

CHAPTER V

INDUSTRIES

OLD-TIME INDUSTRIES

Various industries in cottage sector have flourished in the district since generations. Weaving, pottery, brass and bell-metal work, processing of cereals and pulses, carpentry and blacksmithy, stone carving, cane and bamboo work, salt manufacture, etc., were the most reputed categories of industries. The artisans who produced these articles formed, for centuries, an integral part of the village community, being paid largely in kind and in some cases, holding lands towards remuneration for the services rendered to individuals or community as the case may be. Competition of cheap machine-made goods as well as various administrative discriminatory measures adopted by the British destroyed their prosperity. As a result, most of those cottage industries are lying in a moribund condition. We get a good picture of the old-time industries of the district, from the following account given by O' Malley in the Balasore District Gazetteer, published in 1907.

"The importance formerly attaching to Balasore as an industrial centre may be gauged by the fact that in the 17th century it contained the factories of no less than five European nations. The Portuguese, the Dutch, the Danes, the French and the English. The chief settlement of the English was in Balasore town. But they also had subordinate factories at Bhadrak, Soro and Balaramgadi around which weaver colonies gathered. The fine cotton cloths and muslins produced by their looms formed the chief articles of commerce and frequent mention was made in the earlier records of the English of the Balasore "Sannoas" and "Cussayas" as these fabrics were called. With the general dislocation of trade caused by the Maratha raids the industry appears to have languished and it did not revive when the Pax Britanica was introduced."

In a report submitted by the Faujdar of Baleshwar in 1761, we find, rice, iron and stone plates referred to as the principal exports and cotton cloths were not mentioned, while Stirling, writing in 1822, has left it on record that "the manufactures and trade of Orissa proper are very inconsiderable and unimportant. A sufficiency of the coarser cloths is made for the use of the inhabitants in all parts of the district. The calicoes of Balasore, Soro, Bhadrak, Janjipur and Hariharpur were once prized and sought after under the name of Sannaahs, but the demand for the finer fabrics of that description having long since declined the quantity now manufactured is very trifling".

Apart from the cotton weaving, silk weaving constituted small industry. The only kind of silk manufactured was *tusser*. It was carried on by weaver families who lived in the northern part of the district in the villages Patpur and Raibania, and a few inhabitants of the village Purusanda in Bhadrak subdivision.

In the north, the weavers were not confined to any particular caste. In Bhadrak subdivision the weavers were known as Bengali Tantia who migrated from Bengal and settled down in this district many years ago. The silk weavers purchased *tusser* cocoons from the neighbouring ex-states of Mayurbhanj and Kendujhar. The articles manufactured were sold mostly in the district. The products of the local looms could not compete with the cheaper machine-made articles of British though the local handloom products were much more durable.

Besides the weaving industry, there were two other important industries, namely, salt manufacture and ship-building. Salt in fact was the largest export of the district at that time. The manufacture of salt gave employment to a large number of people. Saltpetre was in great demand for gun powder. British Government, therefore, established a monopoly in the salt manufacture. The finest salt of all India, says A. Stirling, was manufactured in the wild inhospitable tract along the sea-board and yielded annually to the East India Company a net revenue falling little short of 18 lakhs of rupees. The monopoly system was abolished in 1862-63, but salt-making continued for many years later to be the staple manufacture of the district. In 1875-76, nearly 7,400 tonnes (200,000 maunds) were manufactured.

During 19th century the manufacture and sale of salt was quite a profitable business. But in course of time this trade could not prosper. Recently, the State Government decided to take up the salt manufacture but it was not executed and finally it was entrusted to OMCAD (Orissa Maritime and Chilka Area Development Corporation Ltd.) in October 1978. The Project Model Salt Farm at Churamani was first taken over by OMCAD covering an area of 41.71 hectares (103.09 acres) with a view to manufacture salt on commercial basis and develop salt manufacturing unit in rural areas and to meet the requirement of salt in Basudebpur Tahasil in particular and Baleshwar district in general.

