

DISTRICT GAZETTEER SIALKOT

2021-22

Preface

Dear readers, let me point out a basic human flaw, underestimating the seemingly simple. Preparing a district gazette for Sialkot proved to be significantly more arduous than it was thought to be. The task of having the government departments furnish the requisite information/data, following up with the departments and keeping in view the timelines, and the genie of compilation at the end seemed nightmarish at times. One would be surprised as to how lethargic government departments can be regarding sending a two-page document outlining their basic functions and initiatives. But the reward is much more soothing than the amount of effort put into this project.

Let it be known that this gazetteer is prepared after more than a century. Sialkot has evolved into a vibrant mix of rural and urban tastes and cultures. It has, since then, moved from an agrarian colony to an industrial south Asian metropolis. Its infrastructure has developed, its governance framework has evolved into a complex machine with several stakeholders, and its export industry has thrived into one of the biggest in the country.

Let it also be known that we took all requisite care in drafting this document and since we are human, mistakes may be inevitable in the

most detailed of our works. We relied mostly on the information provided by the various department heads and presumed the factual accuracy of the data provided by them.

I want to make known the efforts of the staff in the Deputy Commissioner's office who worked diligently to prepare this draft gazetteer. Some of the officers and staff worked afterhours and followed up relentlessly with the government department heads to extract the requisite data. They worked in a stepwise process and compiled the final draft with a commendable level of professionalism.

I would like to thank my family who stays by my side in demanding tasks and supports me even though my role as a civil servant tries their patience.

Finally, I would like to thank the Almighty for giving me strength and enabling me to complete this task in my less than a year of stay as Deputy Commissioner Sialkot so far and giving me the opportunity to break the pattern of ignoring a relished tradition of gazetteer making for a century.

TAHIR FAROOQ (PAS)

Deputy Commissioner Sialkot

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Chapter # 01

SIALKOT DISTRICT AT A GLANCE

History

The ‘City of Opportunities’ Sialkot, situated in the Northeast of Punjab bordering Indian held Jammu and Kashmir, is the third largest export center after Karachi and Lahore and 12th largest most populous city of Pakistan. It has the highest per capita income more than US \$1200. It is an important industrial hub of the country. It has four Tehsils Sialkot, Daska, Pasrur and Sambrial. According to the census report of 2017 its total population is 3, 893, 672. Before the partition the political and economic fields were mainly occupied by the Hindus and the Sikhs but after independence the religion-ethnic proportion transformed into quite opposite direction and both the powerful communities had to flee to India leaving everything behind. The Muslims comprise more than 95% of the total population of the district. The main religion-ethnic groups are the Muslims, the Sikhs, the Hindus, the Christians, and the Ahmadis. All the groups are lending their vital role in the development of the city as well as the country. They are living in harmony and peace and intra faith tolerance exists ideally in the district. There are numerous holy shrines which are revered by all the communities.

Sialkot is believed to be founded by Raja Sul or Sala, the uncle of the Pandhavas, whose heroic deeds have been enumerated in the Mahabharata. After a long period of floods and devastation it was re-founded in the reign of Vikramaditya of Ujjain by Raja Salivan or Salban who belonged to Sia caste. The word Sialkot means 'the fort of Salban or Sia. Salban had two sons Puran, a future Baghat and Rasalu, the great mythical hero of Punjab folk tales. However, it has recently been suggested that Sialkot is the sight of the ancient town of Sakala or Sagal. Sialkot is one of the oldest cities in the region and has a rich history going back to legends from the pre-historic period. The city has produced some of the most important poets of Pakistan and is home to a strong literary tradition. It is in the fertile province of Punjab, famous the world over for its agricultural produce and it has an excellent climate marked by distinct seasons. Even in this frenzied century, the people of Sialkot have retained a strong sense of community, human relationships, and traditional values. There are other special and endearing aspects of the city too, but it would not be incorrect to say that one characteristic that over-rides all others in the city is the spirit of enterprise. This spirit is not only above in its factories, offices and bazaars, but also resounds on city roads, street and alleys, in palatial mansions and small homes, in exclusive clubs and on roadside hotels

and teashop, across the length and breadth of this hardworking city. In fact, this entrepreneurial ethos has been fundamental in the city's development over centuries and can easily be termed as the defining feature of today's Sialkot. Whether it is sports goods or surgical instruments, leather products or a wide range of sportswear and garments, gloves, badges and musical instruments or a host of other articles, the factories in Sialkot are famous for the finest quality of their products; they supply to the top brands of the world. This, of course, is not by accident. A curious mix of historical events and entrepreneurial ingenuity has led to the development of skills and management capacity required for their production. This unmatched advantage enjoyed by Sialkot, like the city of Rome, was, however, not built in a day. And it is this deep-rooted strength of its various trades that refuses to be suppressed by daunting challenges, forcing the leading brands to keep returning to Sialkot's factories. The fruits of this flourishing enterprise are enjoyed by the 3.5 million inhabitants of Sialkot, the most prosperous district in Pakistan with the highest per capita income in the country. The literacy rate in the district is also the highest in the country, 73 percent for urban areas and 54 percent for rural. Population with access to clean drinking water is 96 percent and 95 percent households have electricity. Sialkot City, with a population estimated to 600,000, is

the twelfth largest city of the country, yet it is the second biggest exporter among Pakistan's cities.

Present Day Sialkot

Present day Sialkot brings together the best of old and new, from narrow alleys and crowded bazaars in the ancient walled city and the areas around it, to swanky modern malls in the Cantonment area. There are historical sites like Puran's Well and the Sialkot Fort that date back to ancient times when legends blended into history. The impressive Hindu temple called Shavala by the locals and Gurdwara Baba Beri Sahib where Guru Nanak, the founder of the Sikh religion, is said to have rested, evoke images of the time before partition when Sialkot was home to people of diverse faiths. In the old city, the mausoleum complex around the shrine of the revered mystic Hazrat Imam Ali-ul-Haq known as Imam Sahib includes several shrines of saints, including the legendary Pir Muradia Shaheed. This is testimony to the city's strong mystic tradition. The British have also left their mark on the city. They established the Sialkot Cantt which is today one of the best-preserved cantonments in the country with old trees towering above its well-kept roads. It is home to not only the traditional military establishments but also posh shopping areas, trendy cafés and restaurants, prestigious schools, and residences of some of the top

industrialists of the city. The Holy Trinity Cathedral and the now-renovated Clock Tower in the bustling Saddar Bazaar, the Company Garden and the Convent of Jesus & Mary are all reminders of the British era. Outside the Cantt area, the Memorial Christian Hospital and the famous Government Murray College are important colonial landmarks. The Do Darwaza Masjid and Iqbal Manzil, the birthplace of Pakistan's national poet-philosopher, Allama Iqbal, are in the old city. Nearby is the site of Talab Moula Bukhsh where the historic Sialkot Convention of the All-India Muslim League was held in 1944. It is today a wrestling stadium. To the rich historical heritage has been added an impressive array of modern facilities like the Garrison Park and Gulshan-e-Iqbal. Jinnah Stadium was constructed at the site of Connelly Park and hosted the first One Day International Cricket Match in Pakistan in 1976, against New Zealand. Not far from Sialkot are the famous picnic spots of Marala Head Works on the River Chenab and the Bajwat Wildlife Sanctuary that conserves natural riverine habitats along the Chenab and its two tributaries and extends up to the border with the Indian-held Jammu & Kashmir. Spread over 5400 hectares, the sanctuary provides protection to waterfowl and mammals like the Hog Deer and Neel Gai. The Sialkot district is spread over an area of 3,016 square kilometers and comprises the four tehsils of Daska, Pasrur,

Sambrial and Sialkot. Beside its renowned industry, the district is rich in agriculture as well. About nine-tenths of the cultivable area is under crops. The chief crops are wheat, barley, rice, corn, millet, and sugarcane. The main fruits are citrus, and guava and the main vegetables include potatoes, cauliflower, peas, garlic, and onions. The temperature varies from over 45C in June to -2C in December. The average annual rainfall is about 1000 mm. Pakistan's national poet-philosopher, Sir Allama Mohammad Iqbal is undoubtedly the most famous son of the city and Sialkot is referred to as Shehr-e-Iqbal, or the city of Iqbal. His teacher, Shamsul Ulema Maulvi Mir Hassan, is remembered as an institution in his own right, setting exemplary standards of scholarship. Iqbal heads a long list of luminaries of the literary world hailing from the city, including the most popular modern Urdu Poet, Faiz Ahmad Faiz, the pioneer of Urdu Journalism and a leader of the Pakistan movement, Moulana Zafar Ali Khan, the father of the Pakistani idiom in English, Toufiq Rafat, the leading modern Urdu short story writer, Rajinder Singh Bedi, renowned English novelist, Zulfikar Ghose, respected Muslim scholars, Moulana Ubaidullah Sindhi and Mullah Abdul Hakim Sialkoti, and a host of prominent writers and journalists such as Amjad Islam Amjad, Narendra Kohli, Waris Mir, Khalid Hasan and Kuldip Nayyar. Sialkot has also produced some of the most

outstanding sportsmen of Pakistan. The legendary cricketer Zaheer Abbas, cricket stars Ijaz Ahmed and Shoaib Malik, and hockey icons Shahnaz Shaikh, Manzoor Junior and Nasir Ali were born and bred in Sialkot. Many captains of Pakistan's national hockey and cricket teams also hailed from Sialkot, and its players feature prominently in not only these, but also the Pakistan Volleyball team. Jinnah Stadium is home to Sialkot Stallions, the city's cricket team. It has won many national tournaments defeating teams from much bigger cities like Lahore and Karachi. Ironically, the sports facilities in the city do not match its contribution to the world of sports. The Sialkot Hockey Stadium is located at Pasrur Road and plans to upgrade it to host international matches have suffered at the hands of bureaucratic red tape. Similarly, the Sialkot Sports Complex is still under construction at Daska Road. Once ready, it will provide international standard track facilities for athletic events. On the positive side, the Garrison Golf Club, Sialkot is among the best in the country and hosts the Allama Iqbal Open Golf Championship every year. The national-level Rachna Polo Club is also located on the outskirts of the Cantt area.

The birthplace of the poet of the East Poet, Allama Iqbal, Sialkot has many other feathers in its cap. Along with adjacent districts of

Gujranwala and Gujrat, it forms the 'golden triangle of relatively industrialized northern Punjab.

With the highest per capita income of over \$3,000 in the province, the district also earns international fame through its sports, surgical instruments, and leather industries, while agricultural engineering manufacturing at Daska, one of its four Tehsils, makes it a household name among the domestic farming community. Located at the Indian border along the Working Boundary, it has inherited paper and ironworks industries from the pre-colonial period and takes pride in having the first privately constructed and owned airport in the country.

CHAPTER 2

ADMINISTRATIVE FRAMEWORK

Tehsil-wise Area in Square Acres and Union Councils

Tehsils	Urban UCs	Rural UCs	Total	Area
Sialkot	18	32	50	2,13,255 Sq.Acr
Daska	06	23	29	1,67,288 Sq.Acr
Pasur	04	24	28	2,41,531 Sq.Acr
Sambrial	03	14	17	1,20,791 Sq.Acre

I. Tehsil Sialkot

The Tehsil is the District Head Quarter. Its total population according to the census of 2017 is 1.795 million. Most of its area is adjacent to the working boundary separating Indian held Jammu region from Pakistan. The hen-necked border specific to Sialkot is in Bajwat region n which is encircled by river Jammu Tavi, Monawar Tavi and the Chenab. Since ancient times it has been the gateway to Kashmir and thus the focus of traders and invaders. It is the pivot of sports, surgical and leather industry; the three peculiarities of the district. Several tribes like Jats, Araein, Gujjars, Awan, Shaikhs, Rajpoot, and Kashmiri reside in it. This tehsil accommodated most of the immigrants of Jammu and Kashmir in 1947. The urban area is dominated by

Kashmiri and Araein biradarries while the rural area is dominated by Jats and Gujjar.

II. Tehsil Daska

Daska is a growing industrial (Especially Agro Industry) city with a population of 8, 46, 933 as per 2017 census report. The town is the capital of Daska Tehsil one of four tehsils of Sialkot District. The name Daska is said to be a distortion of "Dah Kos". The term "Dah" is the Persian word for the numeral Ten, and "Kos" refers to a unit of distance (Equal to one and a half km) used in Mughal times. The town was situated some ten "Kos" between neighboring Gujranwala, Sialkot, Pasrur, Wazirabad and Sambrial, hence Dah Kos became Das Kos in the local Punjabi language, later shortened/ reformatted to Daska. The principal clans of Daska includes the Mughal, Kashmiri, Sethi, Bajwa, Cheema, Baryar, Dhillon, Sahi, Maher, Ghumman, Nagra, Waraich, Wahla, Basra, Kang, Goraya, Mew, Khokhar, Bhatti, Minhas, Rana, mahar, Rajput, Randhawa, and Sandhu. Many of the villages surrounding Daska are also named after Jats and Rajput castes such as Adamkey Cheema, Mundaykey Goraya and Bhudda Goraya. It is best known for manufacturing all kinds of agricultural equipments. Rice, wheat, and Sugarcane are its main produces.

III. Tehsil Pasrur

According to a legend Pasrur is the distortion of “PurSaroor” meaning the place full of ecstasy’. It is adjacent to the working boundary which separates Pakistan from India. It was created during the British rule with Pasrur. It has an area of 1,020 sq. km. Its oldest village is Sabo Bhadiar situated near Qila Kalar Wala. According to the census report of 2017 its population is 8, 40, 881. It was the main battlefield between Pakistan and India in 1965 where the biggest battle of Tanks was fought after WW-II. Rajput, Jats, Solehri and Kumhar are the main castes in this tehsil. The main produce of this tehsil is rice and wheat. The industrial activities lack in it.

IV. Tehsil Sambrial

Sambrial is a newly created Tehsil of Sialkot. The city is situated on the bank of Upper Chenab canal ushering from Marala Headworks. Sambrial is a key city because of its central location among Wazirabad, Gujrat and Sialkot. Sialkot Dry Port, Export Promotion Zone, Tannery Zone and Sialkot Airport (SIAL) are situated in this tehsil. The road which connects to GT Road, Northern and Central Punjab passes through Sambrial. The recently constructed Sialkot-Lahore Motor Way originates from this tehsil. The construction of ShabazPur Bridge on the river Chenab has shortened the distance and connection to Azad

Kashmir and Kharian Garrison which is strategically most important for defense purposes. According to the census report of 2017 its population is 4, 11,200.

Towns

i. Chawinda

It is a town called 'The Graveyard of Indian Tanks' in Tehsil Pasrur. It is famous due to the great tank battle fought between Pakistan and India from 6th of September 22nd of September 1965 in the vicinity of Chawinda, Philaurah, Charwa, Gudgor and Chobara. It was the largest tank battle since the 'War of Kursk' which was fought between German and Russian forces during the WW II in 1943. General Dunn launched offensive with 600 tanks aiming at breaking the Pakistani supply line by cutting GT road between Gujranwala and Lahore. The Indians outnumbered Pakistani forces by ten to one. Lt. Colonel Nisar of 15 Div, 'The Victory Div', led the battle at Gadgor. He successfully halted the invasion and Indian nefarious designs ended in smoke. A commemorating stone laid in 'Shuha'da Park' Chawinda enumerate 212 army personnel who laid their lives to defend the sacred motherland.

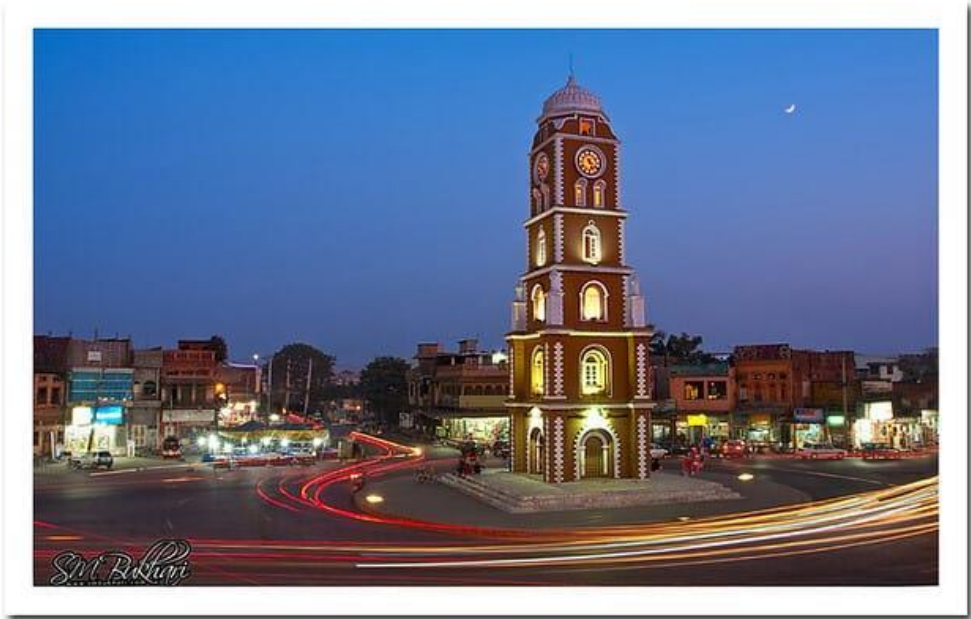
Sialkot Cantonment

The last battle between the Sikhs and the British army was fought at Gujrat in March 1849 where Sardar Sher Singh Attariwala and

Sir Hugh Gough fought once again after an indecisive fatal war at Chailianwala, Mandi Bahauddin in which the British had to suffer the greatest losses at the Indian soil since they had been endeavoring to dominate India. After the battle British army temporarily stationed at Wazirabad. Sialkot Cantonment was established in 1852 and thus the Wazirabad Cantonment was vacated, and the garrison shifted to Sialkot because the necessities of the army could be met easily in Sialkot. Moreover, Sialkot was adjacent to the state of Jammu and Kashmir and if any occasion arise army could be easily deployed or advanced to check untoward incident. Charles Napier the Commander-in-Chief of British army selected the present area of cantonment keeping in view of its strategic importance. The cantonment lies between two streams (Nullah) Bhed (South) and Pulkho (North) which could offer natural defense lines to the stationed army. At that time the Governor General of India was James Ramsey 10th Earl of Dalhousie, commonly known as 'Lord Dalhousie'. The oldest milestone which shows 'Sialkot 0 km' erected adjacent to the Holy Trinity Church, was gifted by the Colonel Commandant Charles Bankin who commanded the Sialkot Brigade area from June 1920 to June 1924. According to the 'Sialkot Gazetteer' composed in 1920 Sialkot Cantonment was a part of the 1st (Rawalpindi) Indian Division. The sanctioned normal garrison consisted

of one Battery Royal Horse Artillery, one Ammunition Column Royal Horse Artillery, one Regiment British Cavalry, One Battalion British Infantry, two Battalions Indian Infantry, one Cavalry Brigade Mule Corps and Depot Transport Lines. Two grass farms with an area of 2800 acres and a dairy farm of 917 acres within the Cantonment. About 1700 acres had been acquired outside the Cantonment for grass and dairy farms. There were two station hospitals for British and Indian troops. It measured two and a half miles in length and one and a half mile in breadth containing 6670 acres. It was well laid out with broad straight avenues and gardens, and contained two fine churches, a racecourse, a large Scotch Mission Settlement on West side, and a Convent School. It is interesting to note that cantonment is exactly 40km from Jammu and Wazirabad. It has almost the same distance from Peshawar and Sri Nagar. Gujranwala and Udham Pur lie at the same distance of 60 km from Sialkot Cantonment.

Prior to Cantonment Board Cantonment Committee looked after the matters related to taxes, rent, sanitation, water supply etc. At present the Cantonment consists of 6781.77 acres (27.445 km/sq) having four bazaars and a very posh living bungalow area.



CHAPTER # 3

GEO-STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE

If we look at the map of Pakistan and try to locate Sialkot, we find a lump of land three-fourth encircled by Indian Territory. Radcliff pushed India into Sialkot to accommodate Indian access to Kashmir in 1947. Sialkot, the gateway to Kashmir was thus deprived of its privilege and in the future years its expected unbounded development was curtailed making it a border city. The two wars of 1965 and 1971 damaged the life and property of the district a lot. However, the sturdy, intelligent and accommodating people of Sialkot rose to the occasion pushing behind the obstacles of all kinds.

Location and Climate

Lying between 32°30' North latitude and 74°31' East longitude at an altitude of 256 m above sea level, Sialkot is bounded on the north by the working boundary of Jammu, part of the UN ceasefire line that separates the state border of Indian-held Kashmir from Pakistan proper, fenced by the Indian Kashmir barrier, which is not recognized by Pakistan as legitimate. To the north-west it is bounded by Gujrat, to the west by Gujranwala and to the south by Narowal. The Chenab River flows to the north of Sialkot.

Sialkot features a humid subtropical climate under the Köppen climate classification. Sialkot is chilly in winter and humid in summer. The temperature during winter may drop to 0 °C. May and June are the hottest months. The land is generally fertile plain. Most rain falls during the summer monsoon season, and this often results in flooding when combined with melt water from Himalayan glaciers in local rivers. Sialkot has one of the most modern weather forecasting and flood warning centers in the country, equipped with radar, internationally linked, and fully equipped to record and transfer data.

Rivers & Nullahs in the District

Chenab

The Chenab originates from the Himalayas. It receives its supply of water from the

Snow covered central range of Himalayas. It receives water also from numerous smaller streams from the lower hills. It breaks-out from the rocky gorge in the hills 6 miles to the north of Bajwat, flows down-ward from Marala Headworks and then enters into Gujranwala District. The force of the river throughout its course is considerable. In its left bank upper Marginal Bound and lower marginal bound have been constructed near Head Marala saving vast area of Sialkot Tehsil from flood devastation.

Jammu and ManaawarTawi

The two Tawis, namely Jammu Tawi and MunaawarTawi are small rivers, which originate from Jammu & Kashmir State Territory and enter District Sialkot at its northern tip. These two merge with river Chenab near Marala Headworks. JummuTawi is particularly mentioned, because it cut off Bajwat area completely from the rest of the Tehsil during the flood season. Now a bridge has been constructed on it at Saidpur village which is facilitating the public a lot.

Deg Nullah

The Deg Nullah is formed by the union of petty stream north of Jasrota in occupied Jammu & Kashmir territory and enters Tehsil Narowal near village Lehri. In flood season one of its off shoots enters Qila Sobha Singh town and passing along the village Rattyian and Bago Churi falls into M.R. links near village Thalli Malian. The main Deg Nullah however flows into Pasrur tehsil and during high floods, which have gone up to 80,000 Cs in the past, spills out from near Khalipur on the east and near Kishanpur on the west. After crossing Pasrur-Zafarwal Bridge, the nullah again spills over near DuggiHundlan and Bhikhi on the east and through Nikki Deg no 1 & 2 on the western side. The water spills out from DurgiHundlan, Crosses the Sialkot-Narowal Railway line, as well as the metaled road and enters Pasrur

City. The remaining flood crosses Pasrur-Chawinda road and flows through Hassri Nullah towards many villages in tehsil, siphons, and inlets, feeds different nullahs in Sheikhupura and Gujranwala Districts and ultimately falls into river Ravi near Sharaqpur in District Sheikhupura. In all Deg Nullah affects 4940 acres of land spread over 41 villages of Tehsil Pasrur during floods.

AikNullah

This Nullah originates in the Jammu hills and enters this District at village Umranwali about 6 miles to the east of Sialkot cantonment. Its general direction is south-west, and it strikes the south of Sialkot city and posed great threat to the city. Three bunds have been constructed by Irrigation Department to tame it. It still flows out of its banks near Hajipura and on the left side of Aik Bridge towards Sialkot-Eminabad Road. It also affects Industrial Area of Sialkot city. After that, the flood water enters the adjoining village namely Ganjianwali, Dhattal, Muzaffarpur, Horryr, Dubarji Mallian, Buttar, Miani, Adalatgrah, Shetabgrah and Bhabrian of this tehsil and destroys valuable cultivated areas of these villages. The area of Al-Hilal Colony and villages DoburgiMallian, Butter Miani, Mughalanwali of Subdivision Sialkot are also affected by the floodwater of this Nullah.

Its water also affects Tehsil Daska and coupled with rainwater heads-up against BRBD Canal inundating vast area.

Palkhu Nullah

This Nullah emerges from Jammu territory and enters Sialkot district near village Kundanpur of Sialkot Tehsil. It flows along Sialkot cantonment area, on the northern side and the flood water of this Nullah affects the Cantt. Area and some Villages of Sub-Division Sialkot, namely Machhi Khokhar, Hassanwali, KitliTailian and Chak Adal.

POPULATION

SIALKOT DISTRICT

Type	No of Household	Female	Male	Transgender	Total
Rural	400,653	1,345,275	1,404,872	163	2,750,310
Urban	173,490	576,368	566,874	120	1,143,362
Total	574,143	1,921,643	1,971,746	283	3,893,672

Sialkot has diverse population of 3,893,672. Punjabi is the main language of the people. The population mainly consists of Punjabis, Kashmiris, and Pashtuns. The population of the Sialkot city (proper) is about 502,721. Population Density is 1160/km². Population

Growth Rate is very low as compared to other urban areas of Pakistan. In 1947, Sialkot was the 6th largest city in Pakistan (150,000) and in 2009, it is the 12th largest. Literacy rate is among the highest in Pakistan. In urban areas, it is 73% and in rural areas, it is 54%. Employment in agriculture is only 19.5% and 32% in elementary occupations. 95% of the population has electricity and 96% have the water facility. Sialkot has also attracted many laborers and other entrepreneurs many of whom hail from Pakistan's federally administered areas notably from Bajaur and Mohmand agencies that have set up vibrant business throughout the area.

