CHAPTER 3
SOCIO-ECONOMIC PROFILE OF ALIGARH DISTRICT

3.1 General Background of Aligarh

The district Aligarh reflects the influence of both the long Mughal period and relatively brief British periods of domination. Like other cities of India Aligarh is a city of great antiquity, wrapping in its fold many dynasties and their rise and fall. Aligarh is still a regional administrative and commercial center. During the period of British rule it gained an important manufacturing industry known as "Aligarh Locks" which were manufactured largely in small shops and are well known throughout India.

Aligarh is one of the prosperous district, of western Uttar Pradesh. Several factors like agricultural potential, availability of labour, transport system climate etc. has made Aligarh a viable unit for industrial location. Hence in the wake of industrial expansion after Independence, Aligarh district has made a good progress in this field.

3.2 Geography

3.2.1 Location and Area

Aligarh is one of the important district of Uttar Pradesh. It is located in the western part of the state at a distance of about 126 kms from Delhi. It lies in central heart of Ganga Yamuna Doab. The district comprises the northern most part of Agra division. It is bounded by Bulandshahr district in the North and Mathura district in the South.

The district of Aligarh is spread from 27°29' to 28°11' North latitudes and 72° 38' east longitudes. The greatest width from
east to west is about 116 kms. And the maximum length from North to South is about 2 Kms. The total geographical area of the district is about 5028 sq. kms.

3.3 Parameters of Growth & Development

3.3.1 Population

The total population of the Aligarh district according to 2001 census was 32,95,982 persons comprising 1788880 male and 1507102 females and spread over the area of 37004 sq kms. The density of population is about 350 persons per sq. kms. The rural population of the district is about 2467484 persons (1345184 male and 1122300 females) while urban population is 828498 persons (443696 male and 384802 female). As per 2001 census the schedule caste and schedule tribe population of the district is 758308 persons and 1270 persons respectively.

3.3.2 Agriculture

Aligarh district is located in the fertile agricultural plain of the Ganga Yamuna Doab. Agriculture occupies a prominent place in the district Major crops are Rabi, Kharif, Wheat and Bajra.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Amenities</th>
<th>No. of inhabited villages</th>
<th>percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>1353</td>
<td>79.31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Drinking water</td>
<td>1706</td>
<td>96.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---</td>
<td>----------------</td>
<td>------</td>
<td>-----</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Communication</td>
<td>451</td>
<td>26.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Market</td>
<td>133</td>
<td>7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Medical</td>
<td>1640</td>
<td>96.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Power supply</td>
<td>1689</td>
<td>99.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Approached by</td>
<td>1069</td>
<td>62.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>pacca road</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** U.P. Gazette

### 3. 3. 3 Transport & Communications:

Aligarh enjoys the unique position from the point of view of transport. Being an industrial city it has good transport facilities both for rails and roads. It is a centrally located junction of the northern railway having direct connection with various marketing centres such as Delhi, Agra, Kanpur and Calcutta etc.

As far as the roads are concerned the city has a good network of connected well-developed roads. During the last three years, the roads of Aligarh improved tremendously. The district is benefited by three state highways passing through the district i.e. Delhi, Kanpur, Pilibhit-Bharatpur Chandausi, Tahakpur-Kola Road. The total length of road mileage in this category is 207.3 kms. These highways helps in the development of the district. Recently big factories and other industrial establishments have sprung along this road.

In 1985, the total number of post offices in the district was 485 in number and 94 telegraph offices in different parts of
the district. Postal services have enormously increased and it is expected that postal services will further improve in the district in the coming years.

3. 3. 4 Employment Generating Schemes

In the Aligarh district many employment generating schemes have been implemented which have generated enough employment opportunities in the past. Some of them were NREP, TRYSEM, TRDP, SEPUP, PMRY etc. Under SEPUP 2802 persons were benefited from 1993-94 to 1998-99.