The salt farm is situated on the bank of river Gamai in Basudebpur Tahasil. The salt field is situated at a distance of 5 km. from the village Eram. The period of procurement of salt was from December to May depending on varied climatic conditions. The unit started

its production from 1979-80. But, frequent natural calamities like cyclone and heavy rainfall during the years 1982-83 and 1983-84 caused great loss to the corporation. In the year 1985-86 only 600 tonnes of salt was produced, out of which only 100 tonnes of salt were sold. Remaining 500 tonnes were washed away by heavy rainfall. From 1978-79 to 1987-88 the total income from the trade was Rs. 0.82 lakhs whereas the expenditure was Rs. 7.56 lakhs. Therefore, keeping this in view the entire unit had to be stopped.

This immediate ceasing of salt unit naturally had some repercussions on the economic condition of the people in Baleshwar.

The industry of shipbuilding was in existence in Baleshwar for a long time. Saista Khan before launching out his expedition to Chittagong had ordered Khan-i-Duran, the Subedar of Orissa, to manufacture ships in Baleshwar port. Cartwright had founded the factory at Baleshwar, being invited by Mir Kasim, who is described as Governor of, 'a town called Ballasserye, a sea town where shipping was built', and in Bruton's account Baleshwar has been described as "a great sea town, where to much shipping belonged".

Other two old-time industries of the district are the bell-metal industry of Remuna and stoneware works of Mangalpur and Nilagiri which are still surviving though in a decadent condition. Among some minor industries mention may be made of mat making, rope twining from jute and coconut fibre, baskets of reed and bamboo, earthenware and gunny bags. Gunny bags were formerly made in large number near Chandbali, but they were replaced by the cheap articles from Calcutta. Brass ware and bell-metal utensils of all descriptions including heavy brass ornaments for women were made by the local braziers, chiefly at Baleshwar. But the manufacture declined owing to the import and sale of cheap German silver ornaments.

POWER

Introduction of electricity in the district is of recent origin. A joint stock company under the name of Balasore Electric Company Limited undertook the electrification of Baleshwar town in the year 1943. Baleshwar town continued to be the only electrified place in the district for the next 13 years. In the year 1956, the State Government undertook a comprehensive scheme for electrification of small towns and rural areas in the district. In pursuance of that scheme the electrification of Bhadrak town commenced in July, 1956. This was followed by electrification of Chandbali in December, 1956 and Jaleshwar in February, 1957. The transmission lines from Bhadrak power-station was later extended

towards Baleshwar. Markona railway station area was electrified in September, 1957. The electric supply was extended to Soro in April, 1958.

The electric power available was A. C. generated by diesel prime-movers. In course of time all the power houses have been closed and dismantled since hydro-power was made available by the Orissa State Electricity Board. Since 1961 the power generation and distribution is looked after by the Orissa State Electricity Board and the source of power supply are Hirakud hydro power station, through Kuldiha and Betnoti grid sub-stations and Talcher thermal power station through Jajpur Road and Bhadrak (Golpur) grid sub-stations.

All the seven towns of the district, viz., Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Jaleshwar, Soro, Nilagiri, Chandbali and Basudebpur are electrified. Nearly 2,660 villages were electrified till the 31st March, 1986.

MINING

Practically there are no mines in the district. But laterite, sandstone, gravel, etc., are quarried for building and road-metalling. The rock, most commonly used for building purposes in the district is laterite.

The laterite blocks cut into different sizes are used in construction of buildings and temples. The pisolite texture in the rock do not allow fine ornamentations as seen in other temples. Slabs from 4 to 5 feet long are easily procurable while the more loose and cuttings commonly called Morum forms of laterite used for road making.

Altered basic rocks locally known as "*muguni*" which is found in the hills near Nilagiri, and at Talmunda and Mangalpur has considerable local demand and is also, at times, having good market at Calcutta. The rock is comparatively compact and found in different colours. Though fairly easy to work, the rock is admirably suited for fine carvings and making pottery. The most general use of this rock at present, however, is for manufacturing of plates, bowls, basins, etc. This is rudely cut into the intended form by the quarrymen on the spot and then the finished products are transported to the markets by the merchants who deal in these articles.

At present a soapstone mine is working in the district at Baulagadia in Nilagiri subdivision. This mine is being worked by Baulagadia Stone Industry Co-operative Society Limited. The Forest department used to grant lease for extraction of soapstone to the society from the sixties treating this mineral to be a minor mineral. This department granted the last lease till the 18th March 1981.

