

VIEW OF MUGAL ROAD



VIEW OF TOWN SHOPIAN



CHAPTER – XVI

DISTRICT SHOPIAN

16.1 Located in the south and south-west extremity of Kashmir valley, Shopian Sub-Division is lying in the close proximity of Pir Panjal mountain range. It is bounded by District Kulgam on its east and District Budgam on its north-west. It is flanked by District Pulwama in the north and the Districts of Rajouri and Poonch on its south and south-west respectively.

16.2 Shopian is situated at a distance of 51 Km from Srinagar and 20 Km from Pulwama. It has decades old road connectivity with Anantnag as well as Kulgam. In the era by gone, Shopian was located on the famous Mughal road connecting Lahore and Srinagar. This old route has suffered from neglect during the last couples of centuries, except being traversed by Bakherwals and Gujjars on the eve of their seasonal migrations. The currently under construction Mughal road is now expected to link District Shopian with the Districts of Poonch and Rajouri. In the event of its completion this road would be an alternate link between the two administrative divisions of the state and is likely to boost the economy of this proposed hill District besides increasing the administrative responsibilities of the District administration in the times to come.

16.3 The proposed District derives its name from the town of “*SHOPIAN*” about which *Frederic Drew*, while justifying the basis of its nomenclature, states that it is the distortion of word “*SHAH-PAYAN*”, i.e., Royal Stay. Shopian has been an ancient town of Kashmir, which among other factors in the past has historical importance since it is situated on the ancient imperial route commonly known as Mughal road. In view of its location coupled with trade and transit activities, Shopian was having one of the Wazarat Headquarters out of the six Wazarats of the time in Kashmir from 1872-1892 A.D. Consequent upon the reduction in the administrative divisions of Kashmir three Wazarats including Shopian ceased to exist.

16.4 With the gradual ascending slope from its north and north-eastern sides and Pir Panjal mountain range falling on its south and south-west periphery, Shopian has most of its areas of hilly character. On account of hilly terrain with conducive agro-climatic conditions, large areas of Shopian are covered by orchards especially apple and walnut which contribute to the socio-economic scenario of its rural community. Presence of nearby hilly tracts and pastures provide a lot of potential for development of its livestock population. The total area of Sub-Division is 30,742 Hects, out of which 19,692.5 Hects are of cultivable nature. The grazing lands are of the order of 2,948 Hects and 260.5 Hects are forest land. Remaining 7,841 Hects of land are the lands of other nature.

16.5 Shopian, a populous town, is the urban center of the area. 90 % of the population lives in the rural areas. The total population of the Sub-Division is 2, 46,041 souls as per 2001 census comprising various groups of diverse nature like Gujjars, Pastoons, Dogarwalls, Minels and predominantly Kashmiris.

16.6 The Committee received various representations and had interaction with the people as well as their representatives besides holding meetings with the District administration for knowing their view point. The Committee conducted an extensive tour of the area also.

16.7 The main suggestions put forth to the Committee along with the Committee's recommendations are discussed as follows:-

- i. Some of the quarters suggested the exclusion of villages Awneera, Derapora, Mujmarg, Chermarg and Nandimarg of Patwar Halqa Awneera from Tehsil Shopian and their transfer to Kulgam Tehsil/District. The Wazir Commission had in its report proposed for the transfer of Halqa Awneera to Tehsil Bijbehara on account of its nearness but the views of the District Administration were averse to the said proposal.

- ii. The Committee had an occasion of interaction with the people on their visit to Awneera who opposed the transfer of said village from Shopian Tehsil. It was averred by them that in view of changed situation like the declaration of Shopian Tehsil as “Hill District” these areas need not be disturbed and any move in this behalf should be deemed as withdrawn. Accordingly the Committee in the context of above recommends not to disturb the present setup in respect of these villages.
- iii. Separate representations from the residents of Niabats of Zanapora, Kaprain, Hermen and Keegam of Shopian were received for the upgradation of their Niabats to the Tehsil level. Similarly the people of Kellar vehemently represented for proposing Tehsil at Kellar on the ground of backwardness, inaccessibility and remoteness of their area from the District headquarters. People of Wachi also presented a memorandum for creation of Tehsil there.

The Committee feels that action on such prayers/representations involving the creation of any new unit other than those contained in the Government Order No. 947/ GAD of 13th July 2006 do not fall within the ambit of its terms of reference. However, as in respect of other areas, these representations are submitted to the Government separately.

