

At present there are about ten thousand policy holders in the district. During the period 1985-86, 14,17,60,750 rupees of business was done by the Life Insurance Corporation of India in the district.

The annual business done by the branch offices located at Bhadrak and Baleshwar is furnished below.

Year	Name of the Branch	Number of Policy	Sum assured (in Rs.)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
1981-82	Baleshwar	1,178	1,34,28,500
1981-82	Bhadrak	1,440	1,71,30,000
	Total ..	2,618	3,05,58,500
1982-83	Baleshwar	1,272	1,55,30,000
1982-83	Bhadrak	1,263	1,90,36,000
	Total ..	2,535	3,45,66,600
1983-84	Baleshwar	1,601	2,29,30,250
1983-84	Bhadrak	1,706	2,70,28,500
	Total ..	3,307	4,99,58,750
1984-85	Baleshwar	2,905	3,50,26,000
1984-85	Bhadrak	2,263	3,36,54,250
	Total ..	5,168	6,86,80,250
1985-86	Baleshwar	5,185	18,01,20,000
1985-86	Bhadrak	4,169	6,16,40,750
	Total ..	9,354	14,17,60,750

The Life Insurance Corporation of India has advanced loan for house building on long term basis to the Government of Orissa and private persons. Besides, a number of persons have been granted loans against their policies for meeting various requirements

like daughter's marriage, medical expenses, etc. The rate of interest for house building is 12.5 per cent. Rs. 2,08,273 have been granted to 173 policy-holders during the financial year 1979-80. The Life Insurance Corporation of India has also advanced loan of Rs. 36,33,000 to Baleshwar Municipality, and Rs. 28,00,000 to Bhadrak N. A. C. for speeding up various development works.

General Insurance Corporation of India

Four General Insurance Companies, viz., the Oriental Insurance Company Ltd., the National Insurance Company Ltd., the United India Insurance Company Ltd., and the New India Assurance Company Ltd., are functioning in this district. These companies are doing insurance on fire, burglary, automobiles, etc.

State Assistance to Industrial Development

In 1987-88, fifty new small scale industries have been registered in this district and all the units have started production. Government help industrial development in the district in many ways. Besides direct help through District Industries Centre, the Government sponsor the names of the young entrepreneurs to State Financial Corporation and commercial banks for assistance.

In 1987-88, Orissa State Financial Corporation has sanctioned Rs. 670.11 lakhs to 75 entrepreneurs in the district. By the recommendation of District Industries Centre, different commercial banks have sanctioned working capital loan of Rs. 89.90 lakhs to 62 entrepreneurs in 1987-88. The District Industries Centre has sanctioned funds to the extent of Rs. 13,90,860 in favour of 364 existing Industrial Co-operative Societies and Rs. 36,570 to 110 number of artisans engaged in handicraft and coir industry.

In 1987-88, Rs. 4.37 lakhs have been sanctioned as state investment subsidy in favour of the new small scale industries. During the same period the investment subsidy of Rs. 181.20 lakhs has been sanctioned by the Central Government in favour of entrepreneurs of the district.

Currency and Coinage

Cowry Currency

In the past, cowry (*Cypraea moneta*) played a vital role in the currency system of the land. There are evidences of the prevalence of cowry currency in Orissa as well as in the district up to the beginning of the 19th Century A. D. In 1808, the British Government introduced their own coins called *Sicca rupee*. This hasty step to stop the cowry currency which constituted the main

medium of exchange among the vast majority of people for centuries resulted in an abnormal fall in the price of cowry upsetting the whole monetary system and causing great misery and hardship to the people at large.

Coinage

Various types of coins that were in circulation for different periods have been discovered. The important types are the Puri-Kushan coins, Gandibedha coins, the Ganga Fanam and the coins of Muslim and Maratha periods.

In 1964, thirty Ganga Fanams (small gold coins of Ganga period) were discovered in Khurunta Grama Panchayat under Khaira police-station in the district. A few silver and copper coins of Muslim period have been discovered. These have been identified as Sultan Sayed Bin Brash Bin Sultan-Ha-Fez Copper Coins, H. M. Nawab of Jadwa 1895 Copper Coin, Iulus Saha Alam Badsaha Copper Coins, Constantinople Copper Coins, Saha Alam Silver Coins, Abu Baqr with figure of Midina Serif Silver Coins and Afghanistan Habibulla Silver Coins. Besides, a few copper coins of Holkar Indor and Gaikwarsambat 1941, have been discovered.