INTERFAITH HARMONY

One of the hallmarks of the city of Iqbal and Faiz is the peaceful atmosphere since independence as regards the interfaith cordiality. Sialkot is sacred for two minorities: the Sikhs and the Ahmadis. It is comparatively a peaceful area as compared to other districts in connection with inter-faith harmony and religious tolerance and the spirit of co-existence. There are more than 35 villages where the Hindu community resides without any fear of religious persecution. The Sikhs are living at least 06 points in the district and the Christians are scattered all over the district. The Christians are the 2nd largest community in Sialkot after the Muslims. There are more than 80

villages having Ahamadi community. There is not even a single incident to any of these communities that could fall in the domain of purely based on religious intolerance after independence. The shrines of Chambalial, Rachhara (Hindus) in tehsil Pasrur, PirGugga (Hindu) in tehsil Sialkot at AhmalPur and Baba Phatta (a Christian) are visited by the Muslims for realization of their desires showing the cordial atmosphere of interfaith harmony in the district.

CHAPTER # 4

LANGUAGES, TRIBES AND CASTES

Many tribes like Jat, Arayin, Kashmiri, Mughal, Gujjar, Awan, Shaikh and others are living in the district. Punjabi is spoken in Sialkot as regional language.

Urdu, the national language, and English is understood and spoken by educated people.

Pashto is also spoken by laborers and other entrepreneurs who hail from Pakistan's Federally Administered Tribal Areas (FATA), notably from Bajaur and Mohmand agencies.

CULTURE

Sialkot is rich in culture which is a fine mixture of traditional Punjabi and Islamic culture. Historically, the Punjab region has been part of SinduSapta the term meaning (7 Rivers) but in the course of time southern Sindh was shrieked to a small province and Punjab became a larger and more prosperous region of the area. The word Punjab was introduced by the by the Mughals in the 17th Century AD. It is a combination of the Persian words panj (five) and (water), thus the (land of) five rivers. The five rivers which flow thru Punjab are the tributaries of the Indus River namely Chenab, Jhelum, Ravi, Sutlej,

and Sindhu River itself. In the Rigveda, the sacred text of Vedism, the Punjab region is associated with the ancient Sapta Sindhu, the Land of Seven Rivers, whilst the later Greeks referred to Punjab as Pentapotamia, an inland delta of five converging rivers. The British used to call Punjab "Our Prussia".

Recent past has left impacts of European culture which is rapidly assimilating in the Sialkoti life. Its extensive and intensive following can be visibly seen in the overall lifestyle of the people of Sialkot.

Sialkoti Cuisine

The extensive cuisine of Punjab at large can be vegetarian and non-vegetarian. One commonality between all Punjabi dishes is the liberal usage of ghee or clarified butter spices and Punjabis are fond of sweet meats also. Most Punjabi food is eaten with either Rice or Roti. There are some dishes that are exclusive to Punjab such as Mah Di Dal, Paratha, Makai ki Rotti, Saron Da Saag, and in cities Choley, Haleem, Biryani and other spicy dishes are popular. In beverages, tea is consumed in all seasons and as a custom most of Punjabis serve tea to their guests. Punjabis are also fond of Zarda, Gulab-Jamuns, Kheer, Jalaibi, Pakorey etc. During summers people drink lassi, doodh-soda, Aloo Bokharey ka Sharbat, lemonade etc. These cuisines have become world-wide delicacies with large scale representation. However, due to

adoption of foreign culture several restaurants offering Pasta, Chinese dishes, different kinds of Pizza and other western foods have been opened in the Cantt and city areas.

RITUALS

i. Birth

Punjabis celebrate birth of their child with great enthusiasm. Grandfather or grandmother or some respected elder member from the family puts honey with their index finger in child's mouth called Ghutii. Sweets are distributed among friends and relatives and people bring gifts for the child and mother. Generally, on 7th day child's head is shaven and Aqiqah ceremony is held, also, sheep/goat is slaughtered.

ii. Festivals

There are numerous festivals which are celebrated by Panjabi people including some religious festivals such as Eid-e-Milad-un-Nabi, Lalat-ul-Qadr and Ashoora. They celebrate Basant festival (kite flying) in the spring season. The local festivals include Mela PirSabz, Chamblial, Rachhara, Sayin Hussain etc.

iii. Sports

The traditional games of Punjab like Yassu Panju, Gulli Danda, Ludo, Chupan Chupai, Kabaddi and Kainchy have become a part of the past in Sialkot. The onslaught of globalization has introduced Cricket,

snooker, hand ball, video games etc. Hockey, being the national game, were favorite in Sialkot and it produced players on national level but at present it is going to decline. Football is also played in villages and city alike.

iv. **Weddings**

Weddings in Sialkot are based on traditions and are conducted with strong reflection of the Punjabi culture followed by several pre-wedding customs and rituals (dholki, mayun, ubtan etc.) The ceremonies of weddings are very loud, energetic, and full of music, colors, fancy-dresses, food, and dancing. Many customs and ceremonies that have evolved since traditional times are followed. They are a blend of modern and traditional customs, and the ceremony generally lasts for five days, Mehndi, Barat (Nikkah+Ruksati) and Walima, followed by Chauti (bringing the bride back to her parents' home with the bridegroom on walimaday) and Muklawa (Taking the bridegroom back to his home with the bride)

v. **Funeral**

At funerals after namaz-e-janaza it is customary to offer lunch to people who come for condolence. On 3rdday of the funeral, Qul is held, and every following Thursday the Quran is recited followed by prayers for deceased and after 10 days daswan is held for the deceased. Forty

days after the death the Chaliswaan is held. However, due to increasingly busy life some families hold Qul and Daswan a few days after the death on the same day. Some families observe anniversaries yearly (barisi). There is no formal dress code for Punjabi funerals however people mostly wear shalwar kameez and casual clothing is observed.

AGRICULTURE AND PRODUCE

Sialkot's share in the agriculture sector is not less than any other district. It mostly produces world-known Basmati rice varieties, wheat, and sugarcane. Comprising 3,015 sq km, at least 642,624 acres of it is under cultivation, while 99,241 acres are uncultivated. Around 71 acres are under forest and 19 acres are cultivatable waste.

Wheat claims a major share of cultivable land with rice and fodder standing at second and third. These major crops are, however, losing their acreage as farmers disappointed with volatile wheat and rice markets and a stagnant per acre yield are turning towards alternative crops.

Wheat was sown on 452,00 acres in 1995 and the land under it gradually increased to 533,000 acres by 2010-11 only to see it rapidly declining to 319,00 acres in 2019-20. Likewise, the paddy crop covered an area of 402,000 acres in 1995. With a steady increase, the

total land under it went up to 471,000 acres in 2007-08 and then started its downfall as it was sown on 331,000 acres last year.

Attempts were made to popularize sugarcane in the area after a businessman from Chiniot took over the Pasrur Sugar Mills some years ago but so far, the acreage of the water-guzzling crop is stagnant at 3,000 acres and has not increased even though the area under it once hovered around 115,000 acres back in the 1990s.

Potato and sunflower were prominent among the minor crops in the district. Potatoes were planted on 158,100 acres in 1995 and the next 10 years saw around a 60pc increase in its acreage before the beginning of its decline. It stood at 115,000 acres last year. The story of the oilseed crop sunflower is no different. The crop was once sown on 70,000 acres but is now planted hardly on 7,000 acres in the district.

Most of the lands allocated for oilseeds and vegetables have unfortunately fallen prey to the mushroom growth of housing societies emerging around urban centers because of the influx of rural population towards towns to seek employment as well as better education and health facilities for their children.

It has been observed that poor marketing of agricultural produce is the main issue for most of the farmers, who cannot also fix the price of their product, unlike other sectors. Unstable and non-

transparent price mechanisms at vegetable, fruit and grain markets are hitting both the farmers and consumers, while the middlemen are pocketing most of the profit.

A major hurdle in getting good crop yields in Sialkot is that a vast majority of farms are too small in the district, unable to provide sustenance to a family on its own. So, these landowners are doing part-time farming that leads to higher production costs and lower yields.

CHAPTER # 5

HISTORICAL PLACES

i. Sialkot Fort

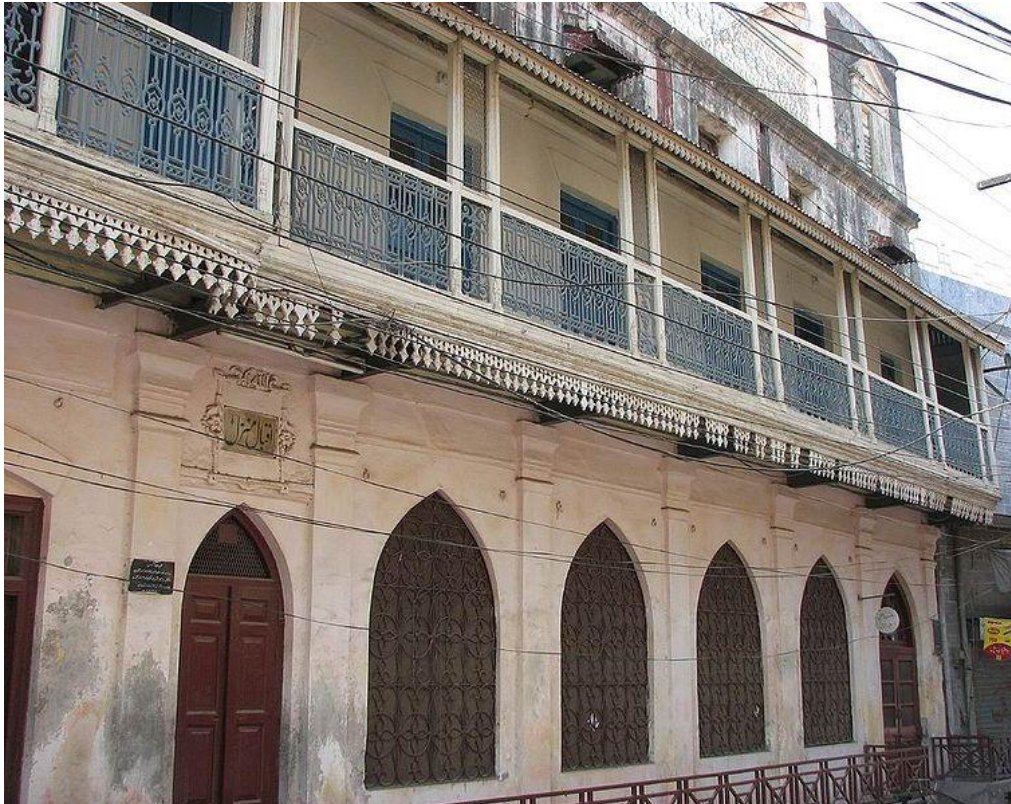
Sialkot Fort was originally built by Raja Salban in 2nd century CE. Puran Bhagat and Raja Rasalu were his sons. The 'Folk Lores' of Puran Baghat and Raja Rasalu are related this era. Puran was Salban's son from Rani Ichran. Rani Loona was his stepmother. She alleged Puran for attempting sexual assault. Raja ordered for imputation of his own son.

Raja Sul rebuilt it during the reign of Feroz Shah Tughluq (1309-1388). The 'Folk Lore' of Pir-Muradia whose shrine is on the northern wall of the fort is related to this period. Raja Sul murdered Muradia, a Muslim, after receiving prophecies from the Hindu fortune tellers that the northern wall of the fort would only be erected and sustained if the blood of a Muslim is showered in its base. Mai Rasti, the mother of Muradia went to Delhi for justice. Imam Ali ul Haq was appointed to take the revenge for shedding the blood of a Muslim.

ii. Iqbal Manzil (Residence of Allama Iqbal)

The poet of the East, Allama Sir Muhammad Iqbal was born in Sialkot Kashmiri Mohallah. It is two-storey building elegantly built in

the middle of the old city. At present the government has declared it as national archive.



PROMINENT PLACES

i. Head Marala Barrage

Marala is the rendezvous point of the river Jammu Tawi, ManawarTawi and Chenab. Marala Barrage was originally built by the British Government during 1905-1912. The Viceroy of India Lord Baron Harding inaugurated the Upper Chenab Canal (UCC) during the

reign of King George V. Under the Indus Water Treaty, the barrage was relocated and built during 1965-1968. The two canals Marala Ravi Link Canal and Upper Chenab Canal provide irrigation facilities to the Southern region.



ii. Marala Hydropower Project (MHP)

The Marala Hydropower Project (MHP) implemented by Energy Department under Renewal Energy Development Sector Investment Program (REDSIP) financed by Asian Development Bank (ADB).

This project consists of four (4) pit type Kaplan horizontal shaft turbines, each of 1.91 MW capacity has entered the commissioning phase of the endeavor. Preliminary testing of the turbines has begun, and the project has already started contributing to the National Grid. The total capacity of Marala Hydropower Plant is

7.64 MW & it is built 1 km downstream of the Upper Chenab Canal (UCC).

For the dispersal arrangement of generated electricity, a 1.5 KM long, 11 KV transmission line with three circuits has provided & connected to the already existing 132 KV Marala Grid Station.



iii. Sublime Chowk Flyover

To regulate traffic at ‘China Chowk’ presently called Sublime Chowk named after a prominent sports goods firm a flyover has recently been built at the cost of 610.65 million. The people of Sialkot have a smooth and easy access to the Sialkot International Airport, Tannery Zone, and the Sialkot Dry Port. This square also leads to Head Marala. This bridge would also facilitate those who want to enter Sialkot-Lahore Express Way being built near Sambrial.

iv. Clock Tower Cantt

The Sialkot Clock Tower also known as Iqbal Square is situated in Saddar Bazar Sialkot Cantt. Its foundation stone was laid by General Sir W.R. Birdwood Bart. It was erected as a token of loyalty and esteem to commemorate the visit of His Royal Highness Edward Prince of Wales to India in 1921-22 by Rai Sahib Ramji Dass. It has been renovated many a times, but the original structure has not been changed.



v. **Tank at Pakistan Chowk Cantt**

The Ex-Wazirabad Chowk now called Pakistan Chowk has been decorated beautifully and elegantly by the Cantonment Board. M 47 Patton Tank has been erected in the south-west corner. It was inducted in Pakistan army in 1960s. The tank weighed 48 tons, has 810

horse- power engines with 90 mm main gun. This tank proved its mettle in Chhamb and Sialkot Sectors in 1965 and 1971 wars.

vi. Suchetgarh Border

At the distance of 17 km from center of Sialkot is the border post for entry into India. The neighboring village of India is Suchaitgarh. UN Mission officials use this border post to visit Jammu.

vii. Hakeem Aslam Post Bajwat

The last and magnificent border post at the ultimate corner of Hen-Necked border of Bajwat region is the hakim Aslam Post. Its reach on Eastern Western and Northern sides is within the firing range of Indian forces.

viii. Allama Iqbal Library

In 1894 Montgomery Memorial Library was inaugurated and it was named in 1961 as Iqbal Library, Paris Road Sialkot. It offers more than 30 thousand books, 07 dailies, 03 weekly and 03 monthly periodicals for the readers. 10 years old record of newspapers has been preserved for the researchers.

Holy Places

i. Tomb of Imam Ali-ul-Haq

Imam Ali-ul-Haq better known as Imam Sahib, lived in the 13th century, during the reign of Feroz Shah Tughlaq. He is reputed to have

converted most of the local population of Sialkot to Islam. Imam Sahib battled against Raja of Sialkot and martyred. His shrine is situated in Sialkot city at the same place where he was martyred. The mausoleum complex is maze of narrow corridors leading to several shrines of pirs. The tomb of Imam Ali ul Haq is to the right, through a mirrored gateway tiled with Quranic inscriptions and Geometric designs. The courtyard is a fascinating place to sit and absorb the atmosphere. The market outside is very photogenic and a large flat roof at the entrance to the shrine offers a panoramic view of the deals being struck.

ii. **Tomb of Syed Faiz-ul- Hassan Shah, Allo Mahar**

Syed Faiz-ul Hassan Shah also known as ‘Khatib ul Islam’ was a Pakistani Islamic religious scholar, orator, poet, and writer. He was born in AlloMahar. His father Pir Syed Muhammad Hussain shah was an Honorary Magistrate during British rule. He learned Islamic education with hifz-e-Quran and did B.A from Murray College Sialkot. He worked as president of Jamiat-ul-Ulama-e-Pakistan, provincial president of Majlis-e-Ahrar-ul-Islam in united India. His services for Kashmir cause and 1965 war cannot be ignored. For 20 years he led the Eid Prayer in police line Gujranwala. In 1984 he died of heart attack.

iii. Masjid Mulla Kamal

Mulla Kamal mosque named after a renowned Muslim scholar Mulla Kamal Kashmiri who was teacher of Maulana Abdul Hakeem Sialkoti (1561-1656) and Mujaddid Alif Sani (1564-1624). The mosque is situated in Muhalla Noor Pura.

HOLY PLACES OF MINORITIES

i. Hunter Memorial Church, Hunter Pura

This church was erected in memory of the Revd. Thomas Hunter M.A. who was the first missionary of the Church of Scotland in the Punjab, Jane Hunter, his wife who with their infant son were killed by Hurmat Khan during the War of Independence on 9th July 1857. The first foundation stone was laid on 14th December 1861 and it was dedicated on 22nd of January 1865.



i. **Holy Trinity Church Sialkot Cantt**

The Holy Trinity Cathedral Church (Sialkot Cathedral) is in Sialkot cantonment on the mall. The church was designed and built by L.J. Hartley Maxwell Bengal Engineers. Its foundation stone was laid on March 1, 1852. The church was consecrated by the Bishop of Madras on January 30, 1857. Sialkot at the time was in the Diocese of Calcutta.



ii. St. James Church Sialkot Cantt

The foundation stone of the church was laid on 1st November, 183 and it was completed on 1st November 1854. It was constructed by the Rev. F. Zacharias Rizzo, designed, and built by Sergeant. J. Simpson and assisted by M.O. Brien.



iii. Babe Di Beri (Sikhs)

Since 500 hundred years the tree of “Beri” is standing where Baba Guru Nanak, the founder of Sikh cult in India sat and preached to his followers. It is sacred place for Sikhs. The original gurdwara was built during Ranjit Singh’s reign Natha Singh. A big well was also constructed by him inside this Gurdwara, and many Persian wheels worked in it. In 2013 Sardar Jaskaran Singh was appointed as

the administrator after its renovation by Evacuee Trust Property Board and Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee Pakistan.

iv Shawala Teja Singh

The temple is in city's congested Dharowal Mohallah. It is more than 1,000 years old, according to the book 'History of Sialkot' by the late Rashid Niaz. The temple has been erected on a dune along Allama Iqbal Road and one must climb up staircases to reach the building.

This is symbol of Hindu ethnic population who before partition used to pray, offer services, and commemorate their Diwali, Holi and Dosahra with family. The tehsil municipal administration has established a family park around the temple at the cost of Rs5 million. Now Govt. has granted the responsibility to the respective department for restoring the building as well as tradition of this sacred temple. The efforts of Khawaja Shumail, Commissioner Gujranwala and DCO Sialkot Iftikhar Ahmad Sahu are praiseworthy in its completion.



v. **Jaggan Nath Temple Paris Road Sialkot**

It is the only working place of worship of Hindu Community in Sialkot. The Hindu community is living in Sialkot at more than 35 points.



vi. **Puran Da Khoo**

It is in village 'Karol' 8 km away from Sialkot City adjacent to Chaprar Road. It is the place of amputation of famous

Bhagat Puran who was the son Raja Salban. Guru Gorakh Nath saved the amputated prince. There is a running well and a temple shaped small building. The issueless women visit there in the hope of having the bliss of a kid.



HISTORICAL CROSSROADS

Historically, Sialkot enjoyed a very important place on the crossroads of important trade routes of the region linking Central Asia, Afghanistan and Kashmir in the North and West to the ancient cities of the sub-continent in the South and East. The Do Darwaza Chowk, or the Two-Gate Square, located in the city's Main Bazar, indicates it better than anything else. Roads from Jammu in the North, Peshawar in the West, Lahore in the South, and Delhi in the East converged here. Located on the most reliable route from Jammu and Kashmir, the city became an important trading center for timber from the forests and

livestock from the meadows of the princely state. This subsequently resulted in the development of associated trades of woodwork and leather. Since conquerors have also traditionally followed trade routes, the city was frequented by ancient armies marching to their victories and defeats. To meet their needs for swords and spears, shields, and armors, saddles and tents, communities of ironsmiths, leather-working and carpenters settled and grew in the city. Neighborhoods and bazaars in the city named after craftsmen, like Loharan (ironsmiths), Chamaran (leatherworkers) Kaathiyabn (saddle-markers), Kharasian, Soltian and Trakhaan (carpenters) point at the concentration of certain trades in these areas historically and some of them still retain their original character.

Prehistoric Origins

Sialkot is said to have been founded 5000 years ago by Raja Sul, the emperor of Madradesa and uncle of Pandhavas whose epic battles are recorded in the Mahabharata. The freshwater stream that still flows through the city, “Aik Nala” and “Sakaladvipa”, the doaba or island between Chandrabhaga (Chenab River) and Iravati (Ravi River), also find mention in the Hindu scriptures but these are not considered authentic and accurate historical accounts. More reliable and validated historical references to Sialkot date back to 327 BCE and they mention

it as Sagla, a city of Greco-Persian origin. Extensive excavations in the area have unearthed large numbers of Greek coins, ancient Zoroastrian temples and several Buddhist stupas. The antiquities of Sialkot have been discussed by Sir Alexander Cunningham in his Archaeological Survey Reports (II,21,22, and XIV, 44 to 47). In the Greek historical texts, the city represented the eastern-most outpost of the Hellenic Empire established by Alexander the Great. Sakala or Sagala was among the important seats of power of the Indo-Greek Kingdom which broke-away from the Greco-Bactrian Kingdom during the Euthydemus Dynasty. King Menander I resided here during his reign between 160 and 135 BCE. According to Greek historians, it was a silk-producing center. The Greek armies are said to have brought with them the skills of ironmongery and making weapons and shields. It is held by many historians that the city was re-founded by Raja Salivahan when it became a part of Kashmir under King Sama Dutta around the second century A.D. The Raja built the fort and gave the place its present name. Salivahan had two sons: Punjabi folklore. Puran Bhagat is a revered mystic and the well where he remained trapped for years, called Puran di Khui, is in the outskirts of the city and is still frequented by devotees. The locality or mohalla of Puran Nagar in the city is also named after

him. The other son of Raja Salivahan, Rasalu, became Raja after the death of his father and his battles with neighboring.

Mughal, Sikh & British Eras

Sialkot becomes a part of the Muslim Sultanate of Delhi when Shahab-Ud-Din Muhammad Ghauri conquered Punjab in 1185. Unable to conquer Lahore, he left a garrison in nearby Sialkot. The Mughal ruler, Babar also mentions Sialkot in his Babarnama. A later Mughal commander, Usman Ghani Raza, advanced towards his victory in Delhi by way of Sialkot. During the reign of the Mughal Emperor Akber, Sialkot was a part of the Rachna-Bar Sarkar of the Lahore province and was governed by Maan Singh who promoted trade from Sialkot, especially of paper manufactured here that came to be known as Maan Singh paper in the royal court. Under Emperor Shah Jahan, Ali Mardan Khan was in charges of Sialkot, and he gave further boost to trade from the city. At the end of the Mughal dynasty, the Sialkot, and areas around it were practically ungoverned. In 1748, the districts of Gujrat, Sialkot, Pasrur and Daska were given to the Pashtun ruler, Ahmed Shah Abadali and the area became a part of the Perso-Afghan Empire. After 1751, Ahmed Shah deputed his son, Taimur, to rule Lahore and these districts. The city was held by Pashtun clans still the occupation of the Sikhs. Between 1797 and 1810 Maharaja Ranjit Singh occupied the Sialkot

district. After the death of Maharaja Ranjit Singh, British officers were appointed in Sialkot. Sialkot was annexed by the British after the Second Anglo-Sikh War in 1849. The British laid the foundation of the Sialkot Cantonment in 1849; this was completed in 1852. During the 1857 War of Independence, it was the scene of heavy fighting, and the Sialkot Fort was used by the British for protection. The British consolidated after the defeat of the local resistance and brought the elements of their Raj to the city. The Sialkot Railway Junction was established in 1880, and the Railway branch from Wazirabad to Sialkot was extended to Jammu in 1890. While initially much of the skills in the crafting of leather, wood and iron that developed in the area were geared towards equipping armies, this changed with the advent of the British Raj which brought an end to regular battles. Like a river, these highly developed traditional skills changed their historical course, and were channelized into other non-military directions like the surgical, leather and sports goods industries. Since independence, the growth, development, and diversification of Sialkot's industry have all been phenomenal. Although much of the city's history is not visible in the form of monuments and museums, it lives on in magical streets of the old part of the city that still has an aura of a medieval town and in the strength of its numerous crafts that give the city its solid advantage

when it comes to manufacturing goods that it is famous for all over the world.

CHAPTER # 6

INDUSTRY

The industrial revolution here began during the rule of Akbar the Great when papermaker migrants from Kashmir started producing Mughal Hariri paper known for its extra whiteness and strength. Local metalworkers also provided most of the weaponry to the Mughal crown then and became a hub of metalwork in the 1890s.

“The imposition of US sanctions on Iran, one of the major importers of the local Basmati variety, has reduced rice exports to the neighboring country and subsequently its price in the local market has plummeted, nudging farmers to shift to alternative crops”

By the 1920s, surgical instruments were being manufactured in Sialkot for use throughout British India. The availability of nearby timber reserves in the valleys of Kashmir also converted it into a center for sports goods for the British troops stationed along with the North-West Frontier (now Khyber Pakhtunkhwa). The increased industrial activities and creation of jobs attracted many migrants from Kashmir, who constitute one of the major

castes of the local population. Other prominent castes included Rajput, Arain, Awan, Jat and Sayyed.

Before the 1947 Partition, Sialkot was considered as the second most industrialized city after Amritsar in Punjab and was one of the few areas in British India to have its own electric utility company. But the communal rioting ensuing the Partition destroyed 80 per cent of the local industry in one way or the other, while the arrival of around 200,000 refugees, mostly from Jammu, further stressed the local economy. The industry, however, was soon rehabilitated under various provincial initiatives, while the entry of local entrepreneurs filled the vacuum created by the departure of Hindu and Sikh traders.