The mining of this mineral is to be undertaken in accordance with the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957. In recent time the Forest department was advised to stop granting further lease for soapstone and the society was asked to obtain a Certificate of Approval and apply for a mining lease under the provisions of the Mines and Minerals (Regulation and Development) Act, 1957. The society having being constituted of artisans who are traditionally earning their livelihood on the soapstone craft has been granted a mining lease for steatite over an area of 92.32 acres. The Directorate of Mining and Geology, Orissa, has launched a programme for detail assessment of soapstones in the district.

Minerals

The coast of Chandbali is rich in limenite, magnetite, zircon, rutile and minor amounts of monazite, which is a source of thorium. Occurrence of iron-ore, chromite, asbestos and steatite in Nilagiri subdivision of the district has been reported.

In Nilagiri, a few mineral based small scale industries like emery stone and grinding, wheels, some stone chips manufacturing units, etc., have been set up. Besides units like manufacture of hydrated lime, earthenware, pipes, asbestos, cement, etc., have also got potentiality for development.

Future Prospects

So far, no systematic geological investigation has been carried out in this district. But recently the State Government's Mining and Geology department has launched a programme for assessment of economic mineral deposits in this district after which a clear picture of the mineral potentiality can be known.

LARGE SCALE INDUSTRIES

Baleshwar has been declared as an industrially backward district by the Government of India in the year 1983-84. Though it is one of the richest districts in India in agriculture, only one large scale industry has developed in the recent past.

Ferro-alloy Corporation Ltd.

Charge Chrome Plant

Situated in D. P. Nagar at about 4 kilometres towards the west of Bhadrak town in the village Randia, the charge chrome plant set up by M/s. Ferro Alloys Corporation Limited is the only heavy industry in the district. It has commenced production since 17th March 1983. This plant was running with a capital investment of Rs. 45.92 crores as on June, 1985. At present 503 persons (both skilled and unskilled) are working in this unit.

The plant produced chargechrome of 30,713, 30,491 and 40,259 tonnes in the year 1983-84, 1984-85 and 1985-86, respectively. The basic raw materials for this industry is chromite, which comes from Baula mines of Kendujhar district and Sukinda valley mines of Cuttack district. It is an export oriented unit and the entire production of the plant is being exported to the countries in Europe and to Japan.

MEDIUM SCALE INDUSTRIES

A few number of medium scale industries are functioning in this district. These are M/s. Jaikisan Das Mall Jute Products Private Limited, M/s. Bhattar Solvent Extraction Udyog Private Limited, M/s. Emami Paper Mills Private Limited, M/s. Jaiswal Plastic Tube Private Limited, M/s. Multilayer Composites Private Limited and the Orissa Plastics. Details about these industries are discussed below.

M/s. Jaikisan Das Mall Jute Products Pvt. Ltd.

Established in 1976 at Rupsa, the Jaikisan Das Mall Jute Products Private Limited produces jute twine. The raw materials required by the unit is jute which is being procured from the local market as well as from different districts of the state. The factory was built with a capital investment of rupees 80 lakhs and it has provided employment to 313 persons.

M/s. Bhattar Solvent Extraction Udyog Private Ltd.

The Bhattar Solvent Extraction Udyog Private Limited has been established at Arad Bazar near Baleshwar in the year 1973 with a capital investment of rupees 35 lakhs. The main product of the unit is rice-bran oil. It gives employment to 60 persons.

M/s. Emami Paper Mills Pvt. Ltd.

Established in the year 1984, the Emami Paper Mills Pvt. Ltd., is situated at Balgopalpur, and manufactures writing and printing papers from waste paper, straw and Sabai grass. It was established with a capital investment of rupees 250 lakhs and has given employment to 195 persons.

M/s. Jaiswal Plastic Tubes Pvt. Ltd.

The Jaiswal Plastic Tubes Private Limited was established in the year 1983 at Ganeswarpur. This unit manufactured rigid P. V. C. pipes and fittings. The capital investment of this factory was rupees 126.6 lakhs and it provided employment to 70 persons.