The East India Company circulated their own coins in British possessions in India. These coins were also in circulation in the district. In 1974-75, four such coins were collected and preserved in the Jayadev Orissa State Museum, Bhubaneshwar.

The decimal system of coinage was introduced on the 1st April 1957. Gradually, the old system of coinage was discontinued and the coins were withdrawn from circulation. The people have now been fully adopted to the decimal system of coinage. Coins and paper currency of different denominations of all-India standard are in circulation.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

Pre-independence Period

When the British finally conquered Orissa, the only trade worthy of name was an export trade, chiefly in rice and salt.¹ Three different kinds of craft chiefly frequented export and import trade, viz., Maldivian vessels, which brought cowries, coconuts, coral and dried-fish, and took back rice and earthen pots; the sloops which carried salt to Calcutta; and sloops, built at Kantai

1. Bengal District Gazetteers, Balasore, 1907, L.S.S.O' Malley.

and Huguli, which only came in the cold season and carried rice to Calcutta. The Raja of Kanika independently carried on trade in rice with Calcutta. A large number of swine and cattle found their way by land route to the Calcutta market. In course of time the export trade lost its former importance and began to decline. In 1813, the Collector of the district reported that "the only articles exported were rice and little salt (about rupees three lakhs and that the trade was hardly known even by name.¹ The internal trade was limited to the supply of rice and other articles of every day use to the towns, and the mutual exchange of surplus produce and articles of home manufacture at the rural marketing centres or *hats* in the interior. The Britishers had done some justice in opening up roads, canals and port facilities in the district. The port facilities at Chandbali, False Point and Baleshwar were developed. This opened up for the local produce new horizons in the out-side markets.

The chief items of export were salt, sugar, European piece-goods, cotton, yarn, hardware and Indian products, such as, gunny-bags, coconut oil, spices, ghee, drugs and raw cotton. The principal export item was rice, which in favourable seasons was despatched in enormous quantities, by sea, canal and railway. Other exports were hides, jute, oil-seeds, timber and stoneware. A considerable quantity of the grain exported came from the Garhjats, and several traders from Baleshwar visited Nilagiri and Mayurbhanj and purchased the crops upon the fields. Rice was shipped over sea to Ceylon and Mauritius. But with these exceptions, trade, both import and export, was carried on chiefly with Calcutta and Madras. The year 1905-06 witnessed an expansion of the sea-borne trade. The total import value was Rs.28.5 lakhs and the total export value for the same period was Rs.33.5 lakhs.

Besides Baleshwar and Chandbali, which were the chief centres of the sea-borne trade, there were minor ports at Mandhata and Batanga on the Orissa Coast Canal, Baliapal on the Matai and Barbetia on the Guchida river. A small export trade was also carried on at Talpada, Inchudi and a few other villages along the Coast Canal, at Churakhai on a tidal creek connecting with the Panchapara, and at Panchrukhi on a tidal creek connecting the Subarnarekha near Jankunda. But the bulk of the local trade was carried on at various *hats* or markets scattered throughout the interior. The introduction of railway however transformed the whole system of internal and external trade. The trade centres gradually grew-up around the railway stations. The sea-borne trade came to a sharp decline giving place to railways.

1. Bengal District Gazetteer, Balasora, 1907.

Post-independence Period

Trade and commerce in the district are mainly agro-based, forest-based and marine-based. Bhadrak and Baleshwar are the principal towns and rail-heads which control mostly the trade of the district. The chief exports of the district are paddy, rice, jute, fish, dried fish, oil-seeds and stoneware. Rice and dried fish are mostly despatched to markets in Calcutta. Rice is also exported to the neighbouring districts.

The important commodities imported are, wheat, sugar, fertilisers, grocery, iron and steel goods, agricultural implements, drugs, engineering products, cement, kerosene oil, petrol, cloth, ready-made garments, electrical goods, spices, automobiles, utensils, etc.

Trade Centres

The chief commercial centres of the district are Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Chandbali, Nilagiri, Baliapal, Remuna, and Chandipur.