As of 2019, Sialkot exported goods worth \$2.5 billion or over 10pc of total national exports (\$23bn) and local industries employed about 250,000 people. Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry data shows that of its over 6,500 members, most are active in sports goods, leather, and surgical instruments sectors.

The largest producer of hand-sewn footballs, Sialkot manufactures roughly between 40 and 60 million or 60pc of the total production of footballs in the world per annum. Since the 1997 international objection, there is a well-applied child labor ban in the industry under the Atlanta Agreement.

Also, the world's largest center of surgical instrument manufacturing emerged from the need to repair, and subsequently manufacture, surgical instruments for the nearby Mission Hospital close to the beginning of the 20th century. By the 1920s, Sialkot-made surgical instruments were being used throughout British India.

CHAPTER # 7

EXPORT SECTOR: STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

The growth of Sialkot's industry over the years has been phenomenal. It is even more remarkable considering the tremendous and multifarious challenges it had to face continuously. Since 1982, the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry has complimented the resilience and dynamism of the city's entrepreneurs and played a pivotal role in overcoming these challenges. Other than the sports goods and surgical instruments that Sialkot is traditionally famous for the industries in the city have made name for themselves in the domain of leather products, sportswear, a wide range of gloves, musical instruments, protective gear, martial arts uniforms, badges and uniform accessories, cutlery and knives, hosiery, and embroidery. The high level of industrial activity is reflected in the impressive statistics and indicators for the city. Proportionate to the population size, the number of individuals involved in manufacturing is more than four times, the number of manufacturing establishments is six times, and the exports are eighteen times higher than the rest of the country. Since most of the industries in the city are export oriented, businessmen have a very high level of exposure to the international market. They travel frequently to trade fairs and exhibitions around the world and host foreign clients who

visit their factories in Sialkot regularly. As production in the industrial units of Sialkot feeds international companies subscribing to the highest production, quality and ethical standards, businessmen have kept abreast with development on these fronts. Most of the industries in Sialkot are family-owned. In many instances, members of the second and third generation have branched out and started their own companies building on the strength of their experiences with the family business. One also finds managers and even workers who have built successful businesses starting from humble resources. In fact, one of the most inspiring aspects of Sialkot's entrepreneurial culture is the presence of many businessmen who have built their companies from a scratch and, over the year, managed to successfully compete with established business houses. This is largely attributed to the nature of Sialkot's industrial production that is built upon sub-contracting and many skilled piece-rate workers. The craftsmen and workers of Sialkot are exceptional in terms of the command over their skills, their ability to absorb new techniques and related skills and their industriousness. Ready access to this largely independent and highly skilled resource base and information enables aspiring entrepreneurs to start businesses with meager resources. The highly competitive environment also infuses a spirit of constant improvement and innovation in the city's business community. Another

distinguishing feature of Sialkot's industry is the cooperative work environment one finds in Sialkot's factories. The managers and entrepreneurs work closely with the skilled workers and treat them with the respect that they deserve. The entrepreneurs are well-versed in every detail of their production, and one can find them engaged in discussing these matters directly with the workers. This personal relationship of the entrepreneurs with the workers is refreshing and creates the perfect synergy between the two essential ingredients of success. The history of the development of Sialkot's present-day industry is a testimony to the endurance of the city's entrepreneurial spirit and the adaptability of its hard-working men and women. Though the skills and crafts of Sialkot have developed over centuries, they were employed to produce a whole array of goods depending on the market of the time. Today, the historical development of Sialkot's industry seems only logical given its set of resources. Still, certain events and developments decisively propelled the local industrial base in its journey to where it stands today. For instance, the origins of modern-day sports and surgical industries can be traced back to the British Raj.

Sports Goods

It is said that the sports goods industry in the city started when British officers stationed here approached traditional craftsman

for repairing their damaged sports goods. Though broken sports goods were shipped to England for repairs or replacement, it was a long-drawn process taking several weeks, even months. Somebody was bound to get the logical idea of accessing the skilled craftsmen at work just around the corner. One of the British officers is said to have taken his damaged tennis racquet to a factory that was known for its wood products. The result was impressive. Word spread and soon all damaged tennis racquets of British India came to Sialkot rather than being sent to England for repairs. The skilled craftsmen did not take long to move to the next logical step of manufacturing racquets, and they did a good job of it. Similarly, another officer brought a torn football to Bazaar Kaathiyani, the market of saddle-makers. As the legend goes, he met a saddle-maker, who is said to have unstitched the football and then stitched it all over again. Soon after, he made the first complete football locally. More than one company lays claim to being the first manufacturer of footballs in Sialkot and to give credit to any name would be unfair. Probably, several establishments entered the field around the same time. These initial successes encouraged the local industry to venture into this new market patronized by the British. Though the development of the modern-day sports goods industry has not been officially documented, there are scattered accounts that provide

interesting pieces of information. The tennis racquets made in Sialkot find a favorable mention as early as 1895. Similarly, by 1903 the city was crafting cricket bats with willow imported from England and they were being supplied all over India. Between 1910 and 1920, several companies had established full-fledged units to produce footballs which were subsequently supplied to the British Army stationed all over India and exported to other parts of the British Empire. Since the city has a long tradition of crafting wood and leather, it was not long before the enterprising craftsmen and factory owners moved on to producing other sports goods like field hockey and polo sticks, fishing and horse-riding equipment and cricket balls. Due to constant innovation and honing of skills to meet new demands, the sports goods industry of Sialkot has continued to develop, grow, and expand. It currently takes pride in producing a wide range of sports good for most of the top international sports brands.



Surgical Instruments

The birth of the modern surgical industry emerged from a similar collaboration between the traditional ironsmiths of Sialkot and British doctors stationed in the city who used their services to repair some instruments. With the establishment of the Memorial Christian Hospital in the city around the turn of the century, this collaboration received a boost. Impressed by the high-quality work of Sialkot's ironsmiths, the dean of the hospital became convinced that they could manufacture replicas of the instruments as well. He tried simpler instruments like scalpels, and happy with the results, went on to order spatulas and different types of knives used in surgery. The reputation of

this infant industry spread, and soon other hospitals in British India started buying from Sialkot. It is recorded that by 1920, Sialkot was exporting surgical instruments to many parts of the British Empire, including Afghanistan and Egypt. When the Second World War started, the British selected Sialkot's companies for supplying surgical instruments to the Allied Forces. The Metal Industries Development Center (MIDC) was established in 1942 to inspect these supplies. There was no looking back after that, and the industry continued to develop and expand. The MIDC was upgraded in 1947 and again during the 1980s to provide workshop facilities and advisory services to local industry, pioneering the introduction of several new technologies including drop forging hammers, vacuum heat treatment, and numerically controlled machines for making casting dies. During the 1990s several international joint ventures with European firms were set up. Today, Sialkot is known all over the world for its top-quality instruments used by surgeons, dentists, veterinary doctors, and beauticians. The factories produce single use and reusable instruments for some of the top American, European, and Japanese brands among others in this sector.



Leather Products

Similarly, the ancient skills of tanning and crafting leather products that the city had inherited over centuries developed into its famous leather-based industry. The industry not only depends on local resources and tanneries but imports raw and finished leather depending upon its requirements, turning out a wide variety of leather-based products including leather garments, motor-bike suits, gloves, and accessories. In a short span of time, it has become one of the major export-earning segments of the city's industry. The success of leather-based industry can be attributed to the fact that, just like in the case of iron and wood, the region has a centuries old tradition of tanning and crafting leather. Other than traditional items like saddles, and ancillary items used in other products, the possibilities of leather-based products have not been explored before the 1980s. The potential unfolded at a great pace once it was tapped by the pioneering companies. It doesn't

take long in Sialkot for a good idea to catch on. The ancient craft of saddle-making has developed over the years as well, and today a small number of companies specialize in the field producing the entire range of horse-riding equipment.



Musical Instruments & Badges

Other important industries in the city are also rooted in traditional skills that were adapted and honed according to the new requirements of the market. In the case of musical instruments for instance, the journey started with the repair of reeds used in bagpipes, an integral part of British Army bands. Though the carpenters of the area were engaged in fashioning wood for many uses, this was a new assignment that came their way during the Raj. Soon, they combined it with related skills and started producing reeds and then the whole bagpipe. In a style typical of Sialkot's industrial growth, this success was built upon and other musical instrument like drums and horns soon

followed. Today, there are nearly 50 companies associated with their production and the range of musical instrument produced by them is impressive. There are also instances where new venues were tapped by developing and refining household-oriented crafts. The most successful examples are those of hand embroidery and stitching. Though the tow crafts were being used commercially at the local level, they were mostly servicing the requirements of households. Things changed when in the 1940, companies producing musical instruments for the army bands showed interest in supplying badges and uniform accessories to their clients. Craftsmen working in traditional embroidery were engaged to produce the items and over time, they were brought into the discipline of commercial production. The requisite techniques and skills for the purpose were refined over time and machine-embroidery badges and uniform accessories as well as a host of other related articles of the finest quality to clients all over the world.



Martial Arts Uniforms & Sportswear

A similar development took place in the case of the traditional skill of stitching that was employed to produce Martial Arts uniforms, and eventually the whole range of sportswear. What is today a multi-million-dollar export industry started from what were essentially neighborhood tailor-shops. Large-scale production started with orders for army uniforms, and this capacity was utilized to foray into the international market for martial arts uniforms, and this capacity was utilized to foray into the international market for martial arts uniforms to begin with. At present around 80 the world demand for martial arts uniforms. Families involved in the production of these uniforms are estimated to be 10,000. Martial Arts uniforms produced in Sialkot are used in Olympics and world competitions and by numerous European national teams. Martial Arts uniforms were the precursor of what eventually became a highly specialized sportswear industry that is a major earner for Sialkot today. Finding new usages for the available skills and combining them to produce new products has been an ongoing process in Sialkot, leading to a natural expansion of the scale and scope of its exports. Another remarkable feature of Sialkot's industry has been its capacity to diversify and develop existing capacities to undertake production into unexplored areas.



Protective Gear & Gloves

Furthermore, encouraged by businessmen; related and additional skills have also been acquired by the local craftsmen leading of further diversification. For instance, building upon its international linkages with the sports goods industry, industrialists forayed into the field of manufacturing protective gear. This is a rapidly growing industry in Sialkot that has been built upon incorporating and refining existing skills and building upon the introduction of new synthetic materials in sports goods production. Gloves manufacturing is another specialized industry that initially combined the skills and know-how derived from existing industries. It is an impressive development to a sector in its own right that was made possible by enhancing the skills, know-how and technology and bringing it to its present level of advancement. At

present, all kinds of gloves are being produced in Sialkot catering to a large international market. A dynamic entrepreneurial spirit has ensured that new capacities and linkages also continue to be added perpetually, adding to the large and increasing number and kinds of value-added products of the highest quality that the city is known for. The surgical industry has added to its list of exports items like instruments used in the cosmetic industry and sophisticated auto-parts that essentially use similar raw materials and production techniques. Similarly, the leather industry does not only produce garments and gloves or sports and fashion but also upholstery for automobiles.



Overlapping Clusters

Though Sialkot produces a wide range of exportable commodities and all of them do not fit into the following categories, industry in the city largely consists of five major clusters: sports goods, surgical instruments, leather products, sportswear, and gloves. This

emerging categorization is useful in describing and understanding the bulk of industrial production in the area. Clusters are defined as geographical concentrations of related industries, and Sialkot presents a perfect example of these clusters. A pool of skilled workers, easy access to resources, a rapid diffusion of information, multiple sources for ancillary services and inputs and numerous exporting companies are the defining features of a cluster. While the world over, regions are usually known for a particular industry or cluster, Sialkot is unique case where at least five clusters have been identified concentrated in a single region. For several reasons, to compile accurate statistics and exact figures for Sialkot's industry is a difficult task. As in other parts of the country, the compilation of data leaves much to be desired. This basic deficiency is further compounded by the overlapping nature of industrial activity which makes it difficult to categorize and compartmentalize it. For example, the production in many factories, and even certain goods, could be categorized under more than one cluster. Furthermore, due to sub-contracting, production takes place in numerous workshops that, in many instances, feed various factories. The SCCI has worked towards filling this gap and has sponsored the compilation of a reliable database. In collaboration with Trade Development Authority of Pakistan (TDAP) and United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), it

undertook the most comprehensive exercise so far to document the city's industrial activity under the Clusters Development Program in 2008. The Program aims to eventually create synergies within clusters for improved performance. As a first step, data on the five major clusters of the city has been collected under the program using multiple sources of information. There are 2,200 firms registered with SCCI dealing with sports goods. The Pakistan Sports Goods Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PSGMEA) has 1,100 members from Sialkot and the Sialkot Dry Port data confirms that 1000 firms are exporting sports goods. According to Independent Monitoring Association for Child Labor (IMAC) and International Labor Organization (ILO), 125,000 workers are associated with the cluster that exports sports goods to 142 countries all over the world. Total exports by the cluster in 2007-2008 amounted to \$302.72 million. Pakistan sports goods industry has 2.52 percent share (ITC 2007) of the global market, and it is exclusively concentrated in Sialkot. Many items including all kinds of balls, bats, hockeys, and racquets, for internationally acclaimed top sports goods brands like Adidas, Grays, Nike, Mikasa, Puma, Slazenger, Select and Derby Star are made in Sialkot. Confident of the quality of their products and knowledgeable about the international sports goods market, established industrial houses are also producing and marketing

their own brands. The Surgical Instruments Manufacturers Association of Pakistan (SIMAP) has around 2,300 members that are again almost exclusively based out of Sialkot. There are 100,000 workers employed by factories and another 100,000 to whom work for surgical instruments is outsourced. The industry has the capacity to produce 100 million instruments annually. Around 70 percent of exported instruments are disposable; the United States being the largest market in this category. The remaining 30 percent exports comprise reusable instruments, mostly exported to the European Union. The industry exported instruments worth \$261 million in 2007-2008. The leather and leather products cluster are a relatively new addition to Sialkot's industry. It witnessed exponential growth in the 1980s. In 2007-2008, the industries in the cluster exported goods worth \$241 million. The cluster specializes in motor-bike suits, besides producing a wide range of leather garments, gloves, and accessories. The study enumerated 254 tanneries and 517 units for manufacturing leather products in Sialkot. The Pakistan Leather Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PLGMEA) has 84 registered members from the city. The factories and tanneries employ approximately 32,000 workers while related works is outsourced to another 12,000. In the domain of gloves manufacturing, there are over 650 firms registered with the SCCI. The Pakistan Gloves

Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PGMEA) has 256 member firms from Sialkot., More than 22,000 workers are estimated to be working in the industry and exports from the cluster reached \$304 million in 2007-2008. Pakistan's Gloves industry had about 10.7 percent share of the world market in 2005 according to ITC. A major chunk of this industry is in Sialkot. Top multinational brands for gloves like Ad Wilson, Adidas, Nike, LL-Star and AIBA are produced by different firms in Sialkot, while some local brands of Sialkot have also gained worldwide recognition. The sportswear cluster was developed as an offshoot of sports goods cluster and greatly benefited from the existing linkages that the latter had established with the international sports good market. The flexibility of workers involved in stitching due to constant shifting from one trade to another was a big advantage and they readily adapted to the needs of the emerging cluster. Supported by friendly government policies for the development of sportswear as an industry, the cluster successfully established itself in Sialkot within a very short span of time; despite the fact the other Pakistani cities like Faisalabad, Lahore and Karachi had a strong textile base and a skilled workforce. The SCCI lists 350 members as manufacturers of sportswear. The number of members from Sialkot in Pakistan Readymade Garments Manufacturers and Exporters Association (PRGMEA) stands at 250 and

in Pakistan Hosiery Manufactures Association (PHMA) at 267, though not all of them are active. More than 10,000 workers are directly engaged in sportswear manufacturing and the cluster's exports in the year 2007-2008 amounted to \$87 million. Its share in the international trade of sportswear was 4.5 percent according to ITC, and world-renowned brands like DIDAS, Nike, Mikasa, Puma, Mitre, Select, Umbro, Lotto, Diodora, Decathlon and Wilson source most of their supplies from Sialkot-based firms. The exported articles include tracksuits, cycling and motor sports uniforms, shorts, t-shirts, windbreakers, martial arts skits, causal wear, stockings, etc. Other than the industries included in the five clusters and other broad categories mentioned above, new product are constantly being added to the list of Sialkot's exports. With the commencement of flights from the privately owned Sialkot International Airport, an array of new possibilities has opened as well, and the entrepreneurs are venturing swiftly into agro-based industries, dairy, livestock, and associated industries. Though the exact figure is hard to come by, it is estimated that annual exports from Sialkot currently exceed the \$1 billion marks. This is expected to rise exponentially in the coming years.

NEXT DEGREE OF RESPONSIBILITY

The private sector's contribution to Sialkot's development is impressive by any standard. Together, the business leaders have undertaken and managed several important projects in partnership with the government. The success of these projects has broadened the scope of public-private partnership in Pakistan as well as internationally. The SCCI can be credited with providing an enabling environment for collective initiatives and a platform for supporting them through various stages. The impressive infrastructure and social development projects signify an extension of a greater sense of responsibility on part of Sialkot's businessmen. Historically, they have contributed generously to local as well as national charitable causes. With the formation of the Chamber, this philanthropic streak was institutionalized and enhanced. Each year, it gives scholarships and grants and makes generous donations for deserving individuals and organizations. The Chamber has also played an active role in raising funds to sponsor relief efforts in times of natural disasters like floods and earthquakes. The brightest feather in the cap of Sialkot's private sector is undoubtedly the Sialkot International Airport that has already transformed air-travel for the inhabitants of Sialkot and adjoining districts and opened new business possibilities. Earlier, Sialkot's businessmen had earned the distinction of

establishing in 1984 the first dry port in the private sector in Asia, a model that was then replicated elsewhere. Under the City Package, other than providing funds, members of the Chamber are actively involved in an overhaul of the city's roads network. Their achievements are visible in industry-related projects like the Small Industries Estate and the Sialkot Export Processing Zone as well as social welfare institutions like the Sialkot Public School. This chapter gives an overview of some of the more important projects undertaken by private sector in the city.

SIALKOT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT

The Sialkot International Airport is undoubtedly the foremost achievement of the city's businessmen. It is the first international airport in the private sector in South and West Asia. By mid-2010, the airport had made its mark on the domestic and international aviation network, with a growing number of passenger and cargo flights operating to Karachi, Islamabad, the Middle East and Europe. On completion of the Passenger Terminal building, the number of destinations linked to the airport, are expected to increase exponentially. This is a landmark achievement of Sialkot International Airport Limited (SIAL), the company that owns and operates the airport. Overcoming every hurdle, SIAL has catapulted Sialkot to the twenty first century. With the longest runway in the country, the airport is equipped to handle all aircraft used

for cargo and passenger flights. It is in the center of the export triangle of Sialkot, Gujrat, and Gujranwala, and naturally destined to become a major cargo-hub in the region. Negotiations are underway with Pakistani and foreign airlines to handle the large volume of cargo that originates from the area or is imported by various industries. To handle by Sialkot International, five new handled by Sialkot International, five new cargo sheds are included in Phase II of the airport project. At the same time, many airlines have shown keen interest in starting passenger flights to Sialkot once the passenger terminal with the state-of-the-art facilities becomes operational. The airport has been planned to handle 9000 tons of cargo and 0.44 million passengers annually. SIAL works closely with the Civil Aviation Authority, Airport Security Force and the MET department, and the airport receives the requisite operational support from the government. The new Sialkot-Wazirabad dual carriageway has provided the airport with an excellent road-link. The remodeled road has been linked to the airport through the new Dryport-Airport dual carriageway, specially built for the airport. The Sialkot Export Processing Zone and Sialkot Tanneries Zone are also in proximity on the main Sialkot-Wazirabad Road. Work on Shahbazpur Bridge over the Chenab River has started. It will not only reduce travel time to Gujrat to 20 minutes but also make Sialkot International the

most convenient airport for the inhabitants of areas beyond Gujrat right up to Azad Kashmir. Plans for an exhibition center for export products at the airport are under preparation. Furthermore, the airport has made it possible to export fruits, flowers, and vegetables from the area and the setting up of a cold storage facility near the airport is being discussed with the government. Discussions are underway with aviation firms to set up aircraft maintenance and servicing facilities. Chartered flights in collaboration with the Lahore Flying Club have started and a flying club is also planned. Establishment of a five-star hotel at airport is being discussed with internationally renowned groups.



History

The Sialkot's business community had long felt the need of an airport for their city. The demand was put forward from the Sialkot Chamber in the first year of its inception, and successive Chamber presidents' lobbies persistently for it. When President Ziaul Haq visited

Sialkot in 1984, he approved the establishment of an airport for the city. However, no headway could be made due to bureaucratic hurdles. Ironically, despite the importance of golden triangle of Sialkot, Gujrat and Gujranwala, with the highest density of export-oriented industries in the country, the demand for an airport in the area was ignored by the bureaucracy and successive government. Finally, empowered by the large number of successful projects initiated and run by it and disappointed in the lack of interest on part of government officials, the city's business community proposed to build and run the airport in the private sector. The first effort in this direction came in 1985 when the SDPT trustees under the leadership of Seth Iqbal floated the Sialkot Civil Airport Limited. Though the company did not take off then, the vision of building an airport in the private sector continued to be pursued by the businessmen with increasing vigor. Translating this vision into reality has been a challenging task, even for the dynamic and resourceful businessmen of Sialkot. Their idea was resisted at every point by the entrenched centralized bureaucracy that did not want to lose its grip on the monopoly of handling air traffic in the country. Undeterred, the business community went ahead with the first feasibility report envisaging private sector financing that was prepared by the Sialkot Dry Port Trust in 1994. In July 1995, the SCCI expressed

interest in undertaking the project. In October 1995, a site selection board comprising member of PIA, PAF and CAA was constituted. The board recommended the acquisition of 1000 acres for the airport at the present site near Sambrial, 16 km west of Sialkot. The next five SCI presidents were instrumental in translating the idea on the paper into a reality on the ground. Dr Muhammad Aslam Dar (1997-98) had been involved in the initiative since the first company Sialkot Civil Airport Limited was launched in 1985. To his knowledge about the various aspects of the project was added the combined strength of Muhammad Hanif Khan (1996-97), Mian Muhammad Riaz (1999-2000) and Mian Naeem Javed (2000-01). The five worked as a tightly knit and formidable

Core team, laying the foundation of the project and putting it firmly on track. Due to consistent efforts of the Chamber, the notice for the acquisition of land for the airport was issued. In 1997, when Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif visited Sialkot on the invitation of the Chamber, he announced a grant of Rs 230 million for land acquisition. It took hectic lobbying by the Chamber to get the amount finally transferred to the Deputy Commissioner's office. The Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry succeeded in getting the principled approval of the project from Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif in 1999. Events took a dramatic turn

when General Pervaiz Musharraf took over as Pakistan's Chief Executive, and fresh negotiations had to be held with his government. A detailed presentation to the new government saved the project from being scrapped altogether, and fresh negotiations had to be held. In July 2000, the Ministry of Defense directed the SCCI to get a feasibility conducted by a specialist consultant. The SCCI appointed NESPAK to carry out a fresh feasibility and prepare a master plan for the airport the very next month. In October 2000, the feasibility and conceptual master plan was completed and NESPAK found the project technically and financially feasible. Afterwards, in a meeting with Secretary Defense, the SCCI committed to undertake the project on Build Own & Operate basis. The consistency of Sialkot's business leaders finally bore fruit when after more than a decade of negotiation with various government, on February 2, 2001, formal approval was granted by the then Chief Executive of Pakistan, General Pervaiz Musharraf, for the construction of an international airport at Sialkot by the SCCI. The grant of Rs 230 million for land acquisition, announced by Prime Minister Muhammad Nawaz Sharif in 1999, was converted into a soft loan and approved. It was utilized for acquiring 1033 acres at Sambrial under the Land Acquisition Act. On February 26, 2001, and MoU was signed between the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry and the Pakistan Civil

Aviation Authority with the approval of Ministry of Defense for the construction of international airport in Sialkot. And in June 2001, SIAL was launched from the platform of SCCI to implement the project, with Mian Muhammad Riaz as the founding Chairman and Dr. Muhammad Aslam Darr as the founding Chief Executive. NESPAK was appointed as consultant for planning and designing of the airport in November 2001. In May 2002, it submitted the master plan of the airport. The master Plan was approved by CAA in August 2002. Khawar Anwar Khawaja took over as Chief Executive at this point and for the next five years he worked with a sing-minded determination and devotion that were crucial to the success of SIAL. Later the same year, construction work started on the airport runway. There was no looking back after that and under the able leadership of Sialkot's business community, the company ensured that the project met every national and international requirement and was successful in getting timely approvals to make the airport operational. A PIA test flight PK-613 landed at the Sialkot International Airport on October 20,2007 and the airport became operational on November 30,2007, with the first regular flight of the national flag carrier PIA to Karachi. President Pervez Musharraf formally inaugurated the Rs 2.6 billion Sialkot International Airport on December 11, 2007. The company has over 300 directions with initial

investment of Rs 5 million each. In the best tradition of the Sialkot Chamber, they work like a democratic well-knit team. Babar Iqbal (SCCI President 2002-03) served as Chairman after Mian Riaz. The company structure changed after the departure of Khawar Khawaja as Chief Executive and it has since been headed by a Chairman and Vice Chairman elected from among the directors. Ghulam Mustafa, Mian Naeem Akhtar and Toheed Akhtar (Chairmen) and Dr Sarfraz Bashir, Malik Ashraf, and Choudhry Ashfaq (Vice Chairmen) have all contributed to the development of the airport. Many directors are actively involved in looking after the affairs of the airport as member and chairmen of various committees supervising the team of professional managers. Together, they share the credit for the success and growth of Sialkot International Airport.



