

*Annual Report, 1935-36.*

Department of Industries.

Review on —.

## GOVERNMENT OF BOMBAY.

### GENERAL DEPARTMENT.

#### Resolution No. P. 73.

Bombay Castle, 8th January 1937.

### RESOLUTION OF GOVERNMENT.

The general industrial outlook during the year was not, Government regret to note, very bright. It is true that the condition of the cotton textile industry, the premier industry of this Presidency, had the good fortune to register a slight improvement and an increase in its total output and that a few other industries such as hosiery, chemicals, matches, paper, cigarettes, etc., did fairly well during the year under report, but, on the whole, the year (1935-36) did not show marked progress over the previous year in either trade or industry.

2. The Department of Industries continued to do good work in giving help to those small-scale industries which were likely to be benefited thereby. During the year under report the Department carried out practical investigations, and conducted experiments and demonstrations for the benefit of several of the established small industries of the Presidency, such as the real gold thread industry and the cashewnut shell oil industry. It also rendered similar help to prospective new industries, such as those concerned with the production of peppermint oil, aluminium sulphate, aluminium, lemon oil and calcium citrate. The Department also deserves to be congratulated on the assistance given by it to local manufacturers in the solution of some practical difficulties. Many new concerns were visited by a member of the staff of the Department and were given, when required, such expert advice as was necessary. Many of them were recommended to the several purchasing authorities. In some cases the questions of customs duty, cheap raw materials and other facilities were taken up by the Department with the authorities concerned on behalf of the factories. In addition, the Department proved a useful clearing house of commercial and industrial intelligence.

3. The Department of Industries continued, as before, to devote serious attention to cottage industries. It carried on its propaganda of

helping and advancing hand-weaving, which is the premier cottage industry of the Presidency, by means of its weaving schools and demonstrations. An interesting feature of this part of the Department's activity is its weaving schools for agriculturists. These are maintained exclusively for agriculturists to train them in hand-weaving by improved methods so that they can earn something during their spare time. It is encouraging to note that these schools are gaining in popularity.

4. The want of good marketing facilities used to be a serious handicap to the handloom industry. It has now been possible, thanks to the grant given by the Government of India, to help the handweavers in marketing also. The scheme prepared for this purpose provides for the establishment of four District Industrial Associations in this Presidency. The principal aims and objects of these Associations are :—

- (i) to supply improved appliances on the hire purchase system or otherwise,
- (ii) to supply raw materials at reasonable rates,
- (iii) to advise weavers and others in regard to the production of improved and easily marketable patterns and designs,
- (iv) to undertake preparatory and finishing processes, and dyeing and printing in connection with handloom industry,
- (v) to accept on consignment accounts against partial payments handloom products from weavers and to purchase outright handloom products and sell them.

Three such Associations have already started work at Poona, Ahmednagar and Hubli and during their short existence have shown profits in their transactions. A fourth Association will shortly start operations at Ahmedabad. Two new posts of a Marketing Officer and a Textile Designer were also created during the year under review, the former to supervise the working of the above Associations and the latter to help the weavers in devising new, attractive and marketable designs.

Government note with satisfaction that the public are taking advantage of the scheme sanctioned by them during the year under report for granting loans to small industries.

5. In order to help the improvement of the village tanning industry, the Department of Industries has trained two Tanning Demonstration parties under a Tanning Expert. These parties are now available for training village tanners in improved methods and Collectors have been requested to utilise the services of these demonstration parties. Experiments in another scheme, viz., that of Inland Fisheries have been started by the Department with the ultimate object of benefiting rural areas. Both these schemes, which were started with the Government of India grant for village uplift, will now have to be financed from provincial revenues, if

funds permit. Other schemes prepared by the Industries Department which will be beneficial mostly to the village population of this Presidency are :—

- (1) Development of hemp manufacture ;
- (2) Development of the village vegetable oil industry ; ✓
- (3) Drying of mango pulp ;
- (4) Bone-crushing for manure ;
- (5) Pottery glazing by ceramic colours ;
- (6) Improvement in glass bangle manufacture.

The first three schemes were recommended to the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research for sanction of funds but they were not accepted by it. The question of conducting experiments and demonstrations in connection with these industries will be considered by Government as funds permit. Investigations in connection with the fourth industry are not yet complete. Demonstrations in the last two industries are being successfully carried on by the officers of the Industries Department. The Industrial Engineer who had been to England recently visited glass factories there in order to study up-to-date processes. Further improvements will now be introduced by the Industrial Engineer in glass manufacture.

