

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

In 1961, the population of the district consisted of 2,63,579 per sons of whom 1,57,777 were workers (86,131 being women), some particulars regarding their occupations, etc., as follows:

Occupations					Workers		
					Total	Men	Women
Cultivation	..	..	..	..	1,37,811	55,217	82,594
Agriculture	..	..	..	..	1,227	644	583
Mining, quarrying, live-stock, forestry, fishing, hunting, etc.					1,043	954	89
Household industry	..	..	..	..	5,528	3,128	2,400
Manufacturing other than household industry					328	304	24
Construction	..	..	..	..	2,461	2,455	6
Trade and commerce	..	..	..	..	1,243	1,217	26
Transport, storage and communications					457	457	..
Other services	..	..	..	..	7,679	7,270	409

The number of non-workers in the district was 1,05,802 (49,156 being women).

There is in the district the usual set-up of departments and offices of the State and Central Governments, local bodies, educational institutions, banks, etc.

The number of persons employed with in the district under the Central and State Governments and the local bodies in 1965 is given below:

Type of establishment			Number of establishments in September, 1965	Number of employees in September, 1965		
				Men	Women	Total
State Government	..	..	55	4,697	277	4,974
Central Government	..	..	3	263	..	263
Local Bodies	..	..	4	1,062	106	1,168
Quasi-Government	..	..	2	57	..	57

The employees of the Central and State Governments and of the local bodies have been granted certain amenities such as provident fund benefits, medical treatment, housing and dearness allowance, permission to take loans from certain sources, etc. Employees of various departments have the right to from associations and unions to safeguard their service interests.

Learned Professions

Education—According to the census of 1961 there were 975 teachers (899 man and 76 women) in the district of whom 102 were employed in higher secondary schools (16 being women), 818 in senior Basic and junior Basic schools (49 being women) and 55 in other places.

The teachers in educational institutions have their own associations to protect and advance their service interests. They are provided with the benefit of provident fund, some employees also getting free quarters for certain duties performed.

Medicine—In 1961, there were 63 physicians, surgeons and dentist (2 being women) in the district of whom 36 were allopathic physicians and surgeons (1 being woman), 1 homoeopath, 6 Ayurvedic physicians and 20 other physicians, surgeons and dentists not

classified. There were 104 nurses, pharmacists and other medical and health technicians (31 being women) consisting of 31 nurses (3 being women), 25 midwives and health visitors, 31 nursing attendants and related workers (3 being women), 7 pharmacists and pharmaceutical technicians, 6 vaccinators and 4 sanitation technicians.

Law—In 1961 there were 9 magistrates, 13 legal practitioners and 8 legal technicians including petition writers.

The Bar Association at Pithoragarh was formed in 1940 when only six lawyers and two mukhtars (revenue agents) were practicing in the district. It took the shape of a District Bar Association immediately after the creation of the district in 1960 and in 1965 the number of its members rose to 17.

Engineering—In 1961, there were 85 architects, engineers and surveyors, including civil, mechanical and electrical engineers, overseers and other engineers, not classified.

Domestic and Personal Services

Domestic Servants—Generally domestic servants are employed by well-to-do persons. With the increasing cost of living, many people in both, the urban and the rural areas, often engage part-time employees for doing domestic chores, grazing cattle, etc. A majority of such servants hail from the rural areas, payment being made monthly, in cash or in cash and kind, and in a few cases in the form of food, clothing and living accommodation.

According to the census of 1961 there were 359 housekeepers, cooks, women servants and related workers (85 being women).

Barbers—Barbers have always occupied an important position in the rural life of the country, as they perform important services at the time of marriages, deaths, etc. Formerly a barber acted as a go-between in marriage negotiations but now the parents of the parties usually settle the marriage themselves. In the urban centers the relationship between barber and customer is professional. There were 30 barbers and hair-cutters in the district in 1961.

Washermen—In villages most people do their own washing. Now even in towns, the rising prices, and uncertain delivery of clothes, given to Dhobis, have forced people to do their own washing, the pressing of clothes being done either at home or by Dhobis. There were in the district 9 launderers, dry-cleaners and pressers (1 being woman) in 1961. The launderers are mainly located in the urban areas and their charges are quite moderate.

Tailors—In 1961, there were 1,091 tailors, cutters and related workers (233 being women) and 2,801 spinners, dyers and related workers (1,976 being women). In the rural areas tailoring is limited to the simple cutting out sewing of ordinary garments such as shirts, coats, pyjamas, blouses, etc. Tailoring charges vary with the type of garment made, the style, material and the standing of the tailor or shop.

Other Occupations—In 1961, there were 853 furnace men, rollers, cleaners, moulders and related metal workers (100 being women); 122 precision instrument makers, watch-makers, jewelers and related workers; 47 tool makers, machinists, plumbers, welders, platters and related workers; 13 electricians and related electrical and electronic workers; 267 carpenters and related workers; 2 painters and paper-hangers; 9 potters, kiln workers, glass and clay formers and related workers; 52 millers, bakers, brewers and related food and beverage workers; 201 craftsmen and production process workers (36 being women); 393 directors, managers and working proprietors of financial institutions; 1,179 clerical and related workers; 15 social scientists and related workers; and 25 draughtsman and science rural engineering technicians.