Sialkot Dry Port

Dry port had been established in Lahore in 1973 but its utility for Sialkot's Business community was very limited. Local exporters had to face many problems and had been demanding the setting up of a dry port in Sialkot. However, government support was not forthcoming despite the project's need and feasibility. The leading businessmen of the city who had voiced the need for a dry port in Sialkot were not discouraged by the government's apathy. In fact, it motivated them to embark on a historical initiative. They pooled their energies and resources to establish the first private sector dry port in Asia. Though businessmen from the city were already known for their collective initiatives, the Sialkot Dry Port gave a new direction and vision to the scope of private sector's involvement in infrastructure development. Seth Muhammad Iqbal was the visionary behind the idea of establishing a dry port in the Private sector. The concept of a private sector dry port was unknown in Asia at the time, and the Sialkot Dry Port set a precedent for many other similar dry ports throughout the continent. As it was a new idea, creating the desired momentum and a workable model for the project was a challenge. Seth Muhammad Iqbal set about the task with exemplary dedication and determination and his efforts were strengthened by other like-minded businessmen of the city.

They managed to muster the support of 51 individual trustees, leading exporters, and businessmen of Sialkot, who each contributed funds to form the Sialkot Dry Port Trust in 1984. The support and cooperation of local Customs officials was also useful in working out modalities of establishing the dry port. Sambrial, a small town 20 km from Sialkot, was chosen for setting up the Dry Port due to its central location and proximity to the industrial hubs of Sialkot, Gujrat, Gujranwala, Daska, and Wazirabad. Eventually, The Sialkot Dry Port started operations in 1985 and it was formally inaugurated by President Zia-ul-Haq in 1986. The Sialkot Dry Port Provided a much-needed facility for the large number of exporters, as well as the much smaller number of importers, from the region who benefited tremendously by getting the facilities of custom clearance, duty draw back and one window operation at their doorstep. It is essentially an export oriented dry port, with exports amounting to 94% of the cargo handled by it. The unmatched utility of the project for local businessmen was complemented with the business acumen of the trustees, ensuring consistent growth and profitability of the Sialkot Dry Port. The Dry Port has made tremendous progress and is one of the busiest dry ports in the country today. Since its commissioning, cargo handled by the Dry Port has increased exponentially. In the year 1986-87 it handled 7721tons cargo with a

value of Rs 1.8 billion. By 2008-2009, this had increased to 54,270 tons of cargo valuing more than Rs 44.3 billion. The unprecedented success of SDPT has inspired businessmen and exporters elsewhere in Pakistan to establish other dry port in the private sector. The cargo is transported from the Dry Port to Lahore, Islamabad, Karachi and Peshawar airports and seaports at Karachi and Port QSIM. The SDPT has developed its own fleet of customs bonded vehicles, which is the largest Bonded Carrier in the private sector. It comprises more than 70 vehicles providing quality services in terms of lesser transit time, safety and reliability. The Sialkot Dry Port Trust is also keeping pace with technological advancements, providing Online Tracking Facility to its customers who can access information of cargo in transit through the Internet. The Sialkot Dry Port has one regional office each at Lahore and Islamabad and a terminal office at Karachi. It also provides in-house facilities free of cost to Customs, clearing and forwarding agents, government agencies, banks and the NLC. It has 300 regular employees and has generated employment for thousands of people directly or indirectly. It has an efficient fire brigade that, in addition to its responsibilities at the Dry Port, has also played an important role in combating break out of fires in the area and prevented the loss of lives and properties of the people living in its surroundings. The Sialkot Dry

Port also facilitates the collection of funds from exporters under the Sialkot City Development Package. The SDPT was the first collective initiative of this scope and scale undertaken by the city's business community, and it paved the way for other ambitious projects that followed. The SCCI had just been established and it provided the impetus and a conducive environment for the initiative, a role that the Chamber has continued to perform to this day.



Sialkot City Package

The program of Sialkot City Package was initiated in 1999 by the Sialkot Chamber Commerce & Industry with the support of trade bodies of the city and in collaboration with the Punjab government. Later, the federal government also contributed to the Package. The

Sialkot City Package is the first program of its kind in the country, a pioneering public-private partnership venture for development of roads and infrastructure. Through this initiative of the Chamber, the city of Sialkot has been literally transformed and traveling in the city has become convenient and comfortable. It has also improved the system of sewerage, streetlights, and pavements in the city. The Chamber and the Punjab government reached an agreement in 1999 whereby the exporters of Sialkot agreed to contribute 0.25 percent of the value of their exports to the City Package fund and the Punjab Chief Minister Mian Shahbaz Sharif pledged to contribute a grant amounting to three Times of the funds collected for the construction of roads in the city. The principled agreement was made operational by the then SCCI president Khawar Anwar Khawaja who brought all trade bodies of Sialkot on board and signed an MOU with the district administration. An amount of Rs 210 million was raised by the exporters in the first phase and the Punjab government initially contributed Rs100 million to the fund. After the change of government, the Chamber President Khawar Khawaja briefed the then Chief Executive of Pakistan, General Pervaiz Musharraf about the Sialkot City Package and requested for a matching grant from the Federal Government. He promised that EDF would give a matching grant to the fund which would be equal to the

funds collected by the exporters. The first installment of Rs 7 million was approved in that regard. Later, the second instalment of Rs 80 million was released after hectic by Daud Chattah (SCCI President 2001-02). The FWO started the construction of dual carriageways in Sialkot. Under the Package, the remodeling of the important arteries of Sialkot's Road network was undertaken and work on Kashmir Road, Anwar Khawaja Road, Shahabpura Road, Khadim Ali Road, Circular Road, Hajipura Road and Parris Road was completed. In 2008, the Chamber, in association with all the trade bodies of Sialkot, decided to re-launch the Sialkot City Package to complete the remaining projects of improving city roads and other infrastructure. During his visit to the Chamber, Punjab Chief Minister Mian Mohammad Shabaz Sharif announced to release the outstanding amount of Rs 408.6 million owed by the Punjab Government as matching grant for the City Package. Work has started on widening and construction of Railway Road and Pasrur Road under the revised City Package. Bridges on Kashmir Road and Khadim Ali Road are also being widened. Construction of Zohra Memorial Road and Airport Road as well as repair of Defense and Kashmir Road is also being done. Six new projects have been identified for the next phase. As in the past, the Chamber is playing an active role in the development and execution of the Package.

Child Labor Elimination Program

The child and Social Development Organization (CSDO) was established by SCCI to sustain the social component of the Sialkot Soccer Ball Project, formally known as the Child Labor Elimination Program (CLEP) from the Soccer Ball Industry of Sialkot. It was set up in 2000 as the Child Labor Cell in the SCCI. Later on, its name was changed to Child and Social Development Program (CSDP). The key partners of the Soccer Ball Project (Atlanta Agreement) i.e., International Labor Organization (ILO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and save the Children's Fund (SCF-UK) contributed to its development through technical and financial assistance. In 2002, to strengthen its technical capacities, CSDP was registered as an independent NGO and its name was changed from CSDP to CSDO. The mission of CSDO is to act as a proactive Social Arm of the SCCI focusing on eliminating child labor and promoting socially responsible entrepreneurship in Sialkot's industry. Its objectives include the welfare of children, youth and women, social education, and coordination amongst social welfare agencies. CSDO engages in advocacy and communication and acts as a resource center on child labor issues and socially responsible entrepreneurship. Its mandate includes

development, planning and implementation of interventions and generating the Social Development Fund.

The ECHO Project

CSDO has maintained a very close liaison with the District Government and other agencies working in a similar direction. In the year 2002-2003, it worked as a lead agency with UNICEF and other NGOs for the implementation of the ECHO (Elimination of Child Labor from Hazardous Occupations) Project, which benefited about three thousand children in terms of providing them an opportunity to acquire literacy. The project created awareness among thousands of individuals on the hazards of child labor and importance of education. It piloted the RAB Project in 36 union council of the Sialkot district to promote birth registration trends with the financial support of UNICEF.

Capacity Building Program

In 2004, a Resource Center of Child Labor was set up with financial assistance from ILO-IPEC for the development of a Management Information System, advocacy on child labor issues and capacity-building through a training workshop on Maximum Performance.

Football For Hope

In the 3rd phase of CLEP launched in 2006, a Center of Football Excellence is being set-up by CSDO in Sialkot to promote football as a popular game amongst children under ILO-IPEC/FIFA Football Resource Program, Football for Hope. The project undertook many activities during the years 2007 and 2008.

- ▣ Playgrounds of selected educational institutions were upgraded.
- ▣ A sports Committee was formed to coordinate and manage the project activities. Male and female coaches, referees and organizers were trained through District Football Association (DFA). These 38 trained resource persons went on to coach under-14 football players in selected communities. Complete soccer kits and other necessary facilities were provided to the players.
- ▣ CSDO established eight male and five female under-14 football clubs in Sialkot with around 25 members each.
- ▣ Soccer kits, training bibs, cones, footballs, pool nets, etc. were provided to six of the under-14 football clubs established under the project.
- ▣ CSDO developed and disseminated relevant materials in the selected communities, formal and non-formal schools, football

clubs, and amongst children and youth. A football coaching booklet was also developed and distributed. CSDO sponsored a program on local FM radio and advertisements on local TV and FM radio as well as in the print media.

- ▢ Relevant data of the selected players, coaches, referees, organizers, and 62 football clubs was collected and computerized.
- ▢ A football tournament for age groups 8-10 and 11-14 was organized in which 21 football teams participated.
- ▢ The football ground of the Government Jinnah Islamia College, Sialkot was upgraded.
- ▢ In coordination with the Education Department, CSDO established five football teams comprising 110 under-14 female players in government and private schools of Sialkot.
- ▢ The Pakistan Football Federation and DFA, Sialkot organized the Under-14 Football Tournament in December 2008 for boys and girls.

Child & Adolescents Protection Program

Launched in 2009, the UNICEF-funded program is aimed at taking protective measures through advocacy, awareness raising, skill enhancement for income generation, and monitoring child rights

violations in Sialkot and its adjoining Narowal and Gujranwala district. CSDO has contributed Rs. 4.5 million to this project. The office bearers and members of CSDO have rendered voluntary services and also supported the project financially. The SCCI and its Women Entrepreneurs' Cell are also supporting this project.

- ▣ A district level Technical Committee involving the District Government, Pakistan Workers' Federation, SCCI, ILO, UNICEF, IMAC and CSDO was formed to coordinate, monitor and support the project activities.
- ▣ An in depth Situation Analysis was conducted on the protection issues related to children and adolescents.
- ▣ Fourteen non-formal education centers called Talim-ul-Amal Centers (TACs) were set up benefiting around 1,400 working or out-of-school girls and boys.
- ▣ A total of 902 children were mainstreamed in formal schools.
- ▣ 721 children from TACs were referred to union councils for birth registration.
- ▣ Database was developed and computerized.
- ▣ More than 50 female and male monitors, teachers and volunteers were trained.

- ▣ Psychological assessment and general counseling for 500 children from TACs was conducted.
- ▣ 28 community based child protection organizations were formed at TACs.
- ▣ Monthly conditional cash grant of Rs.500 per child was disbursed to 339 of the most marginalized children in 2009.
- ▣ 16 vocational skill centers were established for three-month training programs. They benefited 131 poor women and young girls, and 110 poor adolescents.
- ▣ Twenty-eight youth groups were formed, each consisting of around 15 to 20 children.
- ▣ Around 1,000 girls and boys participated in three sports competitions and recreational events.
- ▣ An under-14 football team at each TAC was formed and supported by CSDO.
- ▣ Three groups comprising 33 girls and 35 boys were trained as peer educators on child protection issues. These trained educators served as trainers to further train at least 10 peer educators each, thus creating a strong team of 680 peer educators.
- ▣ A under-14 all-girls football tournament, a children speech contest and a children seminar were held to commemorate the

World Day against Child Labor. Case studies of three ex-football stitcher girls were also conducted.

Independent Monitoring Association for Child Labor

In 1997, a unique partnership developed among the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SCCI), International Labor Organization (ILO) and United Nations Children Fund (UNICEF) to comprehensively address the issue of child labor in the soccer ball industry in Sialkot.

The partnership was necessitated after the 1994 World Cup when the Sialkot Soccer Ball Industry was accused of relying on child labor for its production by the international media. This pressure was further heightened when during the Pakistan Prime Minister's visit to the USA in 1995, the American electronic media telecast documentaries about Pakistan showing children, as young as five years, being involved in the manufacturing of soccer balls and other products, creating a negative impression about Sialkot's industry.

Since all major brands of soccer balls were sourcing their balls from Pakistan, therefore, through the world Federation of Sporting goods Industry (WFSGI) and in their individual capacities, they threatened to pull out of Sialkot if the industry did not do something tangible to address the issue of child labor. This promoted the industry

to initiate immediate action under the guidance and moral support of WFSGI. Facilitated by the US Department of Labor, WFSGI and FIFA (ISL), the SCCI, ILO and UNICEF entered into an agreement popularly known as the Atlanta Agreement in February 1997.

The Sialkot Chamber strictly monitored the steps taken for the elimination of child labor by ILO, UNICEF, and SCF under the Atlanta Agreement. The initiative was so successful that American President Bill Clinton appreciated the Sialkot Model for the elimination of child labor on June 16, 1999 in his speech at the ILO headquarters in Geneva.

In view of the success of the program, all the national and international stakeholders decided to continue the program and transfer the ownership from ILO to a locally established independent monitoring body. ILO~IPEC played the role of a catalyst for establishing this independent monitoring body. In association with the SCCI, the ILO initiated this process in June 2001 and the independent body was registered under the name of Independent Monitoring Association for Child Labor (IMAC) under section 42 of the companies Ordinance 1984, on May 14, 2002.

ILO~IPEC signed an agreement with IMAC in February 2003 and IMAC became functional on March 1, 2003. IMAC very

quickly gained the creditability of an independent monitoring organization and not only carried out its responsibilities successfully but also took the process forward by bringing a lot of improvements in the monitoring system including developing and implementing minimum working standards at workplaces.

Sialkot Business and Commerce Center

The construction of Sialkot Business and Commerce Center finally restarted in 2009 and is progressing swiftly. The Center had been in the pipeline since 1998 when land for the project, right next to the Chamber building, was allotted. A joint project of the Sialkot Chamber and SMEDA, the SBCC is estimated to the cost Rs 341.67 million. The Chamber has contributed Rs 170 million that includes the land worth Rs 150 million and an additional Rs 20 million for the civil works already carried out by the Chamber on the site. The balance amount of Rs 171.67 million is being contributed by the federal government.

Sialkot Business and Commerce Center has been designed to promote the whole range of products made in Sialkot and provide a host of facilities for the SCCI members. A convention center will also be housed in the building. The SBCC will give a boost to business activity through the establishment of a shared display facility, promotion, and export of products from Sialkot based industries,

hosting and housing trade exhibitions and fairs, providing a convenient one-stop shop for international buyers and managing a comprehensive exhibition of Sialkot's products around the year.



Sialkot Export Processing Zone

The Sialkot Export Processing Zone (SEPZ) is the biggest export processing zone in the country and the first one that is being developed on roll-over scheme with the active participation of the private sector. The Zone is ideally located in the vicinity of the Sialkot Dry Port and Sialkot Airport, 22 Kilometers from Sialkot city, and is poised to give a boost to exports from the region.

The SEPZ developed out of the inter-connected projects of Small Industries Estates (SIE) II & III. Efforts were made from the platform of the Chamber in the late 1980s and early 1990s for the establishment of these Estates and by 1993 the Punjab Small Industries Corporation (PSIC) had acquired the land of their development.

Subsequently, on the request of SCCI, these Estates were given the status of an Export Processing Zone, the second such zone to be sanctioned after the one in Karachi.

The caretaker Prime Minister, Malik Mairaj Khalid, laid the foundation stone of SEPZ in January 1997. The very next month, the PSIC signed an agreement with the Export Processing Zones Authority (EPZA) under which the PSIC agreed to develop the zone. It was also decided to execute the project on roll-over scheme. Governor Khalid Maqbool inaugurated the SEPZ in 2002.

Through the efforts of a special vigilance committee formed under the chairmanship of Dr Muhammad Aslam Dar, work on provision of facilities like water, electricity, gas and telephone has been completed. The offices of EPZA and PSIC have been set up to facilitate the exporters. The building of a Material Testing Lab has been completed. The equipment for the lab is being ordered and qualified personnel are being hired.

However, due to the changing policies of successive governments, the pace of setting up industrial units in the zone is slow. Some of the special concessions announced by the government have been withdrawn and additional infrastructural facilities to be developed by the government are yet to materialize. The Sialkot Chamber, SEPZ

and PSIC are working together to overcome these difficulties and lobbying for the revival of concessions originally announced by the government.



Sialkot Public School

Sialkot Public School is a project of Sialkot Development Trust, another joint initiative of Sialkot's business community and the Sialkot District Government. Spread over 50 acres contributed by the Punjab Government, the school is subsidized by the trust to provide quality education to the less-privileged children of Sialkot and adjoining districts.

SPS provides an ideal environment for a wholesome education from play group to O-Levels and Matric. The English medium school is affiliated with Cambridge University for O-Levels and to the Gujranwala Board for Matriculation examination. Educational standards at SPS are monitored and controlled by an external panel of educationists. Furthermore, the educational facilities at

the school are scrutinized by an external audit for quality. Only the best and properly qualified teachers are selected to teach at the school and their teaching skills are enhanced through regular teaching training programs. The excellent teacher to student ratio 1:13 at the school ensures that each student gets personal attention and individual guidance.

The school's playgrounds are unmatched in Sialkot and the nearby districts. The equipment and facilities available to SPS students in their physics, chemistry, biology, and computer laboratories meet the best standards in the country. Well-stocked and well-kept libraries are available for senior and junior students.

Extracurricular activities are encouraged for well-rounded growth. A fleet of 16 buses brings students from Sialkot, Pasrur, Daska and Chawinda to the school. At SPS education patronized as a service to the children and not as a business venture.

Sports Industries Development Center

SMEDA during its consultation with the stakeholders of the sports goods sector came up with the projects of sports Industries development Center (SIDC) which would help the sector to overcome the threat posed by the mechanized ball technology. The project is being established on an area of 25 kanals with an amount of Rs 435.6 million.

The main objective of the project is to facilitate the soccer ball industry and the inflatable ball industry in general, in sustaining its share in the international ball market.

The funds for the project have been provided by the federal government under Public Sector Development Program (PSDP). The project is being executed under public-private partnership wherein the government is contributing the capital and the private sector is providing the resources to manage it.

Sialkot's main forte is hand-stitched inflatable balls. Exporters of Sialkot cater to around 70% of total world demand of hand-stitched inflatable balls. A large bulk of the production caters to international brands like Nike, Adidas, Puma, Mitre, Mikasa, etc. Sialkot's soccer ball industry produces mostly hand-stitched balls. As a result of recently introduced mechanized ball technology by Adidas, the local ball industry faces a strong challenge, making SIDC crucial to its modernization.

SIDC would also help the sector by providing skilled workforce, developing imported machinery locally through reverse engineering, developing an indigenous patent for mechanized soccer ball and getting it registered internationally, helping in setting up

mechanized balls for the individual entrepreneurs and developing quality vulcanization and pasting molds.



Sialkot Tanneries Zone

To overcome the threat of environmental pollution caused by and around Sialkot, the camber initiated the project of Sialkot Tanneries Zone. The project is another example of public private partnership and has made significant progress since it was conceived. For representation of the private sector, a nonprofit company by the name of Sialkot Tanneries Association (Guarantee) limited was incorporated. STAGL invited applications from prospective investors and submitted one fourth for the cost of acquisition of the land for the said project to the government. The government provided the remaining three fourth cost as an interest-free loan. The land measuring 384 acres at Khambran Wala on Kuluwal road has been acquired and mutated in favor for STAGL by the government. STAGL is in the process of

conducting the feasibility assessment study after which a revised PC-I would be prepared as the total cost of the project has increased from the original cost since its inception. The project would help in shifting of tanneries located in and around the city to a centralized location to provide various facilities like a common Effluent Treatment Plant, a Solid Waste Disposal Site and a Common Effluent Collection System. This would be hep in effective control of environmental hazards caused by the tanning industry in the region.



Seerat Study Center

In March 1976, an international Seerat Conference was held at Karachi in which reputed ulema and religious scholars of the Muslim world participated. The conference unanimously adopted a resolution to establish an academic forum of international level for the study and research on the life of the Holy Prophet (S.A.W). The

decision was formally approved by the participants of the International Seerat Conference, Islamabad in November 1985 and the forum was named Seerat Study Center. The Sialkot Chamber took the initiative and established the Seerat Study Centre in Sialkot.



Towards the Chamber

Efforts for the establishment of a Chamber of industry and trade in Sialkot started in the 1950s when Mr. Ghulam Ali Shabbir, who had the experience of representing British India in international business forums, floated the idea. The leading businessmen of the city understood the importance of a Chamber for the development of their industry and supported the idea. As the city's business community grew and the scope of its industry expanded, the awareness that a Chamber was needed became more acute and efforts in that direction became more vigorous. Mr. Sheikh Muhammad Shafi, Mr. Anwar Khawaja, Mr. Sheikh Maqbool, Mr. M. Q. Hazir and Mr. Choudhry Sher Muhammad

further strengthened Mr. Shabbir's initiative to organize the business community so that its interests would be better represented. They formed a Chamber in 1958 but the initiative was thwarted in its infancy by a new government policy that restricted the number of Chambers allowed in each province to only one. Initially, this group of like-minded senior businessmen worked relentlessly with a vision to improve upon the role of various single-trade nationwide associations that represented Sialkot's businessmen through their local chapters. In those days, the functioning of these associations left much to be desired and, often, they were hijacked by the personal and group interests of people heading them. Sialkot's progressive businessmen, however, tried to steer the associations towards an institutionalized way of working so that they institutionalized way of working so that they could effectively articulate and lobby for the local business community, but they were frustrated by the parochial attitudes prevalent in the associations at the time. Dissatisfied with the way various trade associations were being run in the city and with a clear understanding of the importance of a single platform for all the industries located in and around the city, Mr. Ghulam Ali Shabbir and Mr. Sheikh Muhammad Shafi joined hands to form the Small Industries Association (SIA) which later developed into the Sialkot Association of Trade & Industry (SATI) in 1976.

Businessmen who understood the importance of such an institution and actively worked to build it included Mr. A. D. Bhutta, Mr. Anwar Khawaja, Mr. Khawaja Zakauddin, Professor Amin Javed, Mr. Agha Kamal Haider, Mr. Mazhar Shabbir, Haji M. Ashraf, Mr. Sheikh Mohammad Junaid, and Mr. Barkat Ali. Mr. Ghulam Ali Shabbir was the unofficial patron of this group and the founding president of SIA. As SIA matured into SATI, Mr. Bhutta became the leading force and Mr. Anwar Khawaja its most significant propelling force. Young entrepreneurs like Mr. Muhammad Amjad Khawaja and Mr. Asif Rahim brought fresh energy and ideas to the forum. The Association was affiliated with the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry and started lobbying for the interest of Sialkot's business community rather than advancing the vested interest of individuals. SATI opened its office of Kutchery Road and soon moved to another building on the same road. Later in 1982, the same office was the venue for the first SCCI meeting. The businessmen involved in the SATI initiative wanted to raise the working of the existing trade associations from the individual to an institutional level by providing the vision of collective interest. Mr. A. D. Bhutta's role was inspirational in this regard. To the swelling crop of young and aspiring entrepreneurs, he explained how SATI could be useful for the growth of business in Sialkot and for articulating the

collective interest of the business community. Mr. Bhutta wanted recognition of Sialkot's due status and strongly felt that the leadership of that time in control of the trade bodies lacked vision and competence. At the same time, he always recognized the presence of able and progressive businessmen in the trade bodies and the importance of including them in SATI. He believed that Sialkot Industry had immense potential and the trade volume could be increased manifold by evolving the right strategies and planning. The strength of the leading business personalities of the time was reinforced by Mr. Bhutta's dialogue with upcoming businessmen about their problems and the way to solve them. He inspired a host of young entrepreneurs who brought enthusiasm and energy to the initiative. These young entrepreneurs included Mr. Asif Rahim, Mr. Muhammad Nawaz, Mr. Zafar Iqbal Geoffrey, Mr. Arshad Durrani, Mr. Daud Chattha, Mr. Khawaja Zafar Hashmat, Mr. Mirza Muhammad Baig, Mr. Mohammad Muhammad Ashraf Khokhar, Mr. Malik Arshad and Mr. Muhammad Amjad Khawaja who served as the Chamber's founding Vice President for the first three years. SATI was resisted by most of the local representatives of single-trade nationwide associations that initially saw it as a competitor rather than an associate. The presence of SATI's representatives was resisted in meeting with government officials called for streamlining policies and solving the

problems of Sialkot's business community. While discrediting SATI's claim of representing Sialkot's business community and therefore its sensible suggestions, these representatives from trade bodies would constantly push for personal gains and favors from the government officials. However, since SATI had a purely professional approach, and developed its recommendations after extensive consultation with its stakeholders, its inputs were always appreciated by the concerned officials. On several occasions, the officials frankly expressed these views and acted upon SATI's good advice. SATI was unarguably the first step towards the formation of the Chamber. Mr. Bhutta was its founder Chairman and headed it from 1976-1982. The membership of SATI had grown rapidly and swelled to over one thousand in the first couple of years. The SATI members felt a strong need for transforming and upgrading their organization to a regular body so that its recommendations and suggestions could be presented at such forums formally. On December 12, 1979, SATI's Executive Committee passed a resolution for upgrading the Association as a Chamber of Commerce and Industry. Several trade organizations of Sialkot, including Central Merchants Association, Sialkot Authorized Superior Rice Dealers Organization, Daska Engineering & Industrial Association, Mr. Kazi, Anjuman-e-Tajran and all its affiliated Anjumans, supported the

initiative. In December 1980, SATI organized an impressive industrial exhibition as a part of Sialkot Week. President General Ziaul-Haq attended the exhibition and was briefed about the strength and potential of Sialkot's industries. Other dignitaries visiting the exhibition were also briefed by the SATI executive and the Association continued to project the importance of Sialkot as a center of industry at other similar forums as well. The image-building efforts strengthened SATI's case for creating the Sialkot Chamber.