M/s Multilayer Composites Private Ltd.

This unit was also established at Ganeswarpur in the year 1985. It produces co-extruded multilayer plastic films, minigrip plastic bags and flaxo printings. It was established with a capital investment of rupees 85 lakhs and has given employment to 64 persons.

M/s. Orissa Plastics

The Orissa Plastics was established in the year 1966 by the side of the trunk road near Baleshwar. Till December 1985, the capital investment was Rs. 75.55 lakhs. The organisation is a partnership firm and is managed by the partners and professional managerial staff. It gives employment to 68 persons (both skilled and unskilled). The factory produces high density polythylene pipe, low density polythylene pipe, poly propolene pipe, U. P. V. C. pipe as per standard specification, L. D. polythylene bags, fittings for above pipes and moulded items. During the year 1983, 1984 and 1985 the plant has sold goods worth rupees 2.45 lakhs, 2.71 lakhs and 2.34 lakhs respectively. The whole process of the plant is operated by electricity. The products of the plant is marketed in the state and is also exported to different parts of the country.

Now, there is wide scope for the entrepreneurs for establishment of industries in the district. In order to give adequate incentives to the entrepreneurs, the Central Government have declared 25 per cent investment subsidy on fixed capital investment in small scale sector and the Government of Orissa have introduced different policies like Industrial Policy Resolutions, 1980 and Industrial Policy, 1986 with a package of incentives for benefit of the entrepreneurs.

SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

Baleshwar district towards the beginning of the seventies was not industrially developed and thereafter some promotional efforts were made both by the Small Industries Services Institute and Directorate of Industries to motivate people for starting new and small scale industries in the district. Up to the end of 1973-74 there were 257 small scale units in the district. Except one plastic unit and few other repairing and servicing units, all others were saw mills, carpentry units, rice mills, rice huller-cum-wheat processing units.

Towards the end of 1974-75 to 1978-79, there were 553 small scale industries in the district. During the next seven years from 1979-80 to 1985-86 there was appreciable change in the establish-

ment of tiny and small scale industries. So far, 1880 small scale industries have been established in this district till the 31st March, 1986 with total investment of rupees 1,440 lakhs.

These 1880 small scale industries provided employment to 11,168 workers (both skilled and unskilled). All these units are registered in the Directorate of Industries. Besides, there are many unregistered factories.

Some details of these units are given below :

Agro and Marine based Industries

The district being primarily an agricultural district, its economic activities centre round agriculture. Processing of paddy, wheat, oil-seeds and bakery products like biscuits, breads and pastries are manufactured in this category of industries. All these industries are mainly situated at places like Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Pirhat, Nimpo, Dhamnagar and Chandbali. These industries are 629 in number and employed 2385 (skilled and unskilled) persons. All these units are established with a capital investment of rupees 163.75 lakhs.

Although a sizeable number of agro-based industries have already come up in the district there is still potentiality for some more industries based on agricultural resources.

Among them rice milling is the largest industry in the district. It began in the early twenties of the present century and gradually spread. The main bulk of capital investment was made by the Marwaris and in a few cases by Bengalis and Oriyas. But now most of these mills have been closed or are in a state of decay.

Engineering Industries

The engineering industries which are mainly located at Baleshwar, Soro, Nilagiri, Bhadrak and Charampa are ancilliary in nature. They manufacture engineering articles like fabricated gates and grills, G. I. buckets, agricultural equipments, steel utensils, hospital equipments, rolling mill, huller screen blade and light engineering works. There are 187 engineering industries employing 1350 persons. All these units have been established with a capital investment of rupees 210 lakhs.

Chemical and Allied Industries

Homoeopathic dilution, Ayurvedic medicines, acid, fine chemicals, phenyle, candles, soaps, cement tiles, etc., are manufactured by the Chemical and Allied Industries. These units are

mostly concentrated at Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Charampa and Chandbali. These are 107 in number and employed 1215 workers. All these units are established with a capital investment of rupees 190.98 lakhs.

Glass and Ceramic Industries

The glass and ceramic industries mainly manufacture bricks and stone utensils. These industries are 178 in number and employed 2626 persons both skilled and unskilled and are mainly situated at Baleshwar and Soro. These are established with a capital investment of rupees 32.20 lakhs.