3. 3. 5 Educational Level

The educational level of Aligarh district has steadily increased during the last four decades. In addition to the Aligarh Muslim University there are more than 8 degree colleges, 559 senior basic schools and 1418 junior basic schools in the district. According to table 3.1, in the year 1961 the total literate person including males and females were 341932, the total literate males and females were 282958 and 66174 respectively and the literacy percentage of the total population was only 19.77% which has been increased to 44.9% The percentage of literate females to the total females population was 3.75% and it has raised to 26.8% in 1991. The percentage of total literate male population also increased steadily from 16.3% in 1961 to 59.9% in 1991. The literacy rate of Aligarh district has increased tremendously from the year 1961 to till 1991.
Table 3.1

Educational Level in Aligarh District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Literate Person</th>
<th>% of Literacy</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Male</td>
<td>Female</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>282955</td>
<td>66174</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>616100</td>
<td>121483</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1981</td>
<td>633717</td>
<td>191023</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>633717</td>
<td>23679</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

3.3.6 Trade, Commerce and Export

The Aligarh district is well known for manufacturing locks, handloom and khadi cloth, rose water, sugar, pulses, ghee, glass, bottles, beads, wires, perched rice and Ayurvedic medicines. The important imported commodities in Aligarh district are metal, sugar, glass, food-grains, cotton yarn, herbs etc. and exported commodities are locks, khadi cloth, rose water, rice, rope, wheat, brass, wire, mangoes, glass bottles and ayurvedic medicines etc.

3.3.7 Industries

There is a rapid growth of industries in the Aligarh district. Lock industry is the largest and most important industry of the town. In addition to locks other industrial activities are manufacturing of building, fitting materials, electrical equipment, iron foundries, ferrous mines, cutlery, steel furniture, automobile spare parts, brass, glass work etc. The
agro-based industries are also growing in the district such as edible oil, dowry and bakery products, decoration articles, hosiery, readymade garments, carpet industries etc also have a sizeable production. There are about 7134 registered small scale industrial units in the district as a whole out of which 4004 units are located in the city area and the remaining 3130 are scattered in different blocks of Aligarh District.

3.3.8 Banks

There were 213 banks branches in the district at the end of 1988-89 which increased to about 230 in 1998-99. In Aligarh district commercial banks had 113 branches out of which Gramin Bank had 91, Aligarh district co-operative 19, UP cooperative Agriculture and Rural Development Bank and UP Financial Corporation had 1 branch each. Thus, banks/financial institutions has total 230 branches.

Table 3.2

Banks in Aligarh District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Name of the bank</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Commercial Banks</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>RRBs</td>
<td>91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Co-operatives Banks</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>U. P. •Financial Corporation</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>230</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Co-Operatives
There were 203 co-operative societies in 1980-81 and their number went up to 539 in 188-89 recording an increase of 336. The highest number of co-operative societies were in Sikandra Roa Tehsil followed by Atrauli Tehsil.

3.4 Present Scenario of Industrial Sector in Aligarh District
A brief survey of the historical background of SSIs reveals that Aligarh district did not have a large number of SSIs before independence. In order to encourage SSI, the Govt. of UP took up some concrete steps and as such, the Aligarh Industrial Estate was established and also "Talanagri" was set up in 1990 finished by UP Small Scale Industries Development Corporation (UPSSIC) to provide an alternate site for lock manufacturing. The Govt. of UP drew systematic plans to gear up the pace of industrialisation through SSI and the package of incentive gave further impetus to the growth and as such, the number of small scale industries rapidly grew.