Baleshwar

Baleshwar is the district headquarters. It is the main rail-head which is connected by regular bus services leading to the development of trade and commerce. There are also bus services from Baleshwar to all the subdivisional headquarters and important places of the district. The town has mostly retail traders. There are also a good number of wholesale traders who deal mainly in paddy, rice, pulses, cloth, timber and minor forest produces.

Bhadrak

Bhadrak is the subdivisional headquarters of a subdivision of the same name and is situated at a distance of 70 km. from the district headquarters. The National Highway No. 5 joins Bhadrak with Baleshwar. Bhadrak station on the South Eastern railway is its rail-head. There are many wholesalers and retailers. Varieties of shops, both permanent and temporary, have grown up recently in different parts of the city. Business in different commodities on a large-scale is carried on daily. The chief business centres are located at Puruna Bazar, Naya Bazar, Charampa Bazar and Kacheri Bazar. Puruna Bazar is the centre of wholesale trade. There are a large number of shops dealing in textile, grocery, stationery, medicine and various other articles to meet the ever growing demand of the town.

Chandbali

During British days Chandbali was the chief centre of sea-borne trade. With the introduction of railway and improvement upon the system of road transportation, Chandbali has lost its past glory. How-

ever, Chandbali is now an important rural marketing centre of the Tahasil of the same name. It is situated at a distance of 120 km. from the district headquarters. Bhadrak is its main rail-head. It is connected to Bhadrak by an all-weather black-topped road and frequent bus services. There is a market and a few shops which deal in articles of daily necessities and luxuries.

Nilagiri

Nilagiri is the subdivisional headquarters of a subdivision of the same name and is situated at a distance of 21 km. from the district headquarters, to which it is connected by regular bus service. The town has mostly retail traders. There are a few wholesale merchants who transact business mostly in rice, paddy, pulses and oil-seeds. Nilagiri is famous for stoneware and utensils. Traditional families are doing the stone cutting business for decades. There are a good number of shops which deal in such stone products. There is a daily market.

Baliapal

Baliapal is the headquarters of a police-station in Baleshwar subdivision and is situated at a distance of 61 km. from the district headquarters. It is connected to district headquarters by regular bus service. The town is famous for wholesalers of betel leaf. Huge amount of betel leaf is produced in the locality. There are also wholesale merchants who transact business in rice, paddy and oil-seeds. There is a daily market and a few shops which meet the requirements of the local people.

Remuna

Remuna is situated in the Baleshwar subdivision at a distance of 8 km. west of Baleshwar. It is an important trade centre, containing one of the largest markets in the northern part of the district. There is considerable trade in brass utensils and vegetables from its neighbourhood. The famous shrine of Khirachora Gopinath is located here, and a religious fair is held here in February. The fair lasts for about thirteen days and large quantities of commodities are sold here during this occasion. A daily market sits here with a few shops to meet the needs of the local people.

Chandipur

Chandipur is a village in Baleshwar subdivision. It is situated on the sea-coast about 15 km. east of Baleshwar and 4 km. from the mouth of Burhabalanga. Chandipur is connected by regular bus service with Baleshwar. It is fast growing as a fishing centre.

Large quantities of excellent marine fish are caught here at a place called Balaramgarhi which are carried to Baleshwar and sent to Calcutta.

Rural Marketing Centres

In rural areas, greater part of local trade is carried on at a good number of markets scattered throughout the interior. These markets sit on specific days of a week. These markets, though generally not of any great size, are conveniently situated for the supply of local needs. They also act as centres at which grain is collected for export. At these markets the villagers dispose of their surplus stock of rice, pulses and other local produce and make purchases of textile or piece goods, trinkets, utensils, kerosene oil, salt, fancy articles, etc. The weekly markets are the most important channels of agricultural marketing. The average distance covered by people to bring commodities to the nearest market centre is 10 km. The economy is not yet fully monetised and as a matter of fact barter system prevails in remote corner of rural areas. There are also large number of the Scheduled Tribe and the Scheduled Caste people in the district who live mostly in far off interior places and village weekly markets are of great importance to them since they sell their local produce in exchange of their daily necessities and luxuries. Merchants from town areas and also from outside the district visit these markets for purchasing goods at lower rate. Trade in cattle is carried on in some big markets.