Plastic Product Industries

Manufacturing of plastic fishing floats, toys and baskets, polythene film and spectacle frames coming under this industry are chiefly located at Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Remuna. These are 17 in number and have given employment to 69 persons. All these units are established with a capital investment of rupees 28 lakhs.

Textile Industries

During 1974-75, 104 powerlooms were allotted to 26 entrepreneurs. But up to 1979, 12 powerloom factories have been established. These factories are mostly concentrated at Baleshwar, Jaleshwar, Bhadrak, Nilagiri, Motto and Narogoda. They manufacture readymade garments, tents, tarpaulines. Dhoti and Gamuchhas, yarn dyeing, pillows, hospital liveries, beds, clothing, etc. It provides employment to 29 skilled and 32 unskilled persons.

Electrical and Electronic Repairing Industries

Electrical jobs, servicing and repairing of radios, tape-recorders, storage of batteries and manufacturing of battery plates are coming under this category of industries. These industries are mainly located at Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Charampa. There are 25 electrical and electronic repairing units in the district employing 62 persons. All these units were established with a capital investment of rupees 2.50 lakhs.

Wood and Forest-based Industries

The forests of Nilagiri hills with its rich timber have led to the growth of some forest-based industries. There are 30 saw mills. 251 forest-based industries have been set up in the district employing 1484 persons chiefly located at Baleshwar, Bhadrak, Charampa, Chandbali, Gopalgan and Dhamnagar.

All these units were established with a capital investment of rupees 132.40 lakhs.

Servicing and other Miscellaneous Industries

Servicing of auto engines, tyre retrading and resoling, painting and binding of books, body building of rickshaws, repairing of bicycles, rickshaws, tyre and tubes, welding of motor vehicles, and cycles come under these type of industries. There are 241 servicing and miscellaneous industries in the district employing 945 persons. All these units are scattered all over the district and were established with a capital investment of rupees 35.24 lakhs.

Leather Industries

There are about 17 leather industries in different places of the district mainly at Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Chandipur. They produce tanned leather footwear like Chappals, shoes, leather bags, leather boxes, etc. These industries employed 48 persons.

Animal Husbandry

There are 8 such industries in the district. All these units are located at Baleshwar town and have been established with a capital investment of rupees 5.5 lakhs. It gives employment to 48 persons and produces cattle and poultry feed, mineral mixtures and mineral licks.

Fishing

Fishing plays a vital role in the economic development of the district. Its potentialities are vast and varied. Baleshwar is enriched with marine and brackish water resources in the 130 kilometres archshaped coastal line. Fishing, specially the marine fishing has become the main occupation of the fisherman. As per the survey conducted by the Fisheries Department in 1981 there were 227 villages covering 4749 fisherman households with a population of about 84,000 persons.

Baleshwar coast is not important for prawn fishing but for other edible fishes. The annual procurement is about 21,000 tonnes and these are mostly marketed at Calcutta. In view of the growing importance of fishing industry in the district, it has been estimated that, 350 tonnes of ice are required for preservation and packing during 1984. Keeping this requirement in view, 23 numbers of ice plant-cum-cold storage have been set up both in public and private sectors.

Fishing operation suggests the development of different types of industries such as ice plants, cold storages, mechanised boat manufacturing units, servicing units for mechanised boats (for repair), fishing nets (nylon), plastic floats, salt and other allied industries based on marine water, etc. All these above mentioned industries may be set up in the different growth centres of the district like Chandipur and Dhamara.

Demand based Industries

Baleshwar being the neighbouring district of the industrially advanced state, West Bengal, there has been some impact over the people of this district.

Some industries like manufacture of plastic goods, plastic buckets, plastic chappals, paints and varnishing, modern electrical goods, decorative items, etc., have got scope for development in the district. As there is good demand for fuel to meet demands arising out of fuel scarcity, industries for manufacture of coke briquettes, coal-dust briquettes and saw-dust briquettes thrive well.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

In spite of many odds and obstacles, a number of traditional cottage industries of the district have survived since centuries. After independence attempts are being made to organise them by giving technical assistance and financial aid under the government patronage. Industrial co-operative societies are being formed for providing adequate capital and better methods of marketing. The demand for these hand-made products is gradually increasing.