A Ball Named Tango

At the same time, efforts made for the formation of the Chamber faced many hurdles. A government policy to allow only one Chamber per province went against it as the Lahore Chamber had been operational in Punjab for several years. Bureaucrats and other vested interest saw it as a chipping away of the central authority of the Lahore Chamber. The representatives of single-trade nationwide associations at the local level also viewed the Chamber as an entity that would reduce their influence as representatives of industry in Sialkot. The pro-status quo lobbying against the Chamber seemed to be more powerful than the endeavors to change things and give voice to the collective interest of the city's business community. The prospects for the Chamber looked bleak as the leadership opposing the Chamber had managed to bring key

political figures in the then government to their point of view. In Islamabad's corridors of power, the proponents of the Chamber found a resistance to their idea and there was hardly anyone willing to give an objective and sympathetic ear to what they had to say. And then, fate played its hand, and the pro-Chamber businessmen moved with agility to capture the moment. The PTV documentary, *A Ball Named Tango*, gave a lot of projection to Sialkot's industry, by tracing the origins of soccer balls used in the 1982 Football World Cup. Following the airing of the documentary, Mr. Bhutta organized and led a delegation including Mr. Anwar Khawaja, Mr. Mazhar Shabbir, Khawaja Zakauddin and Professor Amin Javed, to meet Lt. General Mujibur Rehman. He was the Federal Secretary of Information under whom the PTV functioned, and the delegation congratulated him on airing a documentary highlighting Sialkot and the excellence of its products. The delegation took the opportunity to put the issue of the Chamber on the table. Lt. Gen. Mujib agreed with the delegation regarding the importance of Chamber for Sialkot and decided to put his weight behind the idea. He said, "I'm surprised that a city like Sialkot doesn't have a Chamber". To which Mr. Bhutta replied, "The monopoly of trade bodies would be broken, and many people don't want that". The delegation explained that certain forces in the Sialkot's business community

backed by political leaders in the sitting government were not in its favor. After extensive talks, Gen. Mujib refereed the delegation to Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan who was the Federal Secretary of Commerce and Finance at the time. The delegation requested the federal government to upgrade SATI to SCCI. Initially, there was resistance to the move from the trade bodies and their supporters in the government, but Gen Mujib's personal interest and categorical support paved the way for the establishment of the Chamber. After some initial reluctance, the Commerce Ministry asked for a formal application, complete with the memorandum and articles of association. The delegation wanted to strike while the iron was hot and decided to get to work on the application immediately, extending their stay in Islamabad for the purpose. Over the next two days the members of the delegation collected the articles and memoranda of association of various Chambers to study them and to put together an application along with a draft of Articles and Memorandum of the SCCI. A formal application was submitted and accepted by the Department of Commerce for processing. The department sent the proposal to relevant people for comments. SATI had organized three committees to handle various aspects of its efforts for the formation of the Chamber.

1. The Finance Committee to take care of all expense that the process involved, including the travel of various delegates and a host of other expenses in the run up to its formation and in the running of its affairs after it was formed. Mr. Anwar Khawaja was the most notable among the sponsors. Besides his fund-raising abilities and smaller personal contribution, he donated Rs 300,000 at one time. Other members of the Finance Committee included Prof Amin Javed, Mr. Agha Kamal Haider, Mr. Mazhar Shabbir and Mr. Barkat Ali. Mr. Syed Aftab Hussain and Mr. Sheikh Junaid were also included. Mr. BRKAT Ali was the president of Small Industries Estate Association at the time and, though he was not involved in the formal efforts on the ground in the run-up to its formation, he was a strong supporter of the Chamber.

2. The Lobbying and Canvassing Committee included Mr. Bhutta, Prof Amin Javed, Khawaja Zakauddin, Mazhar Ali Shabbir and Muhammad Amjad Khawaja. Before the foundation of the SCC&I, the businessmen of Sialkot had to approach the Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry (LCCI) to get any type of service for their trade and industry. This was not a very good arrangement for the businessmen of Sialkot but added to the strength of LCCI. The committee successfully convinced the then President of LCCI, Mr. Shahzada Alam Monno, not to resist the formation of SCCI in its area of jurisdiction.

3. The Committee for Interaction with Bureaucracy had Mr. Bhutta in the forefront, He discovered Mr. Malik Ejaz, a former bureaucrat, who was an extremely effective person in getting over the bureaucratic red tape. He not only facilitated the movement of the application without delay but was also instrumental in fulfilling the procedural requirements such as and its registration with the Registrar of Firms.

A formal resolution was passed by the LCCI on July 28,1981, supporting the creation of Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry. The resolution was reported to the FPCCI and was presented to the government on October 18,1981 in the shape of a collective memorandum. These developments were initially strongly opposed by the trade bodies of Sialkot. Influential local political personalities and important economic advisors in the government were also not in favor of the Chamber's creation. The proponents of the Chamber, however, won the day. The government finally approved the upgradation of SATI as Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry on July 10, 1982. After completion of the necessary formalities and documentation, the Chamber was incorporated under the Companies Act, 1913 and the Ministry of Commerce, Government of Pakistan granted it license of July 15, 1982, under Section 3 of Trade Organization Ordinance, 1961. On August 5, 1982, Advisor to the President, Sheikh Ishrat Ali, and

Federal Information Secretary, Lt. General Mujib ur Rehman, formally inaugurated the Chamber and on August 17, 1982, the Chamber was duly affiliated with the FPCCI. The creation of the SCCI led to a change in government policy and subsequently Chambers were established in other centers of industry like Gujranwala and Faisalabad. Members of the Executive Committee of SATI were signatories to the Memorandum and Articles of Association, and they constituted the Executive Board of the newly formed Chamber. The Board was entrusted with the responsibility of holding elections for the first Executive Committee within three months. Mr. A. D. Bhutta was unanimously nominated by the trustees as the Founder President of SCCI.



Chapter # 8

LAND REVENUE

What is Land Revenue?

On commencing a study of the Land Revenue Administration, we naturally first ask, what is the nature of the contribution to the State income, known as the Land Revenue?

Originally a share of the grain heap on the threshing-floor: - Briefly, it is a historical fact that from very ancient times, long before the Mughal Empire, the kings or *Rajjas* and other lesser chiefs were accustomed to take from the cultivators of the soil in their dominions or chiefships, a certain share of the produce of every cultivated acre, unless, as a special favor, that share was remitted.

Association with the early Hindu Rulers: -

As our earliest literary mention of the State share is in the Sanskrit books¹ we naturally associate this plan of raising a revenue with the early important section of these tribes had crossed the Panjab, and settled down in the regions of the Jumna and the Ganges plain, they developed not only the literature, law, and philosophy which have become famous, but also a distinct State-craft and a territorial organization in which the influence of tribal division and groups is plainly discernible. The leading military caste furnished the ruling

prince and several subordinates [quasi-feudal] chiefs managing portions of the territory. The Brahman caste furnished the ministers and advisers of the Court. The share in the produce of all cultivated land was the principal source of the *Rajas* Revenue.

State Revenue of Non-Aryan kingdoms

But we are acquainted with other tribal groups in India before the Aryan some of them showed no sign of a 'State' more developed than the patriarchal rule of the clan or tribe. Among these we do not find any directed evidence of a Land Revenue or share of the produce appropriated by the ruler. But there are evident traces especially in Eastern, Central and Southern India of tribes [whom we associate with the name 'Dravidian'] who had curious method of giving the ruling chief an income in a somewhat different way; at first, they allotted a portion of the land in each village group/ for the chief: and this was cultivated by slaves, or by some special arrangements. Traces of these 'chief's farms' or 'royal lands' are still to be found in more than one locality. But from whatever cause, whether by the influence of contact with the Aryans or otherwise, the time came when a share in the produce was levied [additionally] from all land except certain privileged holdings of the priests and of the old founders and heads of the village.

Extent of the State share: -

Whatever its real origin there can be no doubt about the fact that the levy of a produce-share became general at a remote period. It is mentioned, as a thing long known and established, in the 'Laws of Manu'. The share was one-sixth of the gross produce, i.e., of the grain heap made up at the threshing-floor; and Manu notices that the sixth might be raised to one-fourth in time of war or another emergency.

State Share soon raised to a higher proportion: -

Though *the sixth* became a traditional share, the growing requirements of State in a perpetual condition of warfare, and the frequent demands of conquerors, often caused it to be raised. At first various devices would be resorted to ---e. g. of demanding husked rice instead of unhusked ---without apparently increasing the share. But later, we find *one-half* was a common rate of sharing. The Mughal Emperors fixed *one-third* as fair rate.

Advantages of the plan

There was a primeval simplicity about this plan that offered many advantages, in an early stage of society. Being a share of the gross produce, there was no question of any complicated calculations of the cultivator's profit, or the costs of production, nor about the relative value of land, or the productiveness of the season.

Whatever the land produced, little or much, was heaped on the threshing-floor and the king's officer superintended its division in kind. In a famine year there might be nothing to divide and so revenue relief followed automatically.

It is still used locally, in Native States: -

The collection in kind is still largely practiced in India. In many Native States [especially in the Hill country and in the more primitive districts] the State share is still paid in grain; and in some British districts [very commonly, e. g. in the Panjab] where the land has passed into the hands of a landlord class, what was once the State share, and is now the landlord's rent, is taken in kind.

Its disadvantages:-

But there are also many disadvantages attending the system, which gradually cause it to be modified, and ultimately given up, in favor of a cash equivalent.

Modification of the grain payment system.

Gradually changes into a cash payment. --- As population grows and cultivation extends, the task of collecting in kind becomes a difficult one; for unless actively supervised, the peasantry conceals or make away with the grain, and local collectors, on their part, cheat both the peasant and the treasury. At first, modified plans of collecting are

adopted. The crop is no longer divided at the threshing floor [the process being called *bataiorbhaoli*]. An estimate of the standing crop [Kankut] is made, and appraiser becomes extremely skillful in the art of judging. The appraiser announced his opinion that such and such a field would yield so many ‘mounds’ [p.12] of grain, of which the State share would be so much. When the grain collector, whatever the actual outturn might prove. Other devices also were adopted. But in time as farms got more and more subdivided, the old theoretical shares became impracticable; and at the same time coined money came more into use, and thus it was easier, as well as more profitable, to fix a roughly calculated money payment.

Effect of the Mughal Imperial System.

This general change was largely brought about by the action of the astute Emperor Akbar. It will be sufficient to state briefly, that on the establishment of the Mughal Empire, it was found impossible to apply the strict theory of the Moslem law as to the taxation of conquered countries. There was indeed a tax in kind known to that law as ‘*khiraj*’ but in any case, it was necessary to manage the Hindu population according to their long-established usages.

The Mughal Revenue Administration.

In fact, merely reduced the customary and unwritten usages of the Hindu Administration to a system. It introduced regular records and revenue accounts and provided a whole set of revenue terms and phrases: it fixed the official charges and gave new names to them; but in all essentials the Mughal Revenue Administration was simply the older plan in a new form. One change was, however, made. A great empire like Akbar's required some definite knowledge of the financial resources of the provinces; and the Land Revenue was the chief item. Hence it became necessary to measure the land and to have some regular assessment of an average quantity of grain [of each principal kind] that would be received from each class of land. Akbar made such a measurement and estimate; in fact, establishing ---- in a rough and simple manner --- the process [of which we shall speak hereafter] of a Land Revenue Settlement.

Akbar's Land Revenue Settlement:

His first essay was made with the help of his Hindu minister, *Raja Taudarmal* [A. D. 1571, and in Bengal 1582]; it was a settlement of the Revenue in kind. But after a few years this was revised in favor of a cash assessment. The rates were fixed by calculating the price of grain on an average of the Previous nineteen years of the reign

and applying it to a share which was one-third of the average gross produce.

An average amount of produce per *bigha* was ascertained for certain established kinds or classes of land, and for each of the crops commonly cultivated. [Where there were exceptional crops or such as could not be divided in kind, an arbitrary cash rate was charged, and indeed had long been customary. The average produce was ascertained by experimental reaping and weighments; it was intended to be a fairly low average rate, so as to allow for changing rates of production in good and bad years: it was fixed higher in the best and regularly yielding land, and lower in the poorer and more precarious soils. The Revenue Officers, who were closely supervised, had always an elastic power of reduction in bad years.

Akbar at first softened the novelty of his system by leaving it optional with the cultivators to give grain or cash as they preferred.

Attempt to value the grain share in cash given up in favor of independent land rates. Plough rates and soil rates. --- It will be observed that Akbar's Settlement deliberately proceeded based on an attempt to convert a share [fixed at one-third] in kind, into a direct average equivalent in money. But in many places to which the Akbarian Settlement did not extend, and in many later Native States, the process

of change from kind to cash did not follow this order. I cannot here go into the causes, but recourse was had to a feature an agricultural life which has in most countries been found to affect the size and form of holdings as well as the apportionment of rent or other charges. There are always a certain number of ploughs, each of which represents the tilling of a certain area of land; and it is easy to levy a rough rate *per plough*. In other cases, a rough classification of the chief kinds of soil [markedly different in productive power] was made, and an area rate was imposed --- arbitrarily or by bargain. When once such rates find their level [being lowered if not practically payable, or if too light being raised] they become customary rates and are left unaltered for several years. Other subsequent rulers accept these rates as a basis, and proceed to add so much more, to represent *their* Settlement; of this we shall see examples presently.

Ideas of assessment under Native rule.

Money rates when once they became general, at once adjusted themselves to practical conditions. The oriental financiers soon came to hold [virtually] that the limit of land assessment was what could be extracted from the cultivator without reducing him or his cattle to semi-starvation, and without causing him to lower the standard of cultivation or throw up his holding and decamp. Their officers became

skillful at alternately squeezing and letting go. It was only a few rapacious tyrants and short-lived Revenue farmers who habitually transgressed the rule of not killing [or even overtasking] the 'goose that laid the golden eggs.

Example of the Maratha Estates.

The Maratha rulers afford a good example. Keen financiers they always were, and in some provinces were mere plunderers, extorting Revenue with savage cruelty, and everywhere leaving depopulated villages and lands abandoned. But in their more firmly established provinces, they accepted the original rates fixed by the Muhammadan kingdoms in Central India, as a basis, spoke of them as the *ain* or 'essential' rates, and then levelled them up to what they called the *kamal* or 'perfect' assessment. In each village they employed some energetic headman [or a farmer. If the natural headman was inefficient or non-compliant]. And his business was to exact all that could be got up to the limit of not destroying the village. The village heads and contractors were backed by the keen efforts of the *desai* or *kamisdar* or another district officer, who wanted the *taluka* total as full as possible for the treasury --- with a good extra slice for himself.

Ideas of the Native State as to permanence of the assessment.

This leads me to remark that no native ruler ever intended that when an assessment was once made there should be no future rise or alteration. The best rulers would have only gradually, and at long intervals, raised their rates. Akbar's Settlement was in fact made for ten years. It was doubtless intended that only additional measurements should be taken as cultivation extended; and that ordinarily the existing 'pargana rates' [as they were called] should be applied. But we have everywhere proof that from time-to-time additional rates were levied; indeed, as the government declined in character and ability, annual Settlements became almost everywhere the rule: the standard rates of the last formal provincial assessment being used only as a basis for the calculation of the year's demand.

Expedience of levying cases or extras

Unfortunately, as the Empire grew older the Land Revenue methods instead of improving and ripening, got laxer and laxer. We might have expected to find some practical, if rather arbitrary, method of re-adjusting rates, as prices rose and the value of money, or its purchasing power, altered; but it was not so; the local Governors hit on no better expedient than that of raising the total amount by

demanding arbitrary percentage or other additions or 'cases' [called *Iabwab*, and locally *babli* and *hubbub*]. These they called by various names according to the name of the Governor who ordered them or the pretense on which they were levied. When the head of the province thus levied extra charges, the local officials and Revenue farmers began to levy such rates also, on their own account. The old Settlement rates thus disappeared. Then the state of things would become intolerable; a compromise would be affected, the revenue and extras would be consolidated into one sum, and a new start would be made.

Revenue Farming

But the increasing difficulties of Revenue management and the impossibility of a weak government giving efficient local control to its subordinates, suggested that it would be easier to divide the districts into large blocks or estates, to calculate [from the Treasury Accounts] a rough total sum which they tract out to yield, and then to get some capitalist or local landholder of wealth and influence to undertake the entire management and be responsible that the required total should be paid into the Treasury every year.

The Revenue farmer so appointed was armed with large powers [often very arbitrarily used] to make the collections from villages, holders of small estates, and the like. This saved the Governor

all trouble of controlling local Revenue officials of all grades and checking their accounts. The Treasury officer in future only looked to the totals due from the different estates and cared for nothing else so long as these total sums were duly realized without further deduction than what was authorized for the remuneration of the farmer.

Necessity of employing and conciliating the Hindu princes and chiefs

There was another circumstance which, in several provinces, recommended of it did not necessitate this plan. There had been several local Hindu kingdoms, usually comparatively small, and these had succumbed to the Mughal arms, leaving the Rajas in many cases unable to resist openly, but still capable of giving a great deal of trouble directly a chance of revolt appeared. These Rajas and their chiefs or 'barons' had a strong territorial influence and could to some extent be conciliated by being left in enjoyment of their rule and dignities, provided they would consent to accept a 'patent' of tenure from the Governor and agree to hand over part of their Land Revenue as a fixed annual tribute or assessment to the Treasury. The Raja in fact became the Revenue farmer under Imperial warrant, and in time as ex-officials, capitalists, and Court favorites acquired a similar connexion

with tracts of land or estates, the position became assimilated, and the difference of origin forgotten.

All kinds of farmers called Zamindar and Taluqdar.

The persons, whether territorial Rajas or others, thus employed, were generally called ‘*Zamindar*’ and sometimes *Taluqdar*. Neither term implied any definite right of ownership in the soil; it simply implied in the one case that the Raja or other person was managing the State right in the land; and in the other that he was a ‘dependent’ [Arabic *ta'alluq* – dependency] of the ruling power.

First position of great Revenue Farmers.

When the system of Revenue farming began, the Empire had not yet reached its final stages of disorganization and collapse. The Revenue farmer, Zamindar as we may now call him, was at first appointed regularly and with much form and care, giving in a written bond of acceptance, and receiving a warrant [sanad] which declared his duties and gave a schedule of the local sub-divisions, estates and villages, for the Revenue of which he was responsible, and the amount due from each; it also indicated what deductions for remuneration, collection charges, police, charities, and the like, he was entitled to make. Usually, he had to pay in about nine-tenths of the whole collections, but he was allowed also some lands free of revenue for

himself and for police charges. The Government pargana officer [or *Kanungo*] was still responsible to check accounts and see to the due execution of the Revenue responsibility. The office of Revenue farmer was not hereditary. In the case of the territorial chiefs, as the son would succeed to the estate of his father, it was almost a matter of course that he succeeds also to the Zamindari; but in other cases, the son only succeeded on sufferance, and on taking out a new warrant, probably paying a handsome succession fee.

Revenue farmer's responsibility fixed by bargain as control was relinquished

As the authority of the emperor grew less and less, so the local Governors of Bengal, Oudh, and C., became more and more independent of the Court at Delhi; but they also became more careless of the details of administration; and, as usual, when bad government is rife, the treasuries became empty; and then the Revenue farmers were the only persons who could be looked to for money. They naturally felt that they were indispensable and enlarged their pretensions accordingly. They were left more and more unchecked, and the sums they had to pay became more and more a matter of bargain. The official organization of Land Revenue control disappeared or was only retained in name and quite under the Zamindar's influence. The Zamindars, in fact, did just as

they pleased, and made the villagers pay whatever they demanded or whatever they could extract from them.

Condition of the Revenue at the commencement of British Rule.

In Bengal [and the same is true of other parts when the districts came under British rule], the land Revenue had for generations past been levied in cash payments; its assessment [often by contract for the year] was determined on no known principle. All traces of a share in the produce, and a valuation of that share in money, had long disappeared. The sum actually paid into the Treasury was just as much of the total collections as the Zamindar could not avoid paying. The sums received through the petty estate-holders or through the village headmen from the cultivators were levied at certain rates spoken of as ‘pargana rates. They were supposed to be rates fixed at the last formal assessment but modified by those subsequent compromises of which I have spoken. But these rates varied from place to place and were levied with various additions and impositions as the Zamindar chose or was able to levy.

This then is a summary of what the Land Revenue was, and what it had come to be, at the end of the last ceinture. The retrospect has been entirely historical; and as our limits will prevent us indulging in much more reference to times long passed away, it will be desirable

here to review each province, briefly, and see in what condition its Land Revenue Administration was found at annexation.

Review of the provinces as to the prevalence of revenue farming. ---

Bengal [where our first attempt at Land Revenue management was made] had been assessed under the Akbarian system, and there had been more than one later formal re-assessment. By 1765-1772 [when British rule began] the greater part of the district's the central and more populous ones in fact were entirely managed [and had been for a century past] by Zamindars. Here and there smaller estates paying lump sums were found independent of the Zamindars. There were also some State grantees of other descriptions.

The North-West Provinces began with the 'Benares Province' districts [1775]. This territory was all under a Raja, who however, did not become the 'Zamindar' of the whole. Consequently, there were no great revenue farmers, but only smaller landlords who were answerable for the revenue.

In 1801, the districts of the Ganges plain were 'ceded' by the Oudh Wazir to pay for the expenses of British protection; and in 1803, others were conquered from the Marathas. A certain territory was acquired in the Himalayan region later [1815], but substantially the districts first named make up the

Province

It may be said generally that the bulk of the districts had been farmed but had not become a regular network of Zamindaris as Bengal was. In some cases, the Revenue management had been left with local territorial Rajas and other notables who farmed large areas; in some cases, the State officers [*amils and others*] had held the district directly for the Government; but in fact, they managed very much on the terms of Revenue farmers. But in many cases, owing to the stronger constitution of the village bodies which we shall afterwards describe, farming, village by village, was resorted to.

OUDH, annexed in 1856m, was in the last stage of Revenue disorganization; its districts were mostly held by Rajas, but in some cases by *Nazims* or State officers, and in others by bankers, Court favorites and other. All these practically farmed the revenues, and virtually acted as landlords.

The Panjab was a country where the villages also had a strong constitution, and no extensive system of 'Zamindars' ever prevailed. Farming was, however, common enough in Sikh days, and revenue collection in kind was still practiced locally.

In the **CENTRAL PROVINCES** the country had been mostly under the Marthas rule. Apart of it was held by local chiefs who

had been left alone on condition of paying a tribute to the ruling State; otherwise, the villages were farmed one by one to the old headman, or to a more efficient revenue agent [afterwards called *malguzar*] who undertook to be responsible for certain sum.

In BOMBAY farming had been very general, but it was by means of local land officers, who of the most part failed in getting a permanent hold territorially. The whole system was worked by the *desai* or *desmukh*] and *despandya* or other officers of districts and *talukas* through the village headmen or *patels*.

In MADRAS, the Northern district had been under Mughal rule, and Zamindars were established; but they were frequently old territorial chiefs, and do not seem to have destroyed rights and reduced the tenantry as other Zamindars did. The Carnatic district, under a Nawab [tributary to the Nizam], had been mercilessly farmed; but with the result, not of creating landed estates, but of destroying all rights in land. In other parts there were local chiefs who also may be called Revenue farmers in a sense, but their influence was not lasting, other districts, held either by Nawabs [or Deputy Governors] tributary to the Hyderabad State, or temporarily by the Mysore Sultans, or by Hindu Princes, or by the Marathas, were all farmed and cruelly mismanaged; but revenue farming produced no lasting effect on the tenures [as a rule]

except in breaking down old privileges and making landholding a burden rather than a valuable right.

Difficulty of devising a principle for fixing the land Revenue.

But we must return to our consideration of what the Land Revenue is at the present day. When, in Bengal, the British Government undertook the direct government of the districts, the first and most formidable task that confronted it was the re-organization of the Land Revenue Administration.

It is hard, at this distance of time, to realize the enormous difficulties of the position. The country had just been decimated by a famine of unprecedented dimensions; there was, as I have said, no principle or rule of assessment; there were only fragmentary, and often unreliable, official lists of estates with their [nominal] assessment, and tolerable accounts of past collection; there was no survey, no staff of experienced native subordinates on the spot, for the old Revenue Agency had fallen into complete decay, and there was only a small and wholly inadequate staff of English district officials, and those at first ignorant of India land-tenures, and skilled only in questions of commercial investment.

Nor did the experience gained in Bengal materially profit when the Settlement of the newer provinces had to be undertaken. For

the conditions of the 'ceded' and 'conquered' district that made up the bulk of North-West Provinces were widely different; and for them, a separate system had to be worked out. The same was the case with Madras, and afterwards with Bombay. Each province had laboriously to work out a Revenue system adapted to its own special requirements, with many failures by the way and many disappointments.

The other provinces, the Punjab, Sindh, Oudha, and the Central Provinces, were not acquired, or at all events were not ready for a formal Settlement, till principles had been fairly well established; but even so, some difficulties had to be encountered, though mostly of our own making --- in the not unnatural desire to apply to them wholesale, systems which were really only suited to the Provinces for which they had originally been devised.

These considerations will explain why it is that Land Revenue Administration in India has been a plant of slow growth, which has only of late years come to maturity. They will also explain why there have been stages of progress and periodical modifications in the methods of work, so that the working of the Land Revenue system in each province got to be looked on as a sort of mysterious craft which no outsider could presume to understand.

Remarks on the Principle of Assessing the Revenue.