Bhadrak, Basudebpur, Chandbali, Baleshwar, Bant, Jamujhari, Kupari, Rupsa, Soro, Betada, Jaleshwar, Remuna and Kaupur are the big weekly markets of the district.

A list of rural marketing centres is given in Appendix II of the chapter.

Regulated Markets

The object of the regulated markets is to regulate purchase and sale of agricultural commodities for the benefit of the sellers as well as of the buyers. The producers are provided with market intelligence and storage accommodation. Market practices relating to bidding, weighing and delivery of goods are regulated and payment of fair price to the cultivators is assured.

Bhadrak Regulated Market

The Bhadrak Regulated Market came into existence in the year 1960. Its jurisdiction (i. e., the areas for which a regulated market is established) comprised Grama Panchayat areas

of Bhadrak, Rabandia, Charampa, Berhampur, Anapal, Gajirda, Behada, Kolei, Kaupur, Rahanga, Sabrang, Kendrapada, Ramkrushnapur and the whole of Tihiri and Dhamnagar police-stations. The market yard is located at Isafpur-Khunsa comprising 8 hectares of land. There is a sub-market yard at Tihiri. The management is carried on by a market committee which was formed on 20th April 1973. The market committee consisted of 15 members representing agriculturists, traders, and members nominated by the Government and the local authorities. The market committee collects information regarding the prevailing price in other markets and disseminates the same for the information of the producer. Various amenities in the market yard are now in the construction stage. When completed, these facilities would bring immense benefit to the producer-sellers. The notified commodities are sold in the market but open auction is not practised at the Bhadrak Regulated Market. The producer-seller exercises his option to sell at the rate offered. If he likes, he can withhold his stock to take a chance for a better bargain. The weighing is done by the licensed weighmer under the committee in the presence of the seller or his representative. The buyer has to pay the value of the stock within 24 hours from the time of delivery under the supervision of the market staff.

The following are declared as regulated commodities for this regulated market.

Name of Commodities

Jute, paddy, rice, Mung, Biri, Khesari, gur, potato and onion.

Livestocks

Cattle, sheep and goat

The income and expenditure of the Regulated Market during the year 1983-84 to 1985-86 is furnished below.

Year		Income Rs.	Expenditure Rs.
1983-84	..	30,784.00	42,999.00
1984-85	..	55,317.00	27,791.00
1985-86	..	1,06,451.00	33,645.00

Baleshwar Regulated Market

The Baleshwar Regulated Market came into existence in the year 1966. The market area (i.e., the area for which a regulated market is established) comprises the Grama Panchayat areas of Rasalpur, Jeydebkashba, Sargan, Gada, Gopinathpur, Ramsahi,

Patrapada, Sindhia, Parikhi, Sartha, Inchudi, Sergada, Srijanga, Shrirampur, Chhanua, Haladipada, Kaligan, Barunsingh, Koroda, Nizampur, Kalyanpur, Remuna, Naraharipur, Durgadevi, Patipal, Badapal and the town police-station area. The market yard is situated at Mauza Dampada in an area of 4 hectares of land. On the portion of the market yard stand the office building, well, auction hall, chaukidar shed, cattle shed and an open platform.

The administration is carried on by a market committee consisting of 15 members which is also empowered to take all administrative decisions in connection with the working of the Regulated Market.

The table below gives the income and expenditure of the Regulated Market during the period 1983-84 to 1985-86.

Year		Income	Expenditure
		Rs.	Rs.
1983-84	..	1,97,390-00	81,800-00
1984-85	..	2,07,490-00	1,42,026-00
1985-86	..	2,03,633-65	1,14,490-00

The following are declared regulated commodities for this regulated market.

Paddy, Rice, Mung, Biri, Khesari, gram, groundnut, coconut, Gur, mango, banana, potato, onion, egg, turmeric, fish, dryfish, corriander and chilli.

Birds and Animals

Poultry and cattle.

Jaleshwar Regulated Market

Jaleshwar Regulated Market came into operation in 1964. The market area comprises the revenue villages of Santhia, Ramanagar, Deulipanchgarh, Patharpur and the Grama Panchayat areas of Jaleshwar, Raibania, Bhograi, Baliapal, Singhla, Bagta, Basta and Nagram,. The management is carried on by a market committee consisting of 15 members. No market yard or sub-yard is established yet and auction sale has not been introduced.