Account of the cottage industries existing at present in the district are given below.

Handloom Weaving

Among the cottage industries, weaving occupies a prominent place in the district. Cotton weaving is still carried by the 'Tanti' (the weaver caste) who weave cotton cloths, which are noted for their durability. Muslin manufactures for which Baleshwar was once famous, has gone into oblivion although it survived for a long time in Bhadrak in a decadent condition after British occupation. Yarns required for weaving coarse cotton cloths are procured from outside. Weaving is also carried on by people belonging to other castes who have set up looms after getting some training in the art.

The highest number of weavers live in villages. The main impediments in their progress and prosperity are the scarcity of raw materials, want of capital and lack of modern looms and marketing facilities. Their manufacturing activities are solely confined to the old-fashioned articles like napkin, Dhoti and saree. Co-operative societies have been organised among the weavers. There are 72 weavers' co-operative societies in the district and 5361 weavers have been enrolled as members as on 31st March, 1985. These societies were established with a capital investment of Rs. 41,30 lakhs. The quantity of raw materials consumed by these co-operative societies during the years 1982-83 and 1983-84 were 97.47 lakh kilogrammes and 97.84 lakh kilogrammes respectively. They produced 12.67 lakh square metres and 34.85 lakh square metres of clothes as finished goods during these two years.

There are at present 10,230 persons employed in these units as workers with an average earning of Rs.450 to 500 per month. Besides, these establishments engage daily labourers according to their need. There are 5115 looms in operation at present. The main centres of activity of the co-operative societies are Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Jaleshwar.

The Orissa Handloom Weavers' Co-operative Ltd., procures the products from the primary weavers' co-operative societies to market them through its sale depots situated in the urban and semi-urban areas of the district.

Besides, other measures like organisation of exhibition, providing rebate on sale of handloom clothes, etc., are being implemented to popularise the handloom products. But inspite of the facilities provided by the state, the industry is in a state of decay. The wages earned by the weavers of the district is low as compared to other classes of artisans. Moreover, the poor and illiterate weavers of the district are ignorant about the financial pattern and schemes sponsored by the Government from time to time to provide financial help both from the institutional agencies and from the Government. Inadequate financing has retarded healthy growth of the handloom industry of the district. Keen competition with mill-made cloth and power loom products also poses serious challenge to the growth and development of handloom industry.

Village Leather

Only one village leather unit in the form of a co-operative society is functioning at Nilagiri. This unit was established with a capital investment of Rs. 6,000. Mostly the Harijan people of

the area are engaged in this society. They are engaged in collection of hide-skins, flaying of leather and manufacturing shoes and other leather products.

Village Fibre

There are some families of Harijans in the villages of Jaleshwar C. D. Block who produce small carpets, coirmats, ropes, etc., as their traditional craft. There is only one co-operative society located at Khuad for the development of the industry through which the local people get employment.

Processing of Cereals and Pulses

Out of 20 units engaged in processing of cereals and pulses in the district 6 units are properly functioning which are managed by the co-operative societies. They are called as the Hand-pounding co-operative societies. These units are located at the Chaugachhia, Nilagiri, Similia, Tihiri, Basudebpur and Khaira and have given employment to 347 persons out of which most of them are part-time and casual workers. They manufacture rice only. Besides, the rest units are closed due to the introduction of rice hullers.

Village Pottery

There are as many as 300 potters in the district who have been settled up in a scattered area in different places like Nilagiri, Bhadrak, Dhamnagar, etc. At present there are 2 co-operative societies functioning in the district mainly located at Nilagiri and Bhadrak. The Dhamnagar unit is yet to start its production. They usually manufacture earthenwares, roofing tiles, jars and old fashioned pots for cosmetic purposes. Lack of capital and modern techniques are the two great impediments in their progress. For its development, it receives financial assistance from the State Khadi and Village Industries Board.

Gur and Khandasari

There are 4 Gur and Khandasari industrial co-operative societies in the district located one each at Baliapal and Dhamnagar and two at Tihiri which employ about 200 artisans in this trade. It produces Gur and Khandasari. The units at Baliapal and Dhamnagar have been closed.