As a matter of fact, the Governments, while justly proclaiming that the basis of their Land Revenue is the old grain share, and that a money assessment is only its modern representative, have been driven to devise actual methods of assessing the amount, which have departed more and more from the idea of valuing in money a certain share in the produce. At one time, indeed, they tried to make such a valuation [as we shall see presently], but they had to give it up. And in some provinces, e.g., in Burma and in Madras, there is still a certain reference made, in assessment reports, to the average produce of land, to its value, to the costs of production and profits of stock which must be deducted, and to a fraction of the balance, as representing the Land Revenue.

Emergence of two principles

Assessment methods have of course to vary according to the kind of estate and its mode of working. But practically underlying all methods, there are only two principles which emerge as ultimately distinct. One is to fix empirical rates, which are first ascertained only as maximum rates, on the basis of those actually paid in the past, but with such increase as can now be taken with reference to the rise in prices and progress in prosperity indicated by statistics, and then to apply those

rates, in full or in part, according to a sliding scale, the land being accurately valued according to the relative excellence of one kind of soil as compared with another. The other principle is applied to all varieties of landlord estate [including village estates] where there are tenants; and it consists in finding out the rents which the tenants pay, and thence devising average rent-rates at which each acre of the different classes of soil in the estate may be valued. The Land Revenue is then a fixed fraction of the total rental 'assets. To put it more shortly, modern Land Revenue is either an empirical but nicely graduated rate per acre of each kind of soil, or it a fraction of the actual rental assets of an estate treated as a whole.

The merits of the Land Revenue as a Source of State Income

It is impossible to enter on any discussion as to the merits of the Land Revenue as a source of State income; it must suffice to say briefly, that no Government could, in the past, have for a moment contemplated giving it up; and it is in the last degree improbable that any future Government will be able to find a substitute. It is acquiesced in throughout the country, as part of the natural order of society: and that, in India, is a consideration of first-rate importance. The first requirement of a good taxation is that the people should be accustomed to it, and that it should be collected with the minimum chance for

oppression on the one hand and for evasion on the other. These considerations far outweigh any theoretical arguments of political economy.

Nature of the Land Revenue, whether a 'tax' or what

It is also fruitless to discuss exactly what the oriental institution of a Land Revenue is, whether a 'land tax' a 'rent' or what. Certainly, it bears very little resemblance to the land tax in England. At one time the tendency was to regard the ruler as the ultimate landlord or owner of the soil; the revenue was then called a 'rent'. We shall have something to say about this here-after; at present it will only be necessary to note that the British Government has everywhere conferred or recognized a private right in land, and in large areas of country [Bengal, Oudh and the whole of Northern India for example] it has expressly declared the proprietary right of the landlords and the village owners; it is then impossible any longer to say broadly that the State takes a rent from the landholders regarded as its tenants. There are no doubt cases where Government is the immediate owner of lands, as it is of all waste and unoccupied land in general; but we are speaking of cultivated land in villages and estates. The Government is certainly not owner of this: the utmost it does is to regard the land as hypothecated to itself as security [in the last resort] for the Land Revenue assessed on it.

The Government also fulfils some of the functions of a landlord, since it watches over the welfare of the agricultural population, it advances funds to landholders to help them in making improvements well-sinking, embanking, draining and the like. It is these vestiges of the landlord character claimed by the former rulers, and perhaps the sort of residuary right which the Government still has in provinces where the landholders are called 'occupants' and not 'owners', that keep alive.

The question whether the Land Revenue is in any sense a 'rent'. Practically, the discussion is a profitless war of words, and we may be content to speak of the 'Land Revenue' as a thing *per se*. It operates as a tax on agricultural incomes a contribution to the State out of the profits of land-cultivation, just as the 'income tax' is a contribution out of the proceeds of other industries and occupations.

Question of a permanent Settlement for all Provinces.

A few words may be added, about the question which, up till 1882 was more or less under discussion; namely whether, when a suitable assessment had been once arrived at, for estates that had received a fairly full development, it would not be better to declare that assessment permanent, i.e. not liable to any further revision. This proposal derived such strength as it had, from the fact that, owing to the difficulties of the case, the task of making a Settlement had hitherto

been both serious and costly. The works lasted for several [sometimes five to ten] years; it subjected the districts to a prolonged period of agricultural disorganization; and it was anticipated that the whole process would have to be gone over again every thirty years --- or whatever the period of Settlement was. Such a prospect was alarming both for the State and the landholders. But the first check which the proposal received was the consideration that it proved next to impossible to determine the essential preliminary question, what is the criterion by which to judge whether an estate is sufficiently developed to be fit for a permanent Settlement? No sooner is one test proposed than another appears; and the practical result of all inquiries has been that a permanent Settlement must be deferred, so long as the land continues to improve in value by any causes which are not the direct result of the holder's own efforts and expenditure.

And two other objections are also obvious; one is the fact that a century's experience has failed to show that permanently settled districts are in any way more prosperous or better to do than those in which a fairly long term of Settlement is allowed: the other is impolicy of an existing Government assuming to bind its successors to all time, regardless of what the future may bring forth and of changes in value of money or of land and its produce.

It may seem strange that in face of these grave objections, it was not earlier seen that the better way to attack the problem was to inquire whether the only real advantage of Permanent Settlement namely that it would avoid all the cost and prolonged trouble of future Settlement operation could not be attained in another way? At last, it became recognized that it was quite possible to obviate almost wholly any necessity for lengthened re-settlement operations.

The establishment of the 'Land Record Department' and their new duty was the first practical step. We are now, it may be fairly said, well on the way to the conclusion that in future re-settlement, a simple revision of rates on certain general and intelligible principles whether on the ground of rise in prices or any other grounds that may be most satisfactory will become practicable; and then the work of revision will be carried out without any perceptible ruffle in the smooth course of agricultural work. The Secretary of State was then amply justified, in 1882, in declaring the policy of a permanent Settlement finally discarded.

CHAPTER # 9

POLICE

The first Superintendent of Police, Mr W. Gavenry, was posted in Sialkot in 1911. The Police was assisted in its functions of preventing and detecting crimes by *lambardars*, *tappedars* and *chowkidars*. The local system of watch and ward, *Thikri Pehra*, was also in vogue. In those days, horses were mostly used for the purposes of patrolling (*gasht*) and transportation. Owing to riverain area, murder, kidnapping, and cattle theft were the major crimes in the district. Head Constables and Assistant Sub- Inspectors were generally appointed as in charge of police stations.

LIST OF SUPERINTENDENTS OF POLICE

Sr.	Name & Rank of the Officer	From
1	Captain Alaister Conail	18-01-1851
2	Captain Jaun Mason	03-02-1856
3	Captain William Lec	26-04-1858

4	Captain Justin Ethan	18-06-1861
5	Ryder James	25-08-1864
6	Benjamin Carson	02-06-1867
7	Michael Xavier	14-08-1869
8	James Bentley	16-03-1873
9	Elliah Asher	12-04-1878
10	Joseph Smith	20-02-1879
11	Andrew Blaks	11-05-1881
12	Caiter Eli	27-12-1883
13	Christopher Levi	15-01-1886
14	Oliver Henry	01-09-1889
15	jack angei	02-06-1892
16	Jace Hunter	28-07-1894
17	Charles Austin	07-10-1897
18	Jeremiah Easton	01-01-1899

19	Dominic Ian	02-12-1900
20	Hudson Jave	30-09-1902
21	CarsumRobbert	07-04-1904
22	Lincoln Leo	19-03-1908
23	Nathanial Issal	29-06-1911
24	Issiah Evan	18-07-1913
25	John Wyatt	15-08-1917
26	Jack Adrian	30-05-1918
27	Carleb Jordan	06-01-1920
28	Conor Britch	14-06-1923
29	Hs Ejertan	17-08-1925
30	Graysan Jack	12-05-1927
31	Johan Murser	07-12-1929
32	Jose Philip	19-11-1932
33	Jacob Gree	10-09-1936

34	Thomsan Tolton	13-01-1939
35	HerisanBacklay	22-06-1942
36	Parker Adam	16-09-1943
37	Zachray Chase	19-07-1944
38	Malik Haq Nawaz Tiwana PSP	21.09.47
39	Mirza Naim-UD-Din PSP	16.06.48
40	Mirza Abu Saeed PSP	05.11.50
41	Mirza Naim-UD-Din PSP	18.01.51
42	Rana Jahandad Khan PSP	31.05.51
43	Mir Qaim Hussain PSP	07.10.52
44	Khalil –UR-Rehman PSP	10.04.53
45	Mian Abdul Qadir PSP	16.12.54
46	Raja Muhammad Arshad PSP	08.08.55
47	Hamid Khalil PSP	17.06.56
48	A.N.K. Tareen PSP	08.09.57

49	Bashir Ahmad Malik PSP	20.11.58
50	S. Qamar Raza PSP	15.10.62
51	Khan Abdullah Khan PSP	02.10.63
52	Dil Jan Khan PSP	27.06.67
53	Raza Hussain PSP	02.01.70
54	Hamid Ullah Khan Durrani	12.03.71
55	Awais Mazhar Hussain PSP	05.10.71
56	Mian Rafi-UD-Din PSP	19.04.72
57	Asad Mahmood Alvi PSP	30.07.73
58	M. R. Zia PSP	24.07.74
59	Ch. Abdul Khaliq PSP	02.08.75
60	Manzoo Ahmad Khan PSP	21.05.76
61	Mahmud Ali Shah PSP	20.08.77
62	Sheikh Khalil Hasan PSP	11.04.78
63	Khalid Laif PSP	05.09.79

64	Tahir Anwar Pasha PSP	01.10.80
65	Tllat Mahmood PSP	26.06.82
66	Sallahuddin Ahmad Khan Niazi PSP	16.08.84
67	Muhammad Iqbal Khan PSP	04.06.86
68	Sarfraz Hussain PSP	27.09.89
69	Muhammad Ashraf Marath PSP / QPM	28.03.91
70	Zafar Ahmad Qureshi PSP	01.08.92
71	Raza Rizvi Syed PSP	13.09.93
72	Nasir Khan Durrani PSP	01.08.93
73	Shaukat Hussain Khan PSP	12.04.94
74	Asif Nawaz PSP	29.12.94
75	Abdul Majeed PSP	20.10.96
76	Sohail Khan PSP	25.11.96
77	Muhammad Akhtar Buttar PSP	04.12.96

78	Khan Baig Malik PSP	05.03.97
79	Mr. Ghalib A. Bandesha PSP	01.01.2K
80	Mr. Aftab Ahmed Cheema PSP	25.04.01
81	Mr. Muhammad Tahir PSP	05.06.01
82	Mr. Muhammad Shahid Iqbal PSP	25.07.02
83	Mr. Amjad JavedSaleemi PSP	26.03.03
84	Mr. Nisar Ahmed Saroya PSP	01.08.03
85	Mr. Usama Mumtaz Raja PSP	20.10.04
86	Dr. Tarik Khokhar PSP	11.10.05
87	Mr. Zubair Nawaz Chatha PSP	25.07.06
88	Capt(R) Muhammad Ameen PSP	31.08.07
89	Mr. Waqar Ahmed Chohan PSP	12.05.09
90	Mr. Bilal Siddique Kamayana PSP	22.08.10
91	Mr. Syed Ali Mohsan PSP	25.11.11
92	Mr. Afzaal Ahmed Kausar PSP	31.03.12

93	Mr. Athar Ismail , PSP	20.02.13
94	Mr. Hamayun Bashir Tarrer PSP	09.04.13
95	Mr.MuhammadGoher Nafees PSP	26.06.13
96	Mr. Irfan Tariq PSP Adll:SP	19.11.14
97	Mr. Muhammad Shahzad Asif Khan PSP	05.01.15
98	RAI IJAZ AHMAD (PSP)	28.05.15
99	Dr. Muhammad Abid Khan PSP	17.03.16
100	Mr. Asad Sarfraz Khan, PSP	24.09.17
101	Mr. Abdul Ghaffar Qaisrani, PSP	22.06.18
102	Amir Abdullah Khan Niazi, PSP	29.11.18
103	Capt ® MustansarFeroze, PSP	01.05.19
104	Mr. Hasan AsadAlvi, PSP	09.10.20
105	Mr. Muhammad Imran, PSP	09.03.21
106	Mr. Abdul Ghaffar Qaisrani, PSP	22.03.21
107	Mr. Atif Nazir, PSP	13.10.21

108	Mr. Omar Saeed Malik, PSP,QPM	08.11.21
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SUB-DIVISIONAL OFFICES

The district today has been divided into 5 sub-divisional offices/police circles, which are listed as follows:

1. DSP/SDPO City
2. DSP/SDPO Saddar
3. DSP/SDPO Sambrial
4. DSP/SDPO Daska
5. DSP/SDPO Pasrur

POLICE STATIONS

The number of police stations in the district is 27 as listed below:

1. PS Kotwali
2. PS Civil Lines
3. PS Cantt
4. PS Rang Pura
5. PS Neka Pura
6. PS Haji Pura

7. PS Saddar Sialkot
8. PS Ugoki
9. PS Murad Pur
10. PS KotliLoharan
11. PS Kotli Said Amir
12. PS Head Marala
13. PS Phuklian
14. PSSambrial
15. PSBegowala
16. PS AirPort
17. PS City Daska
18. PS Saddar Daska
19. PSBambanwala
20. PS Satrah
21. PSMoutra
22. PS City Pasrur
23. PS Saddar Pasrur
24. PS QillaKalar Wala
25. PS Badiana
26. PS Philloura

Sanctioned	3	37	80	170	100	400	120	910
Present	2	11	76	29	23	330	-	471
Vacant	1	26	4	141	77	70	120	439

TREND OF CRIMES

Most of the area of Sialkot is rural in nature. In early days, cattle theft was common as the cattle heads could be easily shifted across the two rivers on both sides of the district. The trend and nature of crimes has changed over the time. Murder, dacoity/robbery, burglary, ordinary theft, narcotics trade, illicit arms etc. constitute bulk of crimes today. Street crime as well as vehicle snatching is on the rise too. It may also be noted that the brutal and merciless killing of Priantha Kumara, a Sri Lankan national, has recently taken place in Sialkot District, i.e., in Tehsil Sialkot on the road leading from Sialkot to Wazirabad in December 2021.

CRIME OVERVIEW OF DISTRICT SIALKOT

Sr.	OFFENCES	TOTAL CRIME REPORTED		
		2020	2021	2022 (upto 14.01.22)
1.	Murder	167	153	5

2.	Rape	82	98	3
3.	Dacoity/Robbery	958	2782	124
4.	Burglary	401	753	44
5.	Ordinary Theft	605	2827	128
6.	Vehicles theft	1027	3271	155
7.	Recovery of illicit Arms	1445	1622	50
8.	Narcotics	1258	1633	65

CRIME OVERVIEW OF TEHSIL SIALKOT

Sr.	OFFENCES	TOTAL CRIME REPORTED		
		2020	2021	2022 (upto 14.01.22)
1.	Murder	61	63	4
2.	Rape	43	42	2
3.	Dacoity/Robbery	455	1463	67
4.	Burglary	215	338	30
5.	Ordinary Theft	285	1455	53

6.	Vehicles theft	665	2093	101
7.	Recovery of illicit Arms	602	647	20
8.	Narcotics	683	896	38

CRIME OVERVIEW OF TEHSIL DASKA

Sr.	OFFENCES	TOTAL CRIME REPORTED		
		2020	2021	2022 (upto 14.01.22)
1.	Murder	46	48	1
2.	Rape	16	24	1
3.	Dacoity/Robbery	311	760	21
4.	Burglary	89	274	4
5.	Ordinary Theft	102	733	31
6.	Vehicles theft	187	665	21
7.	Recovery of illicit Arms	399	441	12
8.	Narcotics	289	322	14

CRIME OVERVIEW OF TEHSIL PASRUR

Sr.	OFFENCES	TOTAL CRIME REPORTED		
		2020	2021	2022 (upto 14.01.22)
1.	Murder	34	27	0
2.	Rape	17	21	0
3.	Dacoity/Robbery	155	405	29
4.	Burglary	60	80	9
5.	Ordinary Theft	173	487	32
6.	Vehicle's theft	121	329	18
7.	Recovery of illicit Arms	303	341	10
8.	Narcotics	194	295	10

CRIME OVERVIEW OF TEHSIL

SAMBRIAL

Sr.	OFFENCES	TOTAL CRIME REPORTED		
		2020	2021	2022 (upto 14.01.22)
1.	Murder	26	15	0

2.	Rape	6	11	0
3.	Dacoity/Robbery	37	154	7
4.	Burglary	37	61	1
5.	Ordinary Theft	45	152	12
6.	Vehicle's theft	54	184	15
7.	Recovery of illicit Arms	141	193	8
8.	Narcotics	92	120	3

INTRODUCTION/ SECTARIAN VIOLENCE

IN DISTRICT SIALKOT

Sialkot is a city in Punjab which is located in north-east Punjab and one of Pakistan's most industrialized areas. The population of this district is 41 Lacs in which Ahl-e-Sunnat 70%, Deoband 10%, Ahl-e-Tashi 08 %, Ahl-e-Haidth 07 % and others 05 %. On 01.10.2001 at about 1.25 PM after performing Jumma Prayer some participants started going outside the mosque Zanibia Sialkot. At the same time an unknown person aged about 23/24 years wearing pant shirt with a briefcase in his hand entered the Mosque. He sat in the fourth row of participants and opened the briefcase with his right hand. This resulted

in a powerful bomb explosion because of which 20/25 persons died at the spot whereas 40/42 persons got injured. The suicide attacker was also killed at the spot. Consequently, case FIR No.287/04 dated 01.10.2001 u/s 302/324 PPC, 5/6 Explosive Act and 7 ATA Police Station Rang Pura was registered on the complaint of Faiz Ali Karpalvi Khateeb Jamia Mosque Zanibia Sialkot. After that law & order Situation in this district is calm, quiet and under control.

CHAPTER # 10

DISTRICT JAIL SIALKOT

District Jail, Sialkot was established in 1863 by the then British Regime. The authorized accommodation of the jail is 722 whereas presently about 2000 prisoners are confined. The jail buildings are constructed on a land of 10 acres and 03 acres land is for cultivation of seasonal vegetables for cooking provided to the prisoners. This jail is headed by Superintendent Jail, an officer of BPS-18 along with 03 Deputy Superintendents (BPS-17) and 10 Assistant Superintendent (BPS-16). The sanctioned strength of warder guard is 321.

The administration of this jail is tirelessly working for reformation and rehabilitation of prisoners. A technical training Center is established by TEVTA imparting technical training to the prisoners in trades of Plumbing, Electrician, and Home Appliances. Moreover, a Football stitching unit and a Unit of stitching of trousers and shirts are established in jail Factory. For stitching of football and stitching of trousers, salaries are given to the prisoners as financial sport. A school for imparting education, formal and non-formal is established for juveniles.

There is a hospital in jail under the supervision of 02 medical officers for providing health facilities to the prisoners. PCO facility is also provided to the prisoners to contact with their lawyers and relatives.



CHAPTER # 11

EDUCATION

Before the Sports & Surgical Equipment the District Sialkot is land of Schools and Colleges. Schools and Colleges are very ancient. The convent of Jesus and Mary was the first catholic school in the Punjab and second in British India after Agra. It was established in 1856 opened at the request of Archbishop of Agra. Its motto was “Education is not Information but Formation”.

The Scotch Mission School & College Sialkot was established in 1857 currently named as Government Christian High School Sialkot City where Dr. Allama Muhammad Iqbal the greatest writer and philosopher of twentieth century attain the degree of matriculation in 1893. Faiz Ahmed Faiz also got the basic education from this school.

Government Islamia High School Sialkot was established in 1908. Professor Asghar Sodai was a famous educationist and Urdu poet born at Sialkot. **Pakistan Ka Matlab Kiya? La ilaha ilallah** was coined by him in 1944. He did matriculation from this school. Sialkot is one of the important

Industrial Cities of Pakistan. It is in Punjab near Chenab River. The main crops of Sialkot are wheat, barley, rice corn, millet, and sugarcane. Its main export items are sports good, leather good, surgical instruments and musical instruments.

Sialkot has a very good educational system and provides many facilities to students and has a very good educational infrastructure. Many different educational institutions are operating in the city, and they provide excellent educational facilities to the students. There are universities for students of Medical, Engineering, law and a Virtual University. In Sialkot, there is also a separate university for women.

Total No. of Public School=	1787
Total No. of Private School=	2173
Total No. of Public-School Teacher=	13577
Total No. of Private School Teacher=	15237
Total Enrollment of Public Schools =	434670
Total Enrollment of Private School=	451889
STR of Public School=	32
STR of Private School=	29

SPECIAL EDUCATION: -

Special education department Punjab established the

1st ever special education institute in District Sialkot in 1975 for the children Hearing Impairment, 2nd institute was established for the visually impairment in 1987. Now there are eight (08) Special Education Institution are functioning in District Sialkot, these are providing Education to Special Students of five categories i.e., Hearing Impaired, Visually Impaired, Physically Handicapped, Mentally Challenged & Slow Learners.

Three (03) institutions are functioning at Tehsil level which are providing up to middle level education, which five (05) in city Sialkot. In city Sialkot (01) institution of hearing-impaired students is providing secondary level education, while one visually impaired at middle level & remaining three institutions were providing education facilities at primary level.

Responsibilities: -

1. To ensure quality education/ rehabilitation to special students by keeping in view their special needs.
2. To provide awareness, guidance, and counseling to parents of special children and public.
3. To provide all the recommended facilities provided by Govt. of the Punjab Special
4. Education Department.

Services: -

- Free Education.
- Free Pick & Drop.
- Monthly stipend, 800/- P.M.
- Free Textbooks.
- Free Uniform 3 Uniform per year.
- Teaching Aids.
- Free Assessment (Hearing, Visual, Psychological).
- Vocational Training.
- Recreational/ Study Tours.

No. of Institutions	Sanction posts	Filled	Vacant	Students Enrollment
08	201	146	55	806

HIC	VIC	PDC	MCC	Slow learners	Total Enrollment
463	94	41	139	69	806

LITERACY DEPARTMENT: -

Literacy Department establish in 2002 with the

mandate to eradicate illiteracy form Punjab.

MISSION: -

Develop literate, learned and prosperous Punjab through elimination of illiteracy and provision of learning opportunities.

ON GOING PROJECTS: -

1. Punjab Non-Formal Education Project.
2. Taleem Sub K Liay.

NO. OF SCHOOLS.

Non formal Basic Education Schools = **345**

Adult literacy center= **23**

The Literacy rate of District Sialkot is **77%**

DISTINCTION.

History reflects that the land of Sialkot is of Intellectual Peoples.

- District Sialkot got overall first position in Punjab of **STEM** competition in 2021.
- District Sialkot got overall first position in Punjab of **NAAT** competition in 2021.
- Three students of District Sialkot got 3rd Position in Gujranwala Board in both categories Science & Arts and overall 2nd position in

Gujranwala Board in Arts category in 2019.



CHAPTER # 12

DISTRICT ACCOUNTS OFFICE SIALKOT

District accounts was established since June-1973 and the

Following services are delivered for the best public interest: -

1. Distribution of Pay and allowances (Federal & Provincial) Govts.
2. Distribution of Pension and Gratuity.
3. Distribution of GP fund claims (Advance & Final Payments)
4. Maintaining f Monthly Civil Accounts (I, V, VI & Federal).
5. Distribution of payment to Assan Assignment Accounts, PLA
6. Maintaining of Federal Government Accounts.
7. Pre-audit of Contingent claims to the different departments.
8. Treasuries services.



CHAPTER # 13

HEALTH

The District Health Office Sialkot, under the charge of District Health Officer, was established for the first time in the district in 1969. In 2001, it was replaced by the Executive District Officer (EDO), Health and as well as in Chief Executive Officer District Health Authority. The Authority ensures the provision and supervision of health facilities in the district. There are currently 4885 sanctioned posts of all cadres in the Authority.

As far as health facilities are concerned, there is 02 Teaching Hospitals in District Sialkot, and 04 Tehsil Headquarters (THQ) Hospitals (THQ Daska, THQ Pasrur, THQ Kotli Loharan & THQ Sambrial, having a strength of 40-120 beds. In addition, there are 06 Rural Health Centers (RHCs), 88 Basic Health Units (BHUs), 19 dispensaries and 15 MCH spread across the district.

Public Health Facility	Numbers
Teaching Hospitals	2
THQs	4
RHCs	6
BHUs	88
Dispensaries	19
MCH	15

	Year of Establishment	Beds Strength
THQ Daska	1974	120
THQ Pasrur	1986	40
THQ KotliLoharan	2009	40
THQ Sambrial	1993	40

TEACHING HOSPITAL

Teaching Hospitals well-equipped operations theatres for the purposes of General Surgery & Allied, Ortho, Eye, ENT and gynecology. On an average, 150 operations are carried out in its operation theatres daily. Similarly, an average of 2000-2500 patients visits its OPD, whereas 1000- 1500 patients are received in its emergency on daily basis.



TEHSIL HEADQUARTERS HOSPITAL

THQs have modern and well-equipped operations theatres for the purposes of General Surgery & Allied, Ortho, Eye, ENT, and gynecology. On an average, 50 operations are carried out in its operation theatres daily. Similarly, an average of 1500-1800 patients visits its OPD, whereas 500- 1000 patients

are received in its emergency on daily basis.

PREVALENCE OF DISEASES

Among the yearly diseases prevalent in the district, acute respiratory tract infections took the largest share last year with more than 100,000 patients. Hypertension, diarrhea/dysentery, skin diseases (scabies, dermatitis), and diabetes are amongst the other common diseases.

Section XI: Diagnostic Services (From Laboratory Register /TB Lab Register /Radiology Register)			
		OPD	Indoor
Service Provided			
1	Total Lab Investigations	198,958	103,090
2	Total X-Rays	60,928	11,756
3	Total Ultra Sonographies	59,651	6,397
4	Total CT Scans	0	0
5	Total ECGs	22,643	16,943
2	Diagnosis slides with AFB +ve	682	
3	Follow-up slides for AFB	669	
4	Follow-up slides with AFB +ve	31	

Even though the Hospital provides services in around 20 specialties, yet it is particularly known for Advanced Laparoscopic surgeries, Orthopedics' Re-constructive surgeries,

and Oral & Maxillofacial surgeries as well as for its Rehabilitation Department.