16.8 Taking into consideration various factors like administrative conveniences, people’s aspirations, views of the district administration and public good etc, as also creation of a new District Kulgam in the neighborhood, the Committee recommends that the limits of District Shopian be made co-terminus with the limits of Sub-Division Shopian as well as Tehsil Shopian. Kulgam or Pulwama Tehsils touching its periphery cannot be annexed with it for the reasons of being the main tehsils of respective contiguous districts. Although an administrative unit of the standard of a district having limits co-terminus with one tehsil seems some what incongruous, but the District Shopian would comprise 231 villages with an area of 30,741.6 hectares mostly of

hilly nature merits special treatment; thus named as hilly District. Instances are not wanting where even less than fifty villages are forming jurisdiction of a Tehsil. For the sake of affording more convenience to the general public, promotion of development and ensuring more effective manageability in hilly belts, need would arise to create at least one or two more tehsils within District Shopian. It is proposed that after the recommendations of this Committee receive the necessary favour at the level of Government, there after in the light of above, the Government may also like to consider the reorganization of this new District through some internal mechanism.

16.9 Thus in view of the above the Committee recommends that the territorial jurisdiction of the District Shopian be same as that of present Sub-Division Shopian. The details are as under :-

(i) Tehsil	01
(ii) Patwar Halqas	43
(iii) Villages	231

16.10 Details of Patwar Halqas along with villages of the proposed District Shopian are shown in Appendix XVI-1 and District Map as Appendix XVI- 2.

APPENDIX XVI – 1

DISTRICT – SHOPIAN

SUB-DIVISION/TEHSIL SHOPIAN

S.No.	Name of Patwar Halqas	Name of Villages
1.	Shopian	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Hergam ii. Bongam iii. Butpora iv. Kanipora

2.	Arahama	i.	Arhama
		ii.	Lurgam
		iii.	Habdipora
3.	Sedaw	i.	Sedau
		ii.	Reshnagri
4.	Heerpora	i.	Heerpora
5.	Zawoora Baderhama	i.	Zawoora Baderhama
		ii.	Manloo
		iii.	Kanipora
		iv.	Deegam
6.	Saidapora	i.	Saidapora Bala
		ii.	Saidapora Payeen
		iii.	Shamsepora
		iv.	Amshepora
		v.	Chaki Shemispora
		vi.	Makan-e-Dagerpora
7.	Meemander	i.	Meemandar
		ii.	Gagren
		iii.	Gund Hadoo
		iv.	Chowgam
		v.	Narvau
8.	Pinjoora	i.	Pinjoora
		ii.	Aglar
9.	Trenz	i.	Trenz
		ii.	Khurampora
		iii.	Utterpora Pehlipora
		iv.	Pahnoo
10.	Dangerpora	i.	Dangerpora
		ii.	Sugoo Hindhama
		iii.	Moolu
		iv.	Thiyaran
		v.	Kungna
		vi.	Bag-e-Haripora
		vii.	Chitragam
		viii.	Haripora
		ix.	Mahand-pora

11.	Turkawangam	i.	Turkawangam
		ii.	Dhobipora
		iii.	Aripora
		iv.	Nulaiposhwari
		v.	Maldeer
		vi.	Kenigam
		vii.	Bedigam
		viii.	Ladi
		ix.	Kunsoo
12.	Kiloorā Malikgund	i.	Kiloorā Malikgund
		ii.	Kravoora
		iii.	Pragochi
		iv.	Loosdanev
		v.	Chanchwar
13.	Keegam	i.	Keegam
		ii.	Cheke Hakeembaqir
		iii.	Nousipora
		iv.	Adoorā Rampathri
		v.	Nazneenpora
14.	Diyaroo	i.	Diyaroo
		ii.	Cheigund
		iii.	Advah
		iv.	Doompora
		v.	Checki Diyaroo
		vi.	Naidgund
15.	Keller	i.	Keller
		ii.	Mastpora
		iii.	Makan-e-Dunaroo
		iv.	Manshwar
		v.	Ringwar
		vi.	Naserpora
16.	Berthipora	i.	Berthipora
		ii.	Batamurran – Wanpora
		iii.	Mettipora
		iv.	Ranbeerpora
17.	Pehlipora	i.	Pehlipora
		ii.	Chowan
		iii.	Jampathri
18.	Narpora	i.	Narpora

		ii.	Rakhnarpora
		iii.	Vishroo-
		iv.	Theyaarn Kandi
		v.	Zarkon
		vi.	Gattipora
		vii.	Kathaauhalon
19.	Sindushirmal	i.	Sindushirmal
		ii.	Wathoo
		iii.	Batapora
		iv.	Poterwal
		v.	Doombawani
		vi.	Ganaupora
20.	Darumdore	i.	Darumdore
		ii.	Panzer
		iii.	Tengwani
		iv.	Tukroo
		v.	Mazhama
		vi.	Mughalpora
		vii.	Vedapora
21.	Allowpora Sheikhpora	i.	Allowpora Shiekhpora
		ii.	Checki Aziz Shah
		iii.	Nowpora Bala
		iv.	Sarub
		v.	Peerpora
		vi.	Ahgam
		vii.	Sazon
		viii.	Chidren
		ix.	Marheng
22.	Zainapora	i.	Zaniapora
		ii.	Babapora
		iii.	Rakh Zainapora
23.	Sugan	i.	Sugan
		ii.	Dragar
		iii.	Heffkhudi
		iv.	Kashwah
		v.	Chidvipora
		vi.	Reshipora
24.	Aglar Chirat	i.	Aglar Chirat
		ii.	Safanagri