Bee-keeping

There is only one Bee-keeping Co-operative Society functioning at Baleshwar town. The society has enrolled bee-keepers from the different C. D. Blocks of the district. It produces honey and marketed

it in and outside the district. Besides the unit also manufactures bee-boxes as an approved supplier for supply to other members of the societies outside the district. It engaged about 600 persons for this purpose.

Carpentry and Blacksmithy

There are 3 Carpentry Industrial Co-operative Societies mainly located at Baleshwar, Bhadrak and Similia. About 214 local artisans have been provided employment through these societies both skilled and unskilled. They manufacture wooden materials like cots, chairs, tables, benches, almirahs, racks, wooden agricultural implements, etc.

Cane and Bamboo work

Bamboo work is also one of the important cottage industries of the district. A large number of people in many villages earn their livelihood through this industry. They prepare various types of mats, baskets and other kinds of goods which find a ready market in near by towns and villages. Four industrial co-operative societies have been established at Nilagiri, Bhograi, Similia and Tihiri which gave employment to 54 persons excluding other part-time and casual workers.

Village oil

There is only one village oil industrial society located at Similia which produces edible oil.

Cottage Match

There is only one Cottage Match Industrial Co-operative Society in the district at Similia which employs 40 persons. It produces match sticks and boxes and was established with a capital investment of Rs. 20,000.

Lime

There is a Lime Industrial Co-operative Society in the district located at Mitrapur employing 28 persons. It collects raw lime shells and manufactures lime powder for whitewash. It is in moribund condition.

Salt

In the year 1958, some people of Bolang organised a salt co-operative society known as the Bolang Salt Manufacturing Industrial Co-operative Society Ltd. The Revenue department leased out 100 and 150 acres of salt land in 1958 and 1975

respectively to this society. This unit is situated at a distance of 60 km. from Balেশwar. The Industry department has posted a Salt Supervisor in the said society for better management and production. As it is a seasonal manufactured commodity, the output fully depends on the sun-ray in summer. The production of this society was 20,000 quintals of salt during the year 1984-85.

Coir

There are four Coir Industrial Co-operative Societies in the district located at Sardhapur, Navada, Jhadapipal and Bolang. About 163 members have been enrolled as members. These units manufacture door mats.

Bell-metal

Bell-metal industry in the district is chiefly concentrated at Remuna. There is a co-operative society. About 46 persons were engaged in this trade. The society is unable to prosper due to the non-availability of raw-materials at cheaper rate.

Stone carving

There are about 90 families of stone carvers in village Baulagadia who mostly belong to the tribal class. There is a co-operative society at Baulagadia to assist the stone workers. The stone workers get stones from the local stone quarries through the co-operative society and prepare various kinds of stone utensils. The economic condition of these stone carvers is not good. They have taken to agriculture and field labour as their subsidiary occupations.

Recently, another stone carving industrial co-operative society has been organised at village Gohirapada under Soro C. D. Block named as Laxminarayan Marble and Stone Carving Co-operative Society. These two societies have employed 363 persons in this trade.

The products of the handicrafts are being marketed through different co-operative stores, government handicraft shops, exhibitions conducted in the district and state level and trade fairs in various national and international level.

Panchayat Samiti Industries

There are three Panchayat Samiti industries in the district. These are registered under the names of Carpentry Co-operative

Society, Remuna; Nilagiri Carpentry Industrial Co-operative Society, Nilagiri; and Blacksmithy Co-operative Society, Nilagiri. They manufacture, wooden furnitures and fabrication works like grills, gates, etc.

For the development of the village industry, the Cottage Industries Board helps in sanctioning working capital loan. The Orissa Small Industries Corporation supplies mechneries to the educated unemployed persons for putting up of the units. Apart from this, the Orissa State Financial Corporation and commercial banks are also financing the entrepreneurs.

District Industries Centre

According to the policy of the Central Government, a District Industries Centre with a General Manager as the head of office is operating since 1st August, 1978. This is an institution at the district level which provides all services and facilities to the entrepreneurs and artisans at one place for setting up small and village industries. The main function of this office is to help, establish new industries by identification of suitable schemes, preparation of feasible reports, arrangements for supply of machinery, equipments and raw materials, credit facilities, power, land, factory shed, etc., and inputs for marketing and extension services under one roof at the district level.