6. With effect from 1st April 1931 the control of Technical and Industrial Education in the Presidency was transferred from the Director of Public Instruction to the Director of Industries. There were in the Presidency, during the year under report, nine Government-aided institutions maintained by public bodies, nineteen Government-aided private institutions, eighteen other institutions not in receipt of a grant but recognised by the Department of Industries, ten institutions recognised for examination purposes only and one solely Government institution. The last is administered and controlled by the Department of Industries itself. The Department maintains touch with the other institutions through the Committee of Direction for Technical Education. During the year under review the Department, on the recommendation of the Committee of Direction for Technical Education, sanctioned grants-in-aid to the various technical and industrial schools amounting to Rs. 43,616. The Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, is the premier technical institution in the Presidency and stands in a class by itself. The Director of Industries was appointed Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Institute during the year under review. Candidates from different parts of India apply for admission to this institution. The R. C. Technical Institute, Ahmedabad, is the important technical institution maintained by Government. While the standard of instruction attained in this institution is lower than at the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, it is higher than at the other technical schools in the Presidency. The Department of Industries awards each year a number of scholarships

tenable at the Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute, Bombay, R. C. Technical Institute, Ahmedabad, F. S. Parekh Technical Institute, Surat, and the Government Hand Weaving Institute, Poona. Scholarships are also given to the students of the peripatetic weaving schools in the Presidency. In addition, ordinarily, three scholarships are awarded for research in Technical Chemistry and two for practical experience in Electrical Engineering. Owing, however, to financial stringency, the number of these scholarships was reduced to two and one respectively during the year under review.

7. The question of unemployment among educated young men has been engaging the attention of Government and the Department of Industries for some time. A general scheme providing suitable vocational training for relieving unemployment among the better educated classes will soon be launched. The scheme has been prepared by the Director of Industries. It has been sanctioned by Government with effect from the year 1937-38. The scheme contemplates the acceptance by a number of industrial establishments, for practical training for about five years, of boys who have reached the 7th English standard. The boys will also attend theoretical technical classes in the evenings during the whole period of their training and will, after the training is over, be absorbed into the industries concerned. In the first year about 275 boys will be taken up for training in Bombay and about 150 in Ahmedabad. The continuance of the scheme will depend upon the vote of the new Legislative Assembly.

A scheme for two Trade Schools, one in tailoring and the other in leather working, has also been prepared and the schools will be started if the Legislative Assembly sanctions the necessary funds for them.

8. During the year under report effect was given to the Bombay Weights and Measures Act, 1932. A Warden of Weights and Measures was appointed on 1st March 1935. This appointment was followed by the appointment of an Assistant Warden and a Senior Inspector. The Warden, Assistant Warden and Senior Inspector were trained at His Majesty's Mint. These three officers are assisted by a staff of Inspectors—41 in the Presidency and 11 in Sind—who were trained in the Weights and Measures Laboratory set up in Bombay and at His Majesty's Mint, Bombay.

Traders' Weights and Measures Laboratories were set up in the districts during the year. These are equipped with weighing and measuring instruments and working standards. The Inspectors use this equipment in the districts for verifying and stamping traders' weights and measures. In each of the districts a set of secondary standards is also maintained for the purpose of verification of working standards by Inspectors.

No prosecutions were undertaken during the year under the Weights and Measures Act.

9. In spite of the general trade depression, its limited resources and other handicaps, Government are pleased to note that the Department of Industries has been able to render a very good account of itself. The whole of the report for 1935-36 makes instructive reading and the thanks of Government are due to Mr. P. B. Advani, Director of Industries, Bombay Presidency, and to the establishment working under his direction.

By order of the Government of Bombay  
(Transferred Departments),

H. T. SORLEY,  
Secretary to Government.

To

The Commissioner, Northern Division,  
The Commissioner, Central Division,  
The Commissioner, Southern Division,  
The Commissioner of Excise, Bombay,  
The Director of Industries,  
The Director of Public Instruction,  
The Collector of Salt Revenue,  
All Collectors,  
The Director of Agriculture,  
The Registrar of Co-operative Societies,  
The Chief Conservator of Forests, Bombay Presidency,  
The Superintendent, Government Printing and Stationery,  
The Manager, Government Central Press,  
The Accountant General, Bombay,  
The Director of Information,  
The Oriental Translator to Government,  
The Private Secretary to His Excellency the Governor,  
The Revenue Department,  
The Educational Department,  
The Public Works Department,  
The Finance Department,  
The Home Department,  
The Government of Sind (by letter),  
The Government of India (by letter).

**Annual Report of the Department of Industries,  
Bombay Presidency, for the year 1936-37.**

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