SOCIAL SECURITY HOSPITAL

The 147 bedded Social Security Hospital in Sialkot city started its functioning in 2007. The Hospital has staff strength of 231 against 242 sanctioned posts and is spread over an area of 7 *kanals*. Besides running a 24/7 Emergency, it provides primary and secondary healthcare as well as selected tertiary care services to the registered workers of different industrial units as well as the public.



CHAPTER # 14

ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY (EPA) –

SIALKOT

Introduction

EPA- Sialkot is functional with exclusive mandate to prevent & control pollution. We have been taking strict & concrete steps to administer pollution under relevant provisions of Punjab Environmental Protection (PEP) Act 1997 (Amended 2012) and rules made there-under. As, Punjab Environmental Protection Act is meant to provide protection, conservation, rehabilitation and improvement of sustainable development and pollution control, our sphere of work is much diversified.

DOMAIN OF WORK & FUNCTIONS OF ENVIRONMENT

OFFICE SIALKOT

The District Office Environment is the Reporting and Enforcement Authority under the following legislation/ Laws.

- **Punjab Environmental Protection Act 1997 (Amended in 2017).**

- A. Inspection Reports to EPA Head Quarter for legal action against Polluters under Sections 11, 12 & 16 and for penalties / fines through Punjab Environmental Tribunal.
 - B. Implementation / enforcement of provisions of Sections 11, 12, 16 under delegation of powers u/s 5(5) at local level for specific types of industrial entities and fine through Punjab Environmental Tribunal.
- **Issuance of Environmental Approvals under Section 12 of the Act read ibid with IEE/EIA Regulations 2000**
- a) Reporting to EPA for Environmental Approvals of Projects (Medium & Large).
 - b) Reporting to Commissioners for Environmental Approvals of Projects (Small) of 18 categories under delegation of powers u/s 26 of the Act ibid.
 - c) Reporting to Deputy Commissioners for Environmental Approvals of Projects (Small) of 09 categories under delegation of powers u/s 26 of the Act ibid.

▪ **Enforcement of Section 11 of the Act ibid read with Hospital Waste Management Rules 2014**

- a) Inspection Reports to EPA Head Quarter for legal action against Hospitals having more than 20 beds under Sections 11, 16 & 17 Act ibid through Punjab Environmental Tribunal.
- b) Implementation / enforcement of provisions of Sections 11& 16 under delegation of powers u/s 5(5) Act ibid against Hospitals with capacity up to 20 beds, through Punjab Environmental Tribunal.

▪ **Polythene bags Ordinance 2002 & Rules 2004**

Implementation / enforcement of provisions of the Ordinance & Rules and prosecution before Environmental Magistrate (Senior Civil Judge).

▪ **Traffic Challans (In collaboration with Traffic Police)**

Traffic Challans in collaboration with Traffic Police under Motor Vehicle Regulations. The Punjab Environmental Protection (Motor Vehicle) Rules 2013 made under Section 15 of the Punjab Environmental Protection Act 1997 (Amended

in 2017) are not being implemented yet due to some legal requirements.

- **Enforcement of Smog Policy 2017**

Smog Control Activities & Enforcement under Punjab Calamities Act 1958 & Punjab Environmental Protection Act and implementation of recommendations of Environmental Commission constituted by Lahore High Court.

- **Enforcement of SOPs for Prevention and Control of Dengue 2020**

Dengue Surveillance & Eradication is done in assigned sectors i.e., CNG, Petrol Pump, Under Construction Sites, Go downs, Service Stations & Industrial Units

- **Public awareness:**

To make people and students acquainted with environmental topics / environmental impacts, this office delivers lectures & Literature in educational institutions and in gatherings of the industrialists, lawyers, NGO's representatives etc.

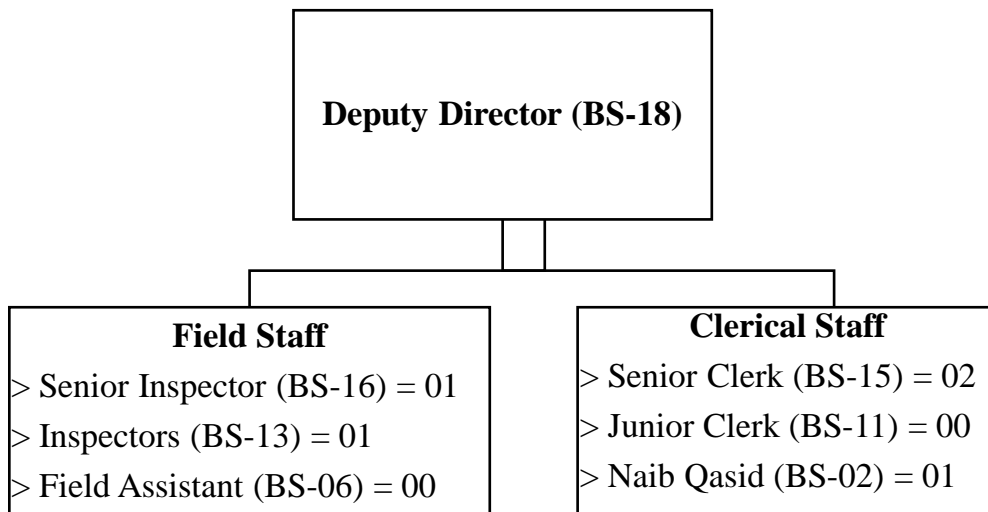
- **Sampling of Effluent / Wastewater:**

To check the status / quality of drinking water and pollution / underground water contamination status of effluent / wastewater of drainage system and industrial units of District Sialkot, this office collects the samples and convey it to the EPA laboratories. On receipt of results, advisory letters are issued to the stalk holders whose water samples violate the provisions of WHO guidelines / Punjab Environmental Quality Standards (PEQS).

- **Other Assignments:**

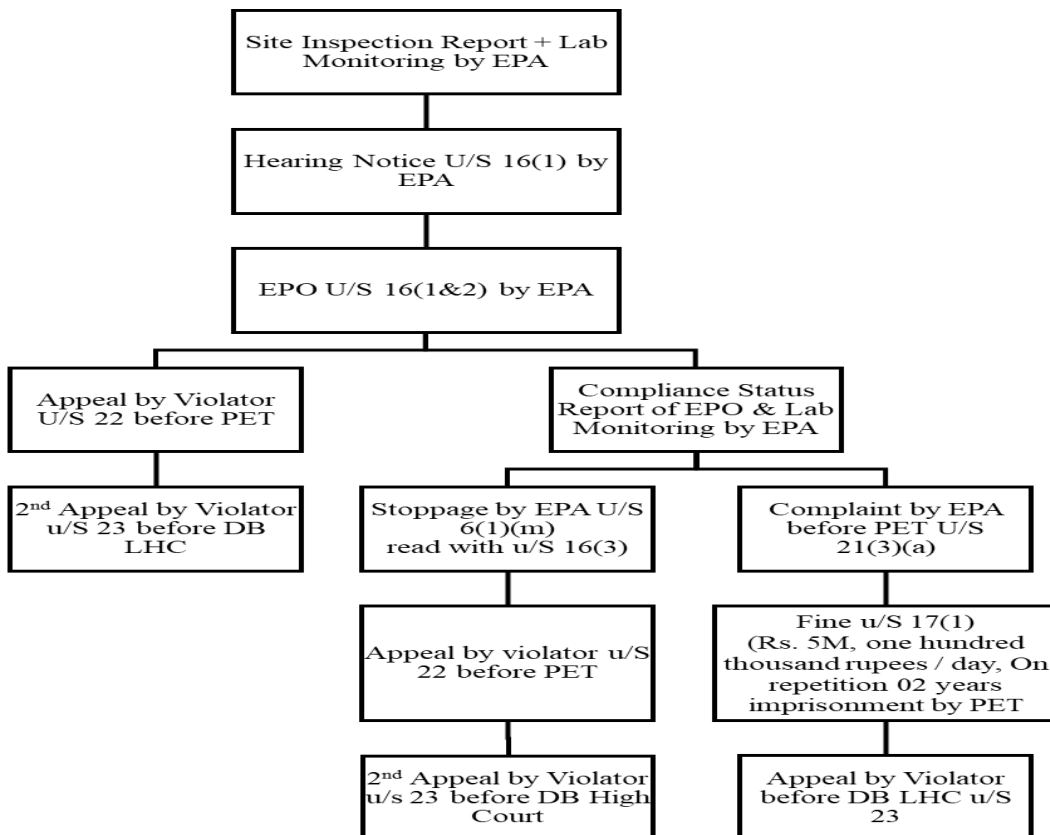
This office also deals the other assignments, as assigned by the EPA Head Quarter, Lahore / Provincial or the District Government, Sialkot etc.

DISTRICT SETUP OF ENVIRONMENT OFFICE SIALKOT



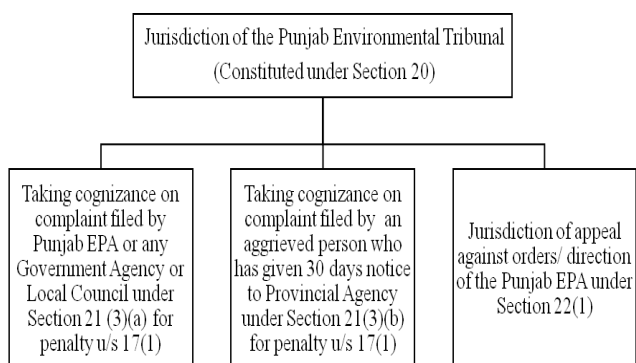
ENFORCEMENT MECHANISM AND APPELLANT

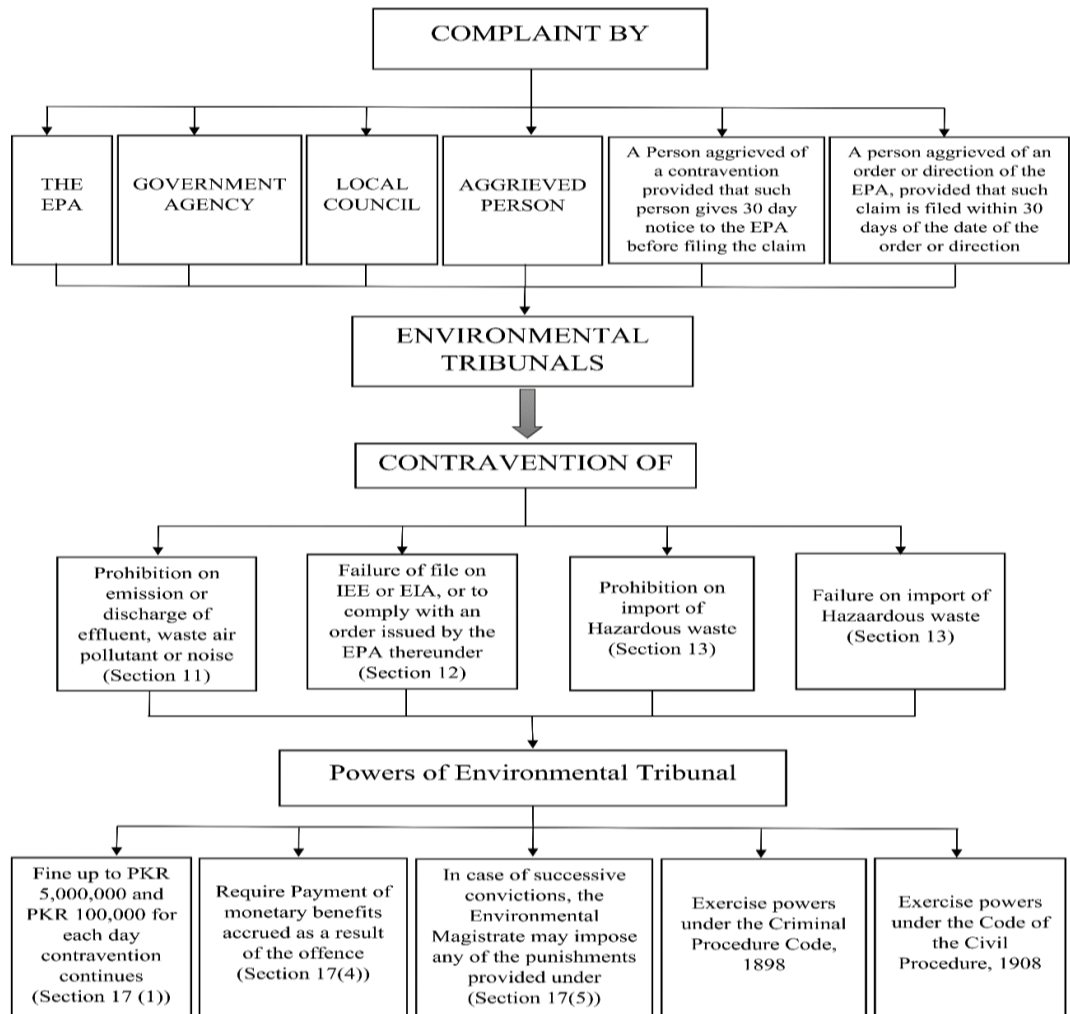
AUTHORITIES



(**DB:** Divisional Bench of High Court, **PET:** Punjab Environmental Tribunal, **PEPA 2012:** Punjab Environmental Protection Act 2012)

PUNJAB ENVIRONMENTAL TRIBUNAL (PET):





Significant Environmental problems of District Sialkot

- a. Improper dumping of municipal solid waste along the roads due to non-availability of Municipal Waste Dumping Sites/ Sanitary landfill Sites in all cities & Towns.
- b. Discharge of Municipal effluents into canals as well as river.
- c. Smoke & Noise Pollution by vehicles in cities.

- d. Dust pollution by Rice Mills especially located along the Roads.
- e. Improper Disposal of Hospital / Infectious Waste.
- f. Herding of livestock within the city and urban areas.
- g. Discharge of untreated industrial wastewater as well as municipal effluents into water bodies.
- h. Use of Municipal sewage water for irrigation of vegetables.

Establishment of Sialkot Tannery Zone

In Sialkot there are around 250 tanneries existing in 10 clusters in and around Sialkot. In the absence of a proper effluent collection system and no treatment facilities, the effluents of these tanneries are being discharged to seasonal Nullahs like Aik, Bhed, and Pulkhu. As there is no scientific land fill available for tannery waste, heaps of garbage could be seen everywhere.

Realizing the environmental degradation of Sialkot, EPA took the initiative and agreed that the best solution of environmental degradation problem is to shift the tanneries out of the city and establish tannery zone for proper management of solid waste and wastewater treatment.

Work on establishment of Combined Effluent Treatment Plant is 70% completed and the process of full operation and shifting of tanneries is expected to be completed in near future, to curb the problem of underground water contamination for good.

CHAPTER # 15

SIALKOT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

THE GUARDIAN OF EXPORTS

Few cities in Pakistan can claim to contribute as extensively to a country's export revenues, industrial growth and global reputation as the city which is now popularly known as "The City of Opportunities". Sialkot is an important economic center and the only totally export oriented city in Pakistan. Development of local cottage industries in Sialkot has assumed the model status for the developing world. Thousands of small and medium enterprises, situated in and around the city, are engaged in honoring their global commitments for export of value-added goods. The city is earning over 2.2 billion US Dollars annually through its exports in various sectors ranging from Sports Goods, Surgical Instruments, Leather Products, Gloves of all sorts, Textile items, Sports Wear, Martial Art Uniforms & Accessories, Musical instruments, Military & Police Uniforms Accessories, Highland Outfitters, Badges, Kitchen Ware, Hollow Ware to Knives and Cutlery items.

Besides exceptional achievements in business, the corporate sector of the city has exclusively emerged beyond Corporate Social

Responsibility and made historic contribution in social sector development and human welfare by initiating projects which has given the city a unique status among the industrial hubs in the world. And all of what has been achieved so far, and what the people of bustling city of Sialkot aspire to achieve, is due to the presence of Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry, a trade body which has gone beyond the notion of export promotion and has set an example for the other trade associations to follow. SCCI is, without a doubt, Pakistan's most effective Chamber. In fact, it would be hard to find a chamber anywhere in the world that has so significantly transformed its area of jurisdiction in terms of infrastructure and scope of social welfare.

Since its inception in 1982, the SCCI has consistently and successfully advocated the interest of its members and worked for the solution of problems faced by them in running and expanding their businesses. On top of that, it has also proven to be a fertile nursery for numerous important initiatives undertaken collectively by the city's business community as well as a useful forum for their execution. Before SCCI, the local business community faced many constraints and found it difficult to ensure fast paced industrial growth. The reason of this very slow progress was that the fact no trade body was there to give protection to the interest of the local industrialists. The Sialkot

Association of Trade and Industry was formed in 1976 and it was affiliated with Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry.

The said Association provided progressive and appreciative services to the business community. There were 1000 firms registered with the association within a span of seven years up to 1982. Owing to the efforts of the said Association, most of the Government regulatory offices were shifted to Sialkot, but because of the bureaucratic attitude of the Government functionaries, decision on most of the cases faced pendency.

In view of the problem and difficulties of the business community of Sialkot, the urgency of constituting a Chamber was widely felt, which could provide a more prestigious and dignified forum to the local business community and effectively take up the issues with Government for redressal. It was decided by the pioneers of the local community to get the existing Association to the level of Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The Association adopted the necessary resolution in the meeting held on 12-12-1979 for taking up the matter with Ministry of Commerce. Lahore Chamber of Commerce & Industry passed similar resolution on 28-07-1981. The Sialkot Chamber was incorporated under company Act 1913 vide License No. 24 dated 15-07-1982 issued by the Ministry of Commerce, Government of Pakistan

under section 3 of Trade Organization Ordinance 1961 and was formally affiliated with FPCCI on 17-08-1982.

Today, The Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SCCI), comprises of 15,000 plus active members including proprietorships, Associations of Persons (AOPs), Partnerships, Corporations mostly involved in exporting high quality products around the globe to over 100 International Brands. Being the apex trade body of Sialkot, the activities of Sialkot Chamber of Commerce and Industry are manifold and multidimensional in nature. It is watching and safeguarding the interests of the business community on one hand and helping the Government in the formulation of various trade policies through workable proposals, suggestions, and recommendations on the other. The global activities of the Sialkot Chamber have extended beyond all frontiers in terms of establishing business links among the locals and those at far ends of the world. It keeps a close eye on the global business trends and provides information to the members accordingly. Through its proactive approach, the Sialkot Chamber has greatly contributed to expansion of industries, promotion of exports and generating economic activity.

KEY FUNCTIONS OF SIALKOT CHAMBER

- Provision of latest information on business and economy to its members for facilitation in business.
- Performing Advocacy & Lobbying role in the best interest of the Export Sector of Sialkot.
- Federal Budget Proposals to the Federal Government.
- Trade Policy Proposals to the Federal Government.
- New Markets Exploration by arranging Trade Delegations to International Avenues and Participation in International Exhibitions and Trade Fairs.
- Dissemination of Information & Training for capacity building of upcoming entrepreneurs.
- Interacting with Government/international agencies on micro/macro business issues and other policy matters.
- Arranging Seminars, Workshops, Conferences etc.
- Corporate training programs for Members.
- Arranging meetings to solve issues between stakeholders & Government.
- Solving the business disputes through the Mediation Committee.
- Establishing linkages with Academia.

- Facilitation to members in terms of Visa Applications.
- Provision of Special Incentives to members through special arrangement with Corporate Sector.
- Provision of Research based services to its members.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF SIALKOT CHAMBER

The Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry has not only made its contribution towards promotion of exports for Pakistan but has also contributed extensively in social sector due to which Sialkot has become a role model for other cities of developing countries. The Social Projects taken up by the Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry include but not limited to:

- **SIALKOT DRY PORT TRUST.**

The exporters of Sialkot joined hand to form Sialkot Dry Port Trust, which established the Dry Port in Sambrial Sialkot in 1985. It is a unique Project in the private sector in Pakistan.

- **SIALKOT CITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.**

Similar initiative was taken by the exporters of Sialkot in 1999 to construct city roads by contributing 0.25% of their export proceeds under Sialkot City Development Package. The collective efforts of the exporters prompted the Government to share with financial contribution.

All the main arteries in Sialkot have been developed into international standard roads.

- **SIALKOT INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT.**

Sialkot International Airport, an only project of its type in the country built by the private sector, is functional. International and domestic passenger and cargo flights are operating from the Sialkot International Airport. The project was initiated in the year 2001.

- **CHILD & SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ORGANIZATION.**

There hardly exists any example where the Business Community has set-up an independent NGO within the Chambers to address the social issues of the industry especially Child Labor and Socially Responsible Entrepreneurship. With the mutual harmony of the key partners of the Atlanta Agreement i.e., SCCI, UNICEF and ILO, Child, and Social Development Organization (CSDO) was established on 22 July 2002 as an independent body to address the issues of Child Labor, CSR and social development in Sialkot. The Sialkot Chamber extends its full support to the CSDO. Its patronage is a major source of strength to this organization. It encourages its members to participate in CSDO as part of their social responsibility towards the protection of children and social development. Since the establishment of CSDO,

WFSGI has been fully supporting the organization for the protection of children and promoting CSR practices in Sialkot.

- **SIALKOT EXPORT PROCESSING ZONE.**

Pakistan's second Export Processing Zone has been setup at Sambrial-Sialkot. The project was inaugurated in 2002. The zone offers exceptional incentives for both local and foreign investors.

- **SPORTS INDUSTRIES DEVELOPMENT CENTRE.**

Another project of core importance for business promotion is the establishment of Sports Industrial Development Centre. The project was initiated in 2006 to develop products for the industry and help it in facing the challenge of mechanized ball and other such challenges. This project has been conceived and initiated by the private sector in coordination with the Government.

- **SIALKOT BUSINESS & COMMERCE CENTRE.**

To provide a common facility of displaying the products under one roof, Sialkot Business & Commerce Centre is under construction adjacent to the building of the Chamber. The project was started in 2007. This Centre would have all the necessary facilities of a Display Centre, so that the

visiting dignitaries may have a glimpse of the Sialkot made products at one place, the facility which would surely play a positive role in promotion of exports.

- **SIALKOT TANNERY ZONE.**

Sialkot Tannery Zone is being established to shift all the scattered tanneries in and around the city of Sialkot at a specific zone to control environmental pollution being created by the tannery effluent. The project was initiated in 2009.

- **KHUD KIFALAT ROZGAR TRUST.**

To provide financial assistance to the people with limited resources and to help them earn respectfully, the Chamber has initiated the project of “Khud Kifalat Rozgar Trust” through contribution of the business community. The trust was formed in 2010. The financial assistance is being provided in the shape of interest free loan to be paid back to the Trust in pre-agreed monthly, quarterly, and annually or biannual installments. The intent is reduction of employment and alleviation of poverty from the society.

- **SCHOLARSHIPS TO DESERVING STUDENTS.**

The Sialkot Chamber also provides scholarships to deserving students on regular basis. In this regard, annually scholarships

are provided to around 25 to 30 students so that they may complete their higher studies including Engineering and Medical studies.

AIRSIAL

After the success of an International Airport and many projects for the wellbeing of society in general and industry in particular, the business community under the umbrella of SCCI, have now started the project of the city's very own private Airline "AIRSIAL". The project served to add to the vision of making Sialkot a self-sustainable city envisioned by the business leadership of Sialkot. Soon the world would see aircrafts hailing from Sialkot representing rich cultural heritage of the city and the industrial dynamism of the business community.

- **KHAWAJA ZAKA UD DIN TRUST**

Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry is diligently engaged in welfare projects. It is striving as a leading organization in rehabilitating the victims of disasters, relieving the poverty-stricken people of agonies and miseries, and building their confidence in life afresh the world over.

In 2018, Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry conceived the idea of setting up Khawaja Zakaud Din Trust. Named after the late Mr.

Khawaja Zakaud Din, a leader of the industry, the trust collects charity and donations from the members ensures that it reaches the rightfully deserving. This year, the Khawaja Zakaud Din Trust, collected around PKR 20 (M) and distributed it among the key charitable organizations of Sialkot. On the other hand, Khawaja Zakaud Din Trust is also initiating a state-of-the-art Ambulance Service for the people of the city. The trust was formed in 2017.

- **STATE OF THE ART HOSPITAL IN SIALKOT**

Quality of health care is a key component of the right to health, and the route to equity and dignity for the public at large. It is imperative for developing countries like Pakistan to deliver health services that meet quality criteria.

It is a sad fact that Sialkot a city which has transformed itself into a model city with Industrial Revolution and Mega Infrastructure Projects lacks quality health care facilities where people feel safe and get the quality treatment as per the International Standards. The irony of the matter is that the patients are asked to move to Lahore or Islamabad to get treatment and that too when matters have aggravated. We all know numerous cases where people have lost their lives just because they couldn't find even the basic of facilities in

Sialkot. Presently, Health facilities that exist in Sialkot often struggle to provide the rapid emergency care needed to manage complications and care for patients. Common causes include inadequate or unhygienic infrastructure; lack of competent, motivated staff; lack of availability or poor quality of medicines; poor compliance to evidence-based clinical interventions and practices; and poor documentation and use of information.

Sialkot Chamber of Commerce & Industry has officially initiated efforts for building a state-of-the-art Hospital in Sialkot with all the vital amenities complying with International Standards of Health Care. In near future and Sialkot would now also be remembered for creating one of the best Hospitals Pakistan has to offer. The project was conceived in 2016 and formally initiated in 2019 with a cost of PKR 7 (B).