The General Manager co-ordinates the work of 5 functional divisions, each functional division being headed by a Manager and assisted by an Assistant Manager. Extension Officers have been posted in the field to look after the development of both small scale and village industry in the rural areas. There are also many class III end class IV employees to assist them.

State Assistance to Industries

The State Government have provided many facilities for the development of existing industries as well as for the establishment of new industries (both small scale and cottage). Under the State Aid to Industries Act, these industries are allowed financial assistance to obtain raw materials from outside on liberal terms. They are also assisted to obtain machineries at subsidised rate and steps are taken for proper marketing of their products. The industries avail of free technical advice and the State Government awards stipends for technical training for different industries. For this purpose many training centres have been established to train students, artisans in different technical trades.

The Orissa Financial Corporation, Orissa Small Scale Industries Corporation, Orissa Khadi and Village Industries Board, Directorate of Export Promotion & Marketing, Industrial Development Corporation Limited, Directorate of Textile and Handloom Development Corporation arrange financial as well as technical assistance to these co-operatives for this purpose.

Besides, under the Integrated Rural Development Programme, emphasis is laid on training of rural youths for self employment programme and they are also rehabilitated under the scheme after they receive training with stipend as per Government of India norms. During the 6th Five Year Plan Period 1,834 persons were trained under TRYSEM out of which 1,390 have been rehabilitated in the district so far.

With the advent of the new industrial policy of the Government regarding the self employment scheme for the unemployed youths, the district had a target of extending loans to 1,833 beneficiaries. But infact the sanction was more than the target (1900). Till the 31st October 1986, 1,601 beneficiaries were financed during the last 3 years by different nationalised banks to set up their units.

Industrial Estate

The only industrial estate in the district with 11 numbers of sheds was constructed at the district headquarters, Baleshwer, in the year 1974. At present, there are 50 sheds in this industrial estate. About 32 small scale units have been set up in 46 sheds. The other sheds are in the process for allotment. During 1980, the industrial estate, Baleshwar has been transferred to the Industrial Infrastructural Development Corporation of Orissa Ltd. These sheds are allotted to the entrepreneurs on outright purchase or on hire purchase basis on 10 years instalment scheme.

In addition, 20 acres of land have been acquired by IDCO for development of one industrial estate at Bhadrak.

Industrial Potential Plan for Future Development

Action is being taken for potential survey of the resources available for putting up of industries in this district mainly forest based and consumer type. After the introduction of the D. I. C. programmes in the district, the future prospects of the village

industries and co-operatives seems to be bright with the arrangement of technical know-how, adequate financial assistance, comprehensive training to artisans and marketing of their products.

Labour and Employees Organisation

The industrial working class of the district may be broadly divided as factory workers and miscellaneous workers. About 3,766 workers/labourers were employed in 98 registered factories of the district till 31st March 1985. Apart from this there are many unregistered factories with a number of casual workers. Most of the factory workers have their wage scales and many of them have secured employment in the rice mills, saw mills and in Proof and Experiment Unit, Chandipur.

There were 58 registered trade unions in the district till the 31st March 1985. Generally the workers of registered factories have formed trade unions to safeguard their interest. All these trade unions are affiliated to all-India organisations like INTUC, AIDEF, CITU, ADIEF, ACCDEF, AIPWF, AITUC., ADEIBEF., ADDUEF., OSEBF., STEF., etc.

Almost all the major factories of the district have provided amenities to their employees. The welfare measures include recreation club, rest shed, canteen, first-aid, drinking water, medical facilities, hutments, etc.

Besides, the Labour department took steps for proper implementation of various labour laws (15 in number) in force in the district through their district level offices located at Baleshwar and Bhadrak and also by the Central Government in respect of their undertakings.

General Conditions of Industrial Labourers

The industries in the district are both urban and rural based. The urban based industrial labourers enjoy more facilities than the rural based labourers.

Details about the labour welfare measures have been dealt in chapter XVII (Other Social Services).