25.	Chitragam	i.	Chitragam
		ii.	Kawjapora
		iii.	Rebangundibehram
		vi.	Hydergund
		v.	Sofipora
26.	Urpora	i.	Urpora
		ii.	Drawni
		iii.	Wadhipora
		iv.	Alishapora
		v.	Hushangpora
		vi.	Kadgam
		vii.	Dachoo
		viii.	Band Pahoo
		ix.	Chetravash
		x.	Hilaugund-e-Mureed
		xi.	Homehana
27.	Heff	i.	Heff
		ii.	Shirmal
		iii.	Chileepora
28.	Wachi	i.	Wachi
		ii.	Melhoora
29.	Awneera	i.	Awneera
		ii.	Cheramerg
		iii.	Nadimarg
		iv.	Mujmarg
		v.	Durapora
30.	Herman	i.	Herman
		ii.	Gehend
		iii.	Chodigam
		iv.	Kharawara
		v.	Abalwana
		vi.	Nildoora
		vii.	Landoora
31.	Ganaupora Arash	i.	Ganaupora Arash
		ii.	Lawahind
		iii.	Shuratpora
		iv.	Palpora
		v.	Deshipora
32.	Deerikalipora	i.	Deerikalipora

		ii.	Gund-e-Darvesh
		iii.	Aloora
		iv.	Nerwani
		v.	Amberbugh
		vi.	Badimarg
33.	Chakoora	i.	Chakoora
		ii.	Hajipora
		iii.	Kanihama
		iv.	Chek-e-Sidiq Khan
		v.	Hardu Nagisharan
		vii.	Kumdalan
34.	Hardu Handev	i.	Hardu-Handev
		ii.	Wachau Hallan
		iii.	Sangren
		iv.	Wuyan
		v.	Chotipora
		vi.	Tulren
		vii.	Barbugh
		viii.	Gund-i-Wuyan
		ix.	Manihal
		x.	Batpora Palpora
35.	Nadigam	i.	Nadigam
		ii.	Cuttpora
		iii.	Manzimpora
		iv.	Dugapora
		v.	Tachloo
		vi.	Nowpora
		vii.	Baskuchan
		viii.	Zainabatoo
		ix.	Melibugh
36.	Kapren	i.	Kapren
		ii.	Rey
		iii.	Heerpora Bategund
		iv.	Pandoshan
		v.	Rekhpora Nayakpora
37.	Vehil Chatevation	i.	Vehil Chatevation
		ii.	Nowgam
		iii.	Chatripora
		iv.	Minipora
		v.	Choudhrigund

38.	Ramnagri	i.	Ramnagri
39.	Kanji Uller	i.	Kanji Uller
		ii.	Pudsoo
		iii.	Mandojen
		iv.	Feeripora
		v.	Adijan
		vi.	Poshhama
		vii.	Gadipora
40.	Partabpora	i.	Partabpora
		ii.	Zaipora Dharmamarath
		iii.	Braripora
		iv.	Rakhhama
		v.	Mantraybugh
		vi.	Tengapora
		vii.	Reenipora-Khasipora
		viii.	Tekipora
		ix.	Buttpora Nilladang
41.	Bemnipora	i.	Bemnipora
		ii.	Avend
		iii.	Rawalpora
		iv.	Hanjipora
42.	Dangam	i.	Dangam
		ii.	Wangam
		iii.	Sudhershana
		iv.	Gadapora
		v.	Ratnipora
		vi.	Halaupora
43.	Chek-e-Cholend	i.	Chek-e-Cholend
		ii.	Muradpora
		iii.	Hindsilapora
		iv.	Padderpora
		v.	Vingipora
		vi.	Reshipora
		vii.	Chekoo
Total:		Number of Villages – 231	

APPENDIX XVI – 2

MAP SHOWING THE BOUNDARIES OF DISTRICT SHOPIAN

**APPENDIX - XVI - 2
DISTRICT SHOPIAN**



- LEGEND**
- BOUNDARIES -----
 - ROADS —————
 - HEADQUARTERS ■
 - DISTRICT ■
 - TEHSIL ■
 - IMPORTANT PLACES ●