Table 3.3 shows the no. of Registered units of Small Scale Industries, Bloc wise in Aligarh district. The main reason of concentration is that "Hathras block" is located on Grand Trunk Road, which is well connected to many parts of Aligarh district as well as outside the district. There is an easy transport facility of raw material and finished products. In other blocks these units vary from 18 in Bijauli to 326 in Iglas depending on availability of raw material, needs of products and means of transport and communication facilities. These industrial units provide large number of employment opportunities.
Table 3.3
Block wise Distribution of SSI units

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Name of Block</th>
<th>No. of Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Akrabad</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Atrauli</td>
<td>268</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Jawan</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Khair</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Chandausi</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Bijauli</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Dhanipur</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Iglas</td>
<td>326</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Gangiri</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Gonda</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Hasayan</td>
<td>153</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Hathras</td>
<td>1173</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Lodha</td>
<td>64</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Mursan</td>
<td>140</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Sasni</td>
<td>251</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Sikandra Rao</td>
<td>265</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>Tappal</td>
<td>81</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>3130</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** DIC of Aligarh 2001
Table 3.4 shows that SSI units are engaged in different types of activity. It is seen that miscellaneous manufacturing units were the dominant SSI units (32.04%) followed by repairing and services of industries i.e., 27.7%, Hosiery and Garments 23.4%, Food & Craft (7.5%), Metal product (4.69%), wood product (2.15%) and other units like rubber and plastic, chemical product, paper product and printing, transport equipment parts etc. were found to be negligible in existing industries.

Table 3.4

Distribution of SSI Units by the type of activity (Agra Zone)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Industries</th>
<th>No. units</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Food &amp; crafts</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>7.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Beverages &amp; Tobacco product</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Cotton textile</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Wood, silk and synthetic fibre textile</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Jute hemp &amp; mesta textiles</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Hosiery and garments</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>23.4%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Wood product</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>2.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Paper product &amp; printing</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Leather product</td>
<td>.</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Rubber &amp; plastic product</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>.19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S. No.</td>
<td>Industries</td>
<td>Investment Rs. (Crores)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------</td>
<td>------------------------------------</td>
<td>-------------------------</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Food &amp; crafts</td>
<td>3.980</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Hosiers- &amp; Garment</td>
<td>0.126</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** DIC report March 2006

Table 3.5 taken from the DIC, if we see the investment then we will find that investment on food craft is Rs. 3.980 crores has the maximum investment followed by wood product (Rs. 0.034 crores), paper product & printing (Rs. 0.034 crores).
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Product Category</th>
<th>SSI Units</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Wood product</td>
<td>0.035</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Paper product &amp; printing</td>
<td>0.034</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Rubber &amp; plastic product</td>
<td>0.100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Chemical products</td>
<td>-0.0530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Metal product</td>
<td>0.2250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Transport equipment</td>
<td>0.0100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>Miscellaneous manufacturing</td>
<td>0.289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Repairing &amp; services</td>
<td>0.157</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>5.0095</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** DIC report 2005-06

Table 3.6 shows these product-wise SSI units provide employment opportunity in Agra Zone of Aligarh district. A perusal of table shows that these 511 units provide the employment opportunity to about 2306 workers. The 39 units of food craft provide the employment opportunity to about 206 workers. Maximum no. of workers employed in miscellaneous manufacturing units i.e. 821 workers followed by Hosiery and Garments units where 674 workers are employed. In Rubber 85 plastic and transport equipment units less number of workers are employed i.e., 8 and 6 respectively.
Table 3.6

Employment Opportunities in SSI Units in Aligarh District (Agra Zone)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Name of the Unit</th>
<th>No. of Unit</th>
<th>No. of Workers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Food &amp; craft</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>206</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Hosiery &amp; Garment</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>674</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Wood product</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Paper product &amp; printing</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Rubber &amp; plastic product</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Chemical product</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Metal product</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>148</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Transport equipment</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Miscellaneous manufacture</td>
<td>164</td>
<td>821</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Repairing and services</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>511</strong></td>
<td><strong>2306</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Source:** DIC report March 2006

The total SS1 & cottage industrial units of different type in the district are 7134 which provide employment to 37484 persons. The table 3.7 shows that the repairing and servicing units are largest in number which is 1001 and these units provide the employment opportunity to 5494 workers. The second important accessories are lock industries. The total
no. of these industries in the district are 959 and these units provide the work to 5665 persons. These two industries that is repairing and services and lock industries combined together constitute about 30% of the total SS1 workers in Aligarh district.