The following are declared regulated commodities for this Regulated Market:

Cotton, sunhemp, jute, paddy, rice, Biri, Mung, mustard, coconut, groundnut, tobacco, Gur, sugar-cane, mango, lemon, banana, jack fruit, turmeric, fresh vegetables, sweet potato, ginger, garlic, betel leave, cashew-nut, sabai grass, fish and dry fish.

The table below gives the income and expenditure of the Regulated Market during the period 1983-84 to 1985-86 :

Year		Income	Expenditure
		Rs.	Rs.
1983-84	..	17,138-10	3,314-47
1984-85	..	6,324-60	1,768-05
1985-86	..	15,387-95	33,395-70

Chandbali Regulated Market

Chandbali Regulated Market was established in 1961. The market area comprises Grama Panchayat areas of Korand, Katana, Trilochanpur, Bandia, Kantapada, Lahunivamanda, Hatsahi, Charapada and the police-station areas of Chandbali and Bansada. The market committee which is consisted of 15 members came into office in 1972. There is no market yard in the Chandbali Regulated Market.

Co-operative Marketing Societies

There were five Regional Marketing Co-operative Societies during 1983-84. These societies mainly deal with agricultural inputs. Besides the Regional Marketing Co-operative Societies, there were two wholesale consumer co-operative stores, fifty-six Primary Co-operative Stores, four House Building Co-operative Societies, one Milk Supply Co-operative Society, eighteen Labour Contract and Engineering Co-operative Societies, forty-six Fishery Co-operative Societies and four Irrigation Co-operative Societies.

Regional Co-operative Marketing Societies

In 1983-84, there were five Regional Co-operative Marketing Societies located at Baleshwar, Jeleshwar, Soro, Bhadrak and Chandbali. The total membership of these societies was 3,000. The working capital, share capital, procurement and sales of these societies were Rs. 278 lakhs, Rs. 28 lakhs, Rs. 21 lakhs and 87 lakhs respectively.

Wholesale Co-operative Stores

In 1983-84, there were two Wholesale Consumer Co-operative Societies located at Baleshwar and Bhadrak. The membership of these two societies were 2000. The working capital, value of purchase, value of sale and profit were Rs.35 lakhs, Rs. 72 lakhs, Rs. 72 lakhs and Rs. 1 lakh respectively.

Primary Consumer Co-operative Stores

In 1983-84, there were fifty-six Primary Co-operative Consumer Stores. The total membership of these stores was 24,000. The working capital of these societies was Rs. 35 lakhs. During the year, the value of total purchase was Rs.42 lakhs. In the same year the societies earned a profit of rupees one lakh.

House Building Co-operative Societies

In 1983-84, there were four House Building Co-operative Societies with a total membership of 1000 persons. The working capital of these societies was Rs. 22 lakhs. Six lakh rupees were advanced for the purpose of building houses. Loans outstanding and loans overdue were Rs.18 lakhs and rupees one lakh respectively.

Milk Supply Co-operative Societies

In 1983-84, there was one Milk Supply Co-operative Society with a total membership of 18 persons. The working capital and share capital were Rs. 5 lakhs and Rs. 3 lakhs respectively. During the year, the society sold milk amounting to two lakh rupees incurring loss in the business.

Labour Contract Engineering Co-operative Societies

In 1983-84, there were eighteen Labour Contract and Engineering Co-operative Societies with a total membership of 1000 persons. The working capital of the societies was Rs. 304 lakhs. Fifty-four works were executed by different societies during the year.

Fishery Co-operative Societies

In 1983-84, there were forty-six Fishery Co-operative Societies with a total membership of 5000 persons. The working capital and share capital were Rs. 144 lakhs and Rs. 12 lakhs respectively. The total value of sale amounted to six lakh rupees during the year. Out of forty-six societies, 23 earned a profit of one lakh rupees and 7 incurred a loss of one lakh rupees while the rest 16 made no profit no loss.

Irrigation Co-operative Societies

In 1983-84, there were four Irrigation Co-operative Societies with a total membership of 223 persons. The societies had a total working capital of one lakh rupees during the year.