<i>Sialkot Exports to the World June 2020-July 2021</i>	
<i>Values in Million USD</i>	
Categories	Values
BADGES	11
CUTLERY & CROKERY	119
GLOVES & PREOTECTIVE EQUIPMENT	352
LEATHER PRODUCTS	563
MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS	3
SHOES & SADDLERY	132
SPORTS GOODS	278
SPORTS WEARS	445
SURGICAL INSTRUMENT	428
MISCELLANEOUS CATEGORIES	250
Grand Total	2580

CHAPTER # 16

AGRICULTURE

The Agriculture Department existed in Sialkot at the time of independence. It was headed by an Extra-Assistant Director at district level; an Agriculture Officer at tehsil level; and a *Muqaddamat markaz* level. The set-up was not changed during or after the Basic Democracy system of Ayub Khan. However, it was upgraded in 1988 and a Deputy Director was appointed at district level; Extra-Assistant Director at Tehsil level; Agriculture Officer at *markaz* level; and 'Field Assistant at union council level. The set-up primarily looked after the Extension wing, which worked directly with the farmers to increase the reproduce by equipping them with modern technology and information. There were other agriculture related institutions too. However, with the promulgation of the Devolution Plan in 2001, all agriculture related institutions/wings were combined under an Executive District Officer (Agriculture). In 2017. The Department returned from district to provincial level. The present hierarchy consists of one Deputy Director (Extension) as district head assisted by 4 Assistant Directors posted in the sub-divisions/tehsils.

The core functions of the department are to disseminate production technology through various extension activities, coordination between various wings of agriculture and farmer community, supply and quality control of various agricultural inputs, law enforcement related to agriculture and play role in National issues such as wheat procurement, Corona, Dengue etc. with the collaboration of District Administration.

LAND USE

The land use distribution in Sialkot is as under: -

LAND USE	ACREAGE
Geographical Area	753256
Cultivated Area	622138
Un-Cultivated Area	100320
Irrigated Area	509628
Non-Irrigated/Barani Area	68484
Forest	15577

AGRICULTURAL DIVISIONS

The district may be divided into four major zones for agricultural purpose.

Riverain Belt

It is situated along the river Chenab in the form of Marala Headwork and the soil is mostly sandy loam. Rice and sugarcane are mostly grown in this region which are also known as water loving crops.

Plateau Region

It is situated along the line of control ranging from Bajwat to Chawinda. In addition to rice wheat pattern pulses and canola are also important crops of this region.

Central Region

This area falls between Marala Headwork and Marala-Ravi link Canal. Moreover, NullahAik, Palkhu and Dek also flow this this region. These Nullahs cause floods in this region which contribute to irrigation requirements as well as ground water recharge. Rice and wheat are major crops whereas vegetables, fodder, sunflower, and sugarcane are also grown in this region.

Canal Commended Area

MR link canal was constructed during 1960s. Most of the area of District Sialkot is rain fed. Only a few thousand acres are irrigated from the off taking channels of Marala Ravi Link. Upper

Chenab canal also contributes to irrigate agricultural area of Sambrial and Daska.

SOIL, WATER & CLIMATE

Soil texture in Sialkot varies from sandy loam, loam, and heavy soils. Average rainfall during last five years was 440 mm. Minimum and maximum temperature ranges from -3°C to 46°C during winter and summer, respectively.

CROPPING PATTERN & CROP HISTORY

The cropping pattern followed in Sialkot district is mix-cropping pattern that is followed in most parts of the Punjab. There was a trend of growing lentils in Sialkot region upto 1970 but due to change in climatic condition and irrigation pattern. The major crop during Kharif season is Rice which contributes in export and increases the GDP of country. Wheat crop is the major Rabi crop; wheat production is the source of fulfilling the local consumption.

MAJOR CROPS

The land of Sialkot is very fertile and suitable for growing different types of crops. The major crops in Sialkot include Rice, Wheat and Potato while there are also many other crops and vegetables which are cultivated in Sialkot District. Rice is the major crop of Kharif, which

is grown on 85% of total cultivated area. Sugarcane is grown on 3% of the total cultivated area. While wheat is the chief crop of Rabi season and grown on 93% of the area. The Potato is grown on 2% of the total cultivated area. The main oilseed crop cultivated in Sialkot District is Sunflower and mainly sown in Tehsil Pasrur. The other crops are grown on small scale throughout the district.

Wheat

Wheat is the chief crop of Rabi season and sown in all tehsils of Sialkot. It is the staple as well as cash crop. Sowing time of wheat varies depending upon the variety of wheat. It starts from 1st November and ends on 10th December. It does not grow well on either sandy soil or poorly drained soil. It produces the best yielding results on silt to clay loam soils, however, it can be grown on sandy loam to clay soils.

Rice

Rice is grown on large scale in Sialkot District during Kharif season. Sialkot is included in the collar track which is very famous for its aromatic rice. Rice needs heavy irrigation for the eradication of weeds. Mostly fine varieties of Rice are sown in Sialkot District. The most common fine varieties sown in Sialkot district are

Super Basmati, Kisan Basmati and Punjab Basmati. Rice can be cultivated in all types of soils except sandy soils.

Water & Soil Testing Laboratory

For efficient use of fertilizer and water, soil and water analysis are carried out at this laboratory under the supervision of Assistant Agriculture Chemist. Recommendation and advisory services are provided to farmers after soil and water analysis to boost up agricultural production.

Pest Warning & Quality Control Wing

This wing is headed by Assistant Director (PW&QC) and is responsible to carry pest scouting of crops to inform farmers about pest attack well in time. On the other hand, it performs duty of quality control of pesticides by drawing pesticide samples and supervision of Pesticide Dealers.

PUNJAB AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

Field Operations Wing

It is headed by Assistant Agriculture Engineer and provides services using bulldozers on subsidized rates after carrying

level surveys. Moreover, it guides farmers for maintenance of agriculture machinery.

Well Drilling Section

The Well Drilling Section is aiding the farmers primarily for the purposes of tube well drilling as well as other advisory services regarding water resources development. Electrical Resistivity Meter (ERM) survey is also conducted by the Well Drilling Section to assess the ground-water availability and quality prior to the tube well drilling.

On Farm Water Management

It is headed by Deputy Director (OFWM). It is providing laser land levelers and training to use it for precision land leveling to save water and increase production. Recently high efficiency irrigation system (drip irrigation and sprinkler irrigation) along with solar system being introduced to save energy and use water wisely.

CHAPTER # 17

IRRIGATION

There is an extensive irrigation Network in District Sialkot. The Chenab enters in Pakistan territory about 15 Km upstream from Marala Barrage. The Nullah Aik Palkhu and Deg also flow through District Sialkot, and these originate from Indian held Kashmir. Marala head works is a headworks situated on Chenab River near the city of Sialkot. A weir first built during 1905-1912 in British India to tee the upper Chenab canal as part of the triple canal project. Marala barrage was reconstructed in 1968 under Indus Basin project. Three main canals originate and flow through district Sialkot namely.

- 1) Marala Ravi Link Canal
- 2) Upper Chenab Canal UCC
- 3) Bambanwala Ravi Bedian Depalpur Canal (BRBD).

Most of the area of district Sialkot is rain fed. Only few thousand Acres are irrigated from the off-taking channels of Marala Rive Link. The Irrigation Department in the District Sialkot consists of following Irrigation Divisions.

- 1) Marala Headwork's Division Marala

2) Pasrur Link Division, Sialkot

Marala Headworks Division Marala.

Marala Headworks was constructed by the Punjab Irrigation Branch during the period 1905-12 for diversion of 11694 cusec discharge through Upper Chenab Canal. It was located just below the confluence of three Rivers (MunawarTawi on right Chanab in center and Jammu Tawi on left). The old weir was remodeled during 1935-37, when a 20 ft. deep sheet pile was provided at the end of downstream impervious floor in the year 1950 the capacity of Upper Chenab Canal was raised to 16500 Cusecs to supplement the extra requirements of Riaya Branch, which was converted to BRBD Link. During 1956 Marala Ravi link Canal was put in operation for diverting 22000 cusecs of water from Chenab Rive to River River during summer to supplement the water requirement of Sutlej Valley Canal system through Balloki Sulemenki Link Canal taking off from Ravi River at Balloki.

The capacity of the old weir was 7,12,000 Cusecs with upstream pond level at RL 808,00 feet. The weir was pounded by shutters and consequently there was insignificant control over the river.

The old Marala weir was abandoned in 1968 when it was replaced by new Barrage under Indus Basin Replacement works. The new barrage was constructed at 1130 feet downstream of old weir. The capacity of left pocked was enhanced to accommodate the huge diversion of 38850 Cs.

It is located at 1 ½Km below the confluence of three River (Munawar Tawi on Right Chenab in Chenab in center and Jammu Tawi on left) and 8-9 Km from line of control between Indian held state of Jammu and Kashmir and Pakistan. It is one of the vital hydraulic structures of Punjab Irrigation Department. It plays a significant role in the agricultural economy of the Punjab. The design discharge of Marala barrage is 1100000 Cs. And it diverts 38850 Cs in Upper Chenab canal and MR Link. Upper Chenab Canal with design discharge of 16850 Cs irrigates millions acre of very fertile land in Gujranwala Hafizabad, Sheikhpura of Sutlej Valley canal system through Balloki Sulemanki Link Canal taking from Ravi River at Balloki.

Marala Headworks Division also looks after head reach of upper Chenab canal (From RD 0-133) and Nokhar Branch which mostly feeds the area of Tehsil Wazirabad of Gujranwala District.

Flood Limits of Marala Barrage.

Flood stage	Discharge
Low	Above 1.0 Lac Cusecs
Medium	Above 1.5 Lac Cusecs
High	Above 2.0 Lac Cusecs
Very High	Above 4.0 Lac Cusecs
Exceptionally High	Above 6.0 Lac Cusecs

Highest past floods

Sr.#	Date	Discharge in Cusec	Classification
1	01-09-1928	718000	Exceptionally high flood
2	25-09-1954	820094	Exceptionally high flood
3	26-08-1957	880722	Exceptionally high flood
4	05-07-1959	870795	Exceptionally high flood
5	09-08-1973	769659	Exceptionally high flood
6	25-09-1988	766896	Exceptionally high flood
7	10-09-1992	845090	Exceptionally high flood
8	23-08-1996	766860	Exceptionally high flood
9	26-08-1997	775525	Exceptionally high flood
10	06-09-2014	861464	Exceptionally high flood

Pasrur Link Division, Sialkot.

Pasrur Link Division comprises three subdivisions (1) Rawal Link Subdivision, Sialkot (2) Baddo Malhi Link Subdivision. Deg Rest House (3) Goraya Subdivision Daska.

Marala Ravi Link Canal

It off takes form Marala barrage with the design capacity of 22000 Cusecs and is 333135 ft long. Itsoriginates from Marala Barrage and outfalls into River Ravi near Lahore. Before splitting into MR Sub Link and main MR Link. If feeds 20 distributor channels and 16 Minors. Although its design discharge is 22000 cusecs, but it has never carried more than 19000 cusecs due to reduction of its canal prism. This reduction is the result of its less slit carrying capacity due its inadequate bed slope. The bed level at Deg Nullah Syphon is constraint which does not allow its regarding.

Bombanwdia Ravi BedianDepalpur (BRBD) Link.

BRBD Link Canal off takes from UCC at head Bambanwala with discharge of 7260 Cusecs BRBD is under the jurisdiction of Pasrur Link Division from RF 0-168

MR Sub Link Canal with design discharge capacity of 5000 Cusec is also maintained by Pasrur Link Division, Sialkot.

The following Nullah's originating from Indian held Kashmir are also looked after and maintained by Pasrur Link Division, Sialkot.

1. Deg Nullah
2. Aik Nullah
3. Palkhu Nullah

CHAPTER # 18

LIVESTOCK

The agriculture sector contributes 19.2% of GDP of Pakistan, which consumes 38.5% of direct workforce, coming from 65-70% of the population. Over the years livestock has emerged as the largest subsector in agriculture. The sector contributed 60.1 percent to the agriculture value addition and 11.5 percent to the GDP during FY2021. More than 8 million rural families are engaged in livestock production and deriving more than 35-40 percent of their income from this source. Gross value addition of livestock increased to Rs 1,505 billion (2020-21) from Rs 1,461 billion (2019-20), an increase of 3.0 percent. Population/Census of Livestock in District Sialkot Census of Livestock in District Sialkot has a remarkable number among the Punjab Province, comprises of 447154 Buffalo, 173352 Cow, 50002 Sheep, 80955 Goat 264330 Rural Poultry & 24476 Equines according to the recent census of conducted in 2017-18 includes the Neeli-Ravi Buffalo and Sahiwal & Cross Bred Cattles as Major breeds of Buffalo and Cow in District, while Kajli Sheep known for its beauty and Lohi Sheep for his meat production are the main breeds of Sheep. Beetal

Goat is a dual-purpose breed and well-known for its beauty and meat / milk production is highly prevalent in District Sialkot. Livestock Department Sialkot Livestock Department is working in District Sialkot since Pre-Partition times by the British Government and now the main organ gram of the department consists of 01 Additional Director Livestock at District Level , 04 Deputy Director Livestock at Tehsil Level and Senior Veterinary Officer / Veterinary Officer as In charge of Civil Veterinary Hospital who supervise the Veterinary Assistants and Artificial Insemination Technicians of his Hospital and attached Civil Veterinary Centers at Union Council Level . There are 23 Civil Veterinary Hospitals,12 Civil Veterinary Dispensaries, 05 Mobile Veterinary Dispensaries,04Sahulat Centers and 01 Disease Diagnostic Laboratory at District Level. Now 07 Senior Veterinary Officer,13 Veterinary Officers,123 Veterinary Assistants &23 Artificial Insemination Technicians are working in District. Development Projects Currently there are 02 Development Projects launch in District Sialkot by the Government of the Punjab under Special Initiative of Prime Minister of Pakistan & Ultimate objective of every project is Poverty Alleviation. “Enhancing the Beef Production in Punjab through Save the Buffalo Calf and Feedlot Fattening “is primarily the scheme of Buffalo Calves and comprises of two sections, first is to save the newly born

Buffalo calf up to 04 months and get the Rs.6500/Calf as Incentive and second is to grow the young Buffalo Calf of almost one-year of age up to 03months with increase of average weight of 700grams daily and get the Rs.4000/Calf Incentive. In total 1660 Calves have been registered in District Sialkot i.e., 830 Calves for each Scheme. “Propagation of Backyard Poultry for increased availability of Animal Protein to counter the Stunted Growth” is the scheme of Poultry units, one unit consists of 01Cock+05Hens of three months of age or 12 Cocks of two months of age on 30%Subsidy and in 2020-21, 1200 Poultry Units have been distributed among the people of District Sialkot. Services The Livestock Department provides all the facilities regarding the Treatment, Disease Control, Reservation/Restoration of Genetic Pool through Artificial Semen, etc. to the public. In 2020-21 190073 Outdoor Cases were registered, 36519 Animals were treated by Mobile Veterinary Dispensaries in the Field along with 670farmer days in which 16270 farmers were trained, 12542animals were treated on doorstep of the farmer, 47766 Artificial Inseminations had been done with the success rate of 60%, 288 Farmer Days & 55 School Focus Program were conducted by the field staff in which overall 4586Farmers were trained in District Sialkot. Enforcement of Livestock Acts There is 03 Livestock Acts: 1. Breeding Act 2. Poultry Production Act & 3. Feed Act, in the

enforcement of these livestock acts overall 1253 Inspections had been done by the Inspectors, 06 FIR had been made, 52 Poultry Farms & 84 Private Artificial Insemination Technicians had been registered.

Special Initiatives

1. Provision of Wanda, Urea Molasses Block & Mineral Mixture to the farmers at Subsidized Rates, the Livestock Department Sialkot had sold 6500 Wanda Bags (20Kg), 2000 Urea Molasses Blocks & 900 Mineral Mixture Packets in the fiscal year 2020-21.
2. Green Pakistan is the special Initiative of Prime Minister Pakistan to cope with the Climate Change, the Livestock Department Sialkot planted 1045 Trees in 2020-21 in its Institutions.

Diseases & Vaccination

Major Disease of livestock found in District Sialkot are Foot & Mouth Disease (Mu-khur), Hemorrhagic Septicemia (Gal Gotto), Black Quarter (Chore Maar), Babesia & Theileria (Pheta), Enterotoxaemia (Anteriyon ka Bukhar), etc. The department has a vaccine schedule that covers all the prevalent diseases in the concerned district around the area. Black Quarter is done in August & September every year, Peste des petits Ruminants (PPR) in October & November,

ETV (twice with lapse of six months), Hemorrhagic Septicemia in February & March while the New Castle Disease vaccine for birds is done four times in a year with lapse of every three months.

CHAPTER # 19

EXCISE AND TAXATION OFFICE SIALKOT.

The office of the Excise, Taxation and Narcotics control Sialkot was established before creation of Islamic Republic of Pakistan and was assigned the task of collection of revenue receipts under various heads. The Excise & Taxation officer is also entrusted with the powers of Assessing Authority, Motor Registering Authority, Prohibition Officer and Revenue Collector under section 30 of the Land Revenue Act, 1967.

As regards the staff the office, the sanctioned 66 strength is out of which 22 posts are lying vacant. One ETO is working against two sanctioned posts. One AETO is working against 4 sanctioned posts, 12 E&T Inspectors are working against 17 sanctioned posts.

The over-all performance of the office is as follows:

Total No. of Vehicles Registered	933617
Property Tax Recovered	Rs.318181726
Motor Vehicles Taxes Recovered	Rs.21533110
Professional Tax Recovered	Rs.22656134

As regard the Financial Year 2020-21, a recovery of Rs.598283996 has been made against the assigned target of Rs. 603145537, In the meantime, the detail of main categories of vehicles registered in the district was as follows:

Motorcycle	Motor Car	Pick-Up	Bus	Tractor
23889	1934	81	4	263

Similarly, the detail of the above categories of vehicles registered since

January 1,1974 up till December 23, 2021, was as under: -

Motorcycle	Motor Car	Pick-Up	Bus	Tractor
822,702	36285	7109	1096	31,510

CHAPTER # 20

SIALKOT WASTE MANAGEMENT COMPANY (SWMC)

Sialkot Profile

Sialkot district is in Punjab Province of Pakistan. Sialkot district is located between 32°24'N–32°37'N latitude and 73°59'E–75°02'E in the east of Pakistan at approximately 244 m (asl) between river Ravi and river Chenab. The population of Tehsil Sialkot as per the 2017 population census of MC limit is 733422. The daily intake of mixed waste from city to dumping site is 440 tons / day approx.

The average composition of municipal solid waste in Sialkot with organic waste as 58.57%, Diaper as 11.85%, nylon as 9.78%, textile as 6.26%, Noncombustible as 4.48%, paper cardboard waste as 3.32%, combustibles as 2.84%, Glass as 0.71%, plastics as 0.67%, tetra pack waste as 0.68%, hazardous as 0.61%, electric waste as 0.07%, pet as 0.08% and metals as 0.09% as per the Waste Characterization Study conducted by SWMC along with LWMC in 2015.

Introduction Sialkot Waste Management Company

Sialkot Waste Management Company (SWMC) is incorporated under Section 42 of the Companies Ordinance 1984 with the vision to improve Solid Waste Management Services in Sialkot City 2014.

After the incorporation of SWMC, a Services and Asset Management Agreement (SAAMA) has signed between SWMC and TMA Sialkot in which machinery and manpower related to Solid Waste Management has been transferred to SWMC along with the responsibility of 16 Urban Union Councils.

The company was established after the success story of Lahore Waste Management Company (LWMC) Outsourcing Model. The process of outsourcing has been started twice but was unable to mature due to high bid prices.

The machinery transferred to SWMC from TMA was old and obsolete mainly comprises of tractor trolley manual loading and front-end loader system. This obsolete system results in collection of waste in the form of open heaps.

The obsolete system along with failing of outsourcing model SWMC left with tractor trolley system for collection, transportation, and

disposal of solid waste. Along with the scenario the SWMC system was designed by LWMC and Urban Unit (UU) for monitoring services only those results in less technical expertise, less manpower and less machinery to collect and dispose of solid waste generated in Sialkot City.

After the formation of SWMC the gaps in waste management system in Sialkot City were identified and a brief about the gaps are shown below:

- The Strength of Sanitation Staff was inadequate there was only one worker for the population of 1000.
- There was deficiency of Professional Staff to manage solid waste and there was only 1 Graduate present in solid waste department.
- The Collection Efficiency was only 28%*
- There were no Waste Storage Facilities
- All the waste collection was carried out through tractor trolley and manual loading.
- Dumping of Waste was done in open plots & along nullahs

To address the gaps in waste management SWMC started adding the state-of-the-art solid waste management machinery as per the availability of the budget. To further provide the solid waste

management system services to the citizens of Sialkot SWMC has reduced the gaps in sanitation strength by adding labor through 3rd party. It is also pertinent to mention herewith that Government of the Punjab in collaboration with the Asian Development Bank is upgrading and revamping Sialkot Solid Waste Management System under the Punjab Intermediate Cities Improvement Investment Program (PICIIP).

Deployment Detail of Sanitation Staff:

SWMC has deployed its sanitation staff as per below mentioned detail.

Table 1:

01. Detail of Executive Member, Office Staff Etc;

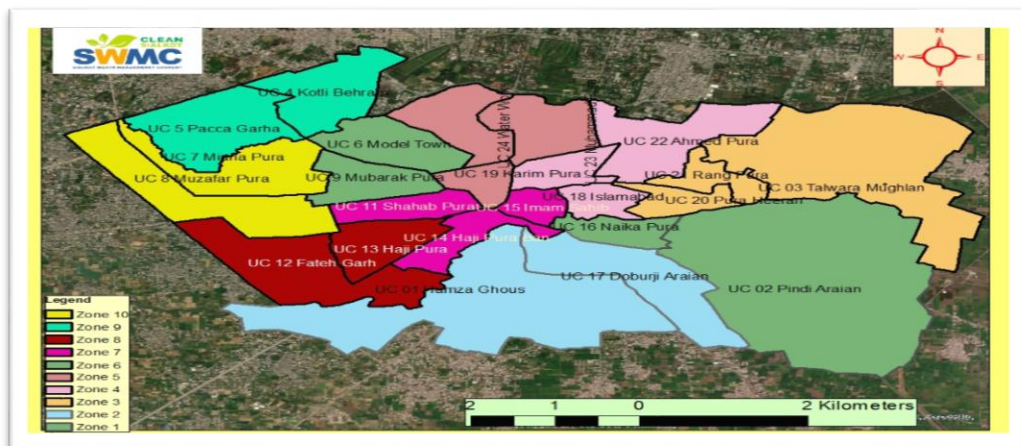
Sr. No	Description	Filled
1	Executive	3
2	Middle Management	09
3	Lower Management	5
4	Office Support staff	3
Total		20

02. No of Sanitation Staff

Sr. No	Description	Filled
1	Permanent	167
2	Daily Wages	146
3	Outsource	927
Total		1240

Area of Operations

SWMC Area of operations is as follows:



Deployment Detail of Machinery

Sr. No.	Machinery Description	Total Machinery
01	Tractor trolley	18
02	Compactor 7M3	15
03	Compactor 13m3	9
04	Mini Dumper	27
05	Chain Arm Roller	02
06	Front End Loader	14
07	Water Bowzer	2
08	Mechanical Sweeper	03

09	Arm Roll Truck	18
10	Excavator	1
11	Dumper 10m3	5
12	Mechanical Washer	03
TOTAL		117

CHAPTER # 21

DISTRICT JUDICIARY SIALKOT

The District and Sessions Judge was appointed to hear the appeals from first class courts in the district and could pass sentence of death in criminal case. He was also Additional Sessions Judge for Wazirabad Tehsil of Gujranwala district. He had one Senior and two junior Sub-Judges and four Munsifs. All did their civil work only except that the Sub-Judges (who were Extra Assistant Commissioners) could be called upon to do criminal and executive work when necessary and there were three Honorary Civil Judges. The other officials did no civil cases.

Mr. Delux was the first Divisional Judge in 1885. Since 1908 the Divisional Judge was renamed as District and Sessions Judge. From 1885 to date 92 Divisional/ District and Sessions Judges have served the district Sialkot. Presently **Ms. Jazeela Aslam** has been working as District and Sessions Judge, Sialkot since 01-09-2021 and she is the 1st ever female District and Sessions Judge in the history of the district Sialkot.

Civil Justice

The total of civil suits instituted since 1890 shows a substantial increase in litigation. At present, the District Judiciary comprises of the following working judges:

District and Sessions Judge	1
Additional District and Sessions Judge	14
Senior Civil Judge	3
Civil Judges	37

One of the courts of Additional Sessions Judges has been made Model Court under the order of Supreme Court of Pakistan. The Model Court takes up murder cases and hearing take place on day-to-day basis. The Judges of Anti-Corruption Court, as well as those of the Consumer Court and Labor Court are working in their jurisdiction in district Sialkot.

Nature of Litigation

Most of the litigation in the district takes place in land and family matters. The nature of cases in various courts can be assessed from the statistics of the year 2021 which is as under:

Disposal by Sessions Courts during the year 2021 = 22717	Disposal by Civil Courts during the year 2021 = 55162	Total disposal during the year 2021 = 77879
Pendency of cases in Sessions courts as on 31-12-2021 = 3249	Pendency of cases in Civil courts as on 31-12-2021 = 43195	Total Pendency of cases as on 31-12-2021 = 46444

Judicial Infrastructure

The courts of the District Judiciary are currently housed in Judicial Complex, DC Road, Sialkot where two separate complexes have been constructed for Sessions Courts and Civil Courts. The Judicial Complexes have also been constructed in Tehsils Daska, Sambrial and Pasrur. Judicial Rest House exists for accommodations of the judges working at headquarter Sialkot.

The Bar Association

The history of the District Bar Association can be traced as far back as 1904. In 1904 total strength of registered lawyers was just round about 30 to 40.

But Today 2002 number of lawyers are registered in the District Bar Association Sialkot.

Presently Mr. Muhammad Asim Iqbal Deo is the president and Mr. Muneeb Hussain Warraich is the General Sectary of District Bar Association Sialkot.