

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Sitapur forms part of the Lucknow division which is one of the eleven administrative areas into which the State of Uttar Pradesh is divided. There is a commissioner who holds charge of the Division with his headquarters in Lucknow. He is the link, or rather the official channel, between the districts under him and the government and is responsible for the orderly administration as well as the planned development of the districts placed under his charge.

District Subdivisions

For purposes of general and revenue administration the district of Sitapur has been divided into four tahsils—Sitapur, Biswan, Sidhauli and Misrikh. The Sitapur tahsil lies in the north of the district and is made up of the five parganas of Sitapur, Ramkot, Khairabad, Hargaon and Laharpur. The Biswan tahsil is in the east and is composed of the three parganas of Biswan, Tambaur and Kundri North. The Misrikh tahsil is in the west and contains the parganas of Misrikh, Maholi, Chandra, Aurangabad, Korauna, Machrehta and Gondla Mau. To the south and south-east lies tahsil Sidhauli, comprising the parganas of Bari, Manwan, Mahmudabad, Sadarpur, Kundri South and Pirnagar.

District Staff

The district is the basic unit of administration in the State and is in the charge of a district officer who holds a key post and is the pivot of the district administrative machinery. In Sitapur, as in the rest of Avadh, he is designated deputy commissioner (after the pattern of the non-regulated provinces though the distinction of regulated and non-regulated provinces no more exists). As district magistrate he performs the duties and exercises the powers conferred on a district magistrate under the *Code of Criminal Procedure* and many special acts. He is the highest authority in the district as regards the maintenance of law and order. As a collector, one of his most important duties is to collect government revenue and other dues recoverable as arrears of land revenue. Another equally important duty of the deputy commissioner, in his capacity as collector, is to maintain land records and to help the rural population in times of natural calamities such as drought, floods, etc.

The deputy commissioner with the entire revenue staff at his disposal and with the co-operation of the police commands a position of great authority. He is also responsible for the execution of the schemes of