State Trading

The trading of the Food and Civil Supplies Department, Government of Orissa, begins on the 1st November of each year and ends on the 31st October of the succeeding year. The table at page 293 indicates the disposal of essential commodities through Fair Price Shops.

Disposal of essential commodities through various Fair Price Shops in Baleshwar District.

Year (Kharif year)	Rice in quintals	Wheat in quintals	Sugar in quintals	R. R. S. O. refined rapeseed oil (in tins of 16 kg.)	Palmolin oil (in tins)	Mustard oil (in tins)	Kerosene oil (in tins)
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)
1980-81	63,124.00	41,124.76	1,03,948.00	Nil	Nil	Nil	12,528.70
1981-82	1,59,169.50	50,163.60	1,05,882.00	18,910	2,081	1,886	13,427.70
1982-83	1,22,765.10	2,02,160.10	1,13,769.00	22,103	2,988	4,089	14,004.30
1983-84	54,004.00	1,98,517.00	1,18,440.00	10,830	30,702	674	14,748.50
1984-85	67,550.00	1,08,880.00	1,22,536.00	49,659	30,209	Nil	15,714.50
1985-86	16,234.00	21,431.00	82,399.00	1,169	20,871	Nil	8,538.00

Weights and Measures

Prior to the introduction of the metric system, the weight in common use was the Indian standard *seer* of 80 tolas. The common measure of volume was *mana* in all transactions of rice, paddy and other foodgrains. For measuring length; yard, feet and inch were in use. The local land measurement was 100 decimals equal to 25 *gunthas* equal to one *mana* or acre and 20 *manas* made one *bati*.

For the measurement of liquids, gallons and *seers* of 80 tolas were in use and one *seer* was equal to 16 *chhataks*.

In the district, a peculiar system of dry measure was in use before metric system was introduced. They were, 4 *seers* equal to 1 *pudj*, 10 *seers* equal to 1 *gauni*, 400 *seers* equal to 1 *pauti* and 80 *pautis* equal to one *bharan*.

However, these measures varied not only in nomenclature but also in capacities from area to area. Materials from which these measures were constructed also varied from place to place. As a result of such differences in the use of weights and measures there was ample scope for the traders to cheat the consumers.

So, with a view to overcoming these difficulties, the metric system of weights and measures was introduced as an all-India standard from the 1st April 1962. Initial difficulties were experienced by both the consumers and traders, but after regular practice and publicity through distribution of conversion tables, charts and pamphlets, the metric system has been accepted by the people and is in vogue.

APPENDIX I

Location of branches of different nationalised banks and Baleshwar Gramya Bank.

Name of the Bank	Location of branches	
(1)	(2)	
STATE BANK OF INDIA	1. Amarda 2. Aradi 3. Baleshwar 4. Baleshwar Industrial Estate 5. Basudebpur 6. Bhadrak 7. Bishnupur 8. Chandbali 9. Chandipur 10. Dobal 11. Durgadevi	12. Fatepur 13. Jaleshwar 14. Kansa 15. Kenduapada 16. Kupari 17. Motiganj (evening), Baleshwar town 18. Pratappur 19. Sarsada 20. Soro 21. Similia 22. Srirampur
ALLAHABAD BANK ..	1. Baleshwar 2. Bhadrak	3. Manjuri Road 4. Agarpada
CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA	1. Baleshwar 2. Bhadrak	3. Brahmansahi ..
INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK	1. Bhadrak 2. Gujidarda 3. Nalanga	4. Kuruda 5. Baleshwar ..
PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK	1. Bhadrak	2. Bant
BANK OF INDIA ..	1. Akhuapada 2. Baleshwar 3. Basta 4. Daulatpur	5. Pandia 6. Remuna 7. Turigadia ..

(Contd.)

