## FACTS ABOUT THE COTTON MILL INDUSTRY OF INDIA

HILLOWNERS' ASSOCIATION
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## FOREWOR

It gives me great pleasure to present to the public the second booklet on the Cotton Textile Mill Industry of India, prepared by the Millowners' Association of Bombay. I consider that the thinking section of the public in this country should obtain a better acquaintance with this industry which holds a position of very great importance in our national economy.

Indeed, as the booklet rightly points out, the industry touches the economic life of the community at many points. Millions of cotton-growers derive their sustenance from it by selling their produce to the mills. Nearly eight lakh persons are directly employed by the industry which also provides the means of livelihood to the large community of handloom weavers by supplying them all the yarn they require. Moreover, the number of persons engaged in the cotton, yarn and cloth trades is legion. The industry also gives direct or indirect employment to the producers and suppliers of textile auxiliaries. Then there are the great transport services, another important source of employment, which owe not a little of their prosperity to the cotton mill industry.

Apart from clothing the country's population, the industry exports its surplus output to many countries and is thus instrumental in earning valuable foreign exchange. It also contributes large sums of money annually to the national exchequer by way of taxes and levies which run into many crores of rupees.

I earnestly hope that this factual study of India's foremost organised industry will be found both interesting and instructive by the reading public.

NEVILLE N. WADIA, Chairman.

Millowners' Association, Bombay, 10th December, 1953.