Chapter 1: Introduction

District Rajouri derives its name from Rajouri Town, historically known as Rajpuri. It was carved out of the erstwhile Poonch district in 1968 and has an area of 2630 Sq. Km. Situated at the foothills of *Peer Panchal* Hills range, it is bounded by Udhampur and Jammu district in the East, Poonch district on the West, and Pulwama district in the North. The District is a mix of mountain slopes and plain lands where high yielding varieties of paddy, maize, wheat, pulses, oil seeds and fodder are grown. Of late, it has recorded good growth in the production of mushroom and honey. The population of the district is 4.83 lakh with 93.09 *per cent* residing in rural areas and has a literacy rate of 58 *per cent* compared to the State's literacy rate of 55.5 *per cent*.

District Headquarters - Rajouri town



Administrative set-up

The District has been divided into eight blocks and seven tehsils¹. It has four towns, viz. Rajouri, Thannamandi, Sunderbani and Nowshera. Rajouri town is the district headquarters. The District Development Commissioner (DC) is the Chief Executive Officer of the District who oversees and coordinates the implementation of various socio-economic developmental programmes. He is assisted by the Additional Deputy Development Commissioner and the Chief Planning Officer in preparation of plans. The Deputy Commissioner acts as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the District Rural Development Agency (DRDA) which is responsible for coordination and implementation of various scheme for the upliftment of the rural poor such as Swarn Jayanti Gram Swarozgar Yojna (SGSY). National Rural Employment Guarantee Act (NREGA), Prime Minister Gram Sarak Yojna (PMSGY), Indira Awas Yojna (IAY), etc. under Rural Developmental Sector.

¹ Rajouri, Nowshera, Sunderbani, Kalakote, Kotrenka (Budhal), Darhal and Thanamandi.

The administrative set up of the District is shown below:

CHART I District Development Commissioner Additional **Chief Planning** Divisional Officer Commissioner Assistant **District Rural** Commissioner Development **Sectoral Officers** Development Agency Block Development Officers