APPENDIX II

A list of rural marketing centres in the district

Name of the Subdivision (1)	Location (2)	Day/Days (3)
Bhadrak	Chudamani	Bi-weekly
	Nangipada	Do.
	Sida	Do.
	Sahid (Angadi)	Do.
	Padhuan	Weekly
	Bachhada	Bi-weekly
	Sankharo	Do.
	Suan	Do.
	Betada	Weekly
	Binayakpur	Weekly
	Kamargan	Bi-weekly
	Brahmangan	Do.
	Ertal	Do.
	Sugo	Do.
	Padmapur	Do.
	Rajgharpokhari	Do.
	Matipaka	Do.
	Krushnapur	Do.
	Biras (Bedeipur)	Do.
	Naikanidihi	Do.
	Balimunda	Do.
	Basudebpur	Weekly
	Mandari	Bi-weekly
	Dhamnagar	Weekly
	Dobal	Weekly
	Chudakuti	Bi-weekly
Nuahat	Do.	
Dhusuri	Do.	
Betaligan	Do.	

(Contd.)

Name of the Subdivision (1)	Location (2)	Day/Days (3)
	Barikpur	Weekly
	Bhandaripokhari	Weekly
	Tihiri	Bi-weekly
	Dolasahi	Weekly
	Sabaranga	Bi-weekly
	Pirahat	Do.
	Bant	Do.
	Kaupur	Do.
	Kadabaranga	Do.
	B. T. pur	Do.
	Ganijanga	Do.
	Randia	Do.
	Arnabal	Do.
	Paliabindha	Do.
	Hanuman	Do.
	Chandbali	Weekly
	Ghanteswar	Weekly
	Motto	Weekly
	Kaithkola	Weekly
	Karanjmal	Bi-weekly
	Charadia	Do.
	Narasinghpur (Dhamara)	Do.
	Bansada	Do.
	Dogachhia	Do.
	Kherang	Do.
	Gadi	Do.
Nilagiri	Nilagiri	Bi-weekly

(Contd.)

Name of the Subdivision (1)	Location (2)	Day/Days (3)
Baleshwar	Baulagadia	Bi-weekly
	Mitrapur	Bi-weekly
	Berhampur	Do.
	Sajanagada	Do.
	Iswarpur	Bi-weekly
	Kasapa	Do.
	Darakholi	Do.
	Santaregadia	Do.
	Mathani	Do.
	Rupsa	Bi-weekly
	Haldipada	Do.
	Raisuan	Bi-weekly
	Darada	Do.
	Sahada	Do.
	Singla	Do.
	Vellora	Bi-weekly
	Paunshuli	Do.
	Khaparapada	Do.
	Similia	Do.
	Jamkunda	Do.
	Ratei	Do.
	Mandhata	Do.
	Ambchua	Do.
	Dwarika	Do.
	Anarda	Do.
	Basta	Do.
Baliapal	Do.	
Motiganj	Do.	
Baleshwar	(Baleshwar town)	
	Nayabazar	Do.
	(Baleshwar town)	

(Contd.)

Name of the Subdivision (1)	Location (2)	Day/Days (3)
	Sergada	Bi-weekly
	Golei Chhak	Do.
	Korada	Do.
	Chandipur	Do.
	Remuna	Do.
	Padmapur	Do.
	Rasulpur	Do.
	Badakia-Bardhan- pur	Do.
	Fuladi	Do.
	Olanda Sargan	Do.
	Denla	Do.
	Bhograi	Do.
	Jaleshwar	Do.
	Raibania	Do.
	Nimatpur	Do.
	Jayarampur	Do.
	Nuagan	Do.
	Lockhut	Do.
	Nachinda	Do.
	Banghadiha	Do.
	Nampo	Do.
	Khnard	Weekly
	Kesapur	Bi-weekly
	Pachimbad	Do.
	Kaliko	Do.
	Kapari	Do.
	Khaira	Do.
	Gandibeda	Do.
	Sarugan	Do.
	Budhagadia	Do.

(contd.)

Name of the Subdivision (1)	Location (2)	Day/Days (3)
	Tudigadia	Biweekly
	Sundira	Do.
	Goliha	Do.
	Kurunta	Do.
	Dagorpada	Do.
	Ada	Do.
	Dungara	Do.
	Bartana	Do.
	Antara	Do.
	Bahanaga	Do.
	Gopalpur	Do.
	Anji	Do.
	Anantpur	Do.
	Pakhar	Do.
	Junia	Do.
	Soro	Do.
	Bagudi	Do.
	Mangaipur	Do.
	Singakhunta	Do.
	Manipur	Do.
	Barkpur	Do.

(Contd.)