The lock industry having 15.15% labour force stand first in giving the employment opportunities to its people. The other significant industries are metal products, hosiery and food product. The metal product industries providing employment to 8.78% of the total workers and occupies third place. The other important industries which provide a considerable employment to the workers and hosiery garments (7.23%), non-metallic products (7.17%), leather industry (6.89%) and food product (6.20%). The other factories which include many SSI unit as medicine and metallic equipment, vegetable ghee, soap factories etc. providing employment opportunities to about 4000 workers or 10.65% of the total work force of Aligarh district. The other industries like food and carpentry, paper printing, chemical product, rubber and plastic, building fittings, machine parts and tools, fitting brass art ware and electric machinery and apparatus are also important industries in the district and they provide employment to about 25% of the total work force.
Table 3.7
Distribution of SSI units according to the employment opportunities in Aligarh district 2005-06

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No.</th>
<th>Categories of industries</th>
<th>No. of SSI</th>
<th>Workers employed</th>
<th>% of workers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Hosiery and garments</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>2712</td>
<td>7.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Wood and carpentry</td>
<td>366</td>
<td>1828</td>
<td>4.87</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Paper printing products</td>
<td>121</td>
<td>848</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Food product</td>
<td>469</td>
<td>2327</td>
<td>6.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Leather product</td>
<td>575</td>
<td>2574</td>
<td>6.68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Chemical product</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>441</td>
<td>1.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Rubber and plastic</td>
<td>101</td>
<td>506</td>
<td>1.35</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Non-metallic product</td>
<td>539</td>
<td>2689</td>
<td>7.17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Metal product</td>
<td>659</td>
<td>3294</td>
<td>8.78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>Lock industries</td>
<td>959</td>
<td>5665</td>
<td>15.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Building fittings</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>1.359</td>
<td>3.62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Brass artware</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>1597</td>
<td>4.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>Machinery part and tools</td>
<td>171</td>
<td>848</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>Electrical machinery and apparatus</td>
<td>258</td>
<td>1295</td>
<td>3.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Repairing services</td>
<td>1050</td>
<td>5494</td>
<td>14.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Others</td>
<td>713</td>
<td>3993</td>
<td>10.65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>7134</td>
<td>37484</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: DIC report 2006
3.5 Suggestion for Future Growth of Small Scale Sector in Aligarh District

There are number of problems which are faced by small scale and cottage industries like problem of finance, raw material etc, which we will discuss in chapter 5. There are some suggestions that can be helpful to solve the problems of these industries and for the location of many new industries as well as in rural areas.

1. The Govt. must give emphasis on the importance of raw material. Proper raw material at cheaper rate will bring cost of production to a low level and will increase the demand. The problem of raw material can be solved by opening raw material bank where raw material should be stored at a time of excess supply and distributed at the time of scarcity.

2. The competition between small scale and large scale industries may be minimized by providing goods & cheap supply of some modern machinery, raw material, finance & other facilities.

3. The process of giving credit to small scale industries should be simplified. So that many new industrial units can be set up in urban and rural areas which provide employment opportunity to many people and the migration from rural area to urban areas in search of job will be reduced. Moreover Govt. may reduce the heavy burden of taxes and excise duty at least for the export products. So small entrepreneurs would get an opportunity to introduce their products in foreign markets.
4. The state Govt. should introduce some training camps of short period in urban as well as rural areas from time to time. This camp should provide technical guidance to manufactures so that they can handle and operate their machinery without any external support. The industries can be established anywhere and they can get the higher degree of satisfaction if a regular planning of utilization of full capacity is there. There will be maximum production and the cost of production will come down if action of modernization is taken, modern scientific management introduced, technicians and workers are trained, market research are undertaken and many other measures are taken for establishing the industry to work in a healthy manner. These measures will increase the number of industries in rural areas and ultimately it will bring stability in rural life and improve the socio-economic condition of rural poor.