

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

Considerable number of self-employed persons are engaged in traditional and non-traditional miscellaneous occupations of skilled and unskilled nature. Mounting unemployment can be arrested by the involvement of large number of people in these miscellaneous occupations (part time or full time). Modern industries and technology have adversely affected craftsmen in traditional occupations, such as oil extracting, vessel repairing, pottery, leather working, etc, and the dwindled income has forced some of them to give up these vocations. Timely intervention of the Leather Industries Development Corporation and the Khadi and Village Industries Commission has averted the situation for the leather craftsmen based at Athani, Madbhavi and in some other places. In some quarters, women are engaged in considerable number in jobs like bidi rolling, *agarbatti* (joss-sticks) production and basket making and petty business including sale of flowers and vegetables. The Artisan Training Institutes are conducting job oriented courses in carpentry, leather craft, smithy etc, for a period of six months. After successful training, under the Special Components Programme, the trainees are entitled to get tool kits worth Rs 1,000 and for other schemes Rs 500. The district is noted for some vocations and its products have good market in Goa and also Maharashtra. Such occupations have been surveyed in this Chapter.

Blacksmiths are also called Lohars in the district and they are carrying on their occupation from generations. They were making weapons and agricultural implements in the olden days. Now, they are making only agricultural implements, parts of carts and building materials. Carpentry employs both hereditary and non-hereditary

workers in the district. The carpenters are making building materials, furniture, agricultural implements, cart frames, body building work of the motor vehicles, etc. Bicycle hiring and repairing shops have sprung up in all parts of the district and are managed by the proprietary workers with the assistance of labourers or trainees. In big shops, spare parts of the bicycles are also sold. The metal workers in the district are found mostly in Belgaum, Chikodi, Athani and a few in other places. They make new vessels and repair brass and copper vessels on piece-work basis. Some brass and copper merchants of Belgaum get the ready-made articles directly from Bombay and other places. The metal workers are attending to its polishing work, repairing or tinkering. The modern hair-cutting saloons are well equipped with modern furniture and are situated in big towns and urban areas. Customary practice of the village barber going round the houses still prevails. Tinsmiths are active in big towns and important villages. Their work is confined to making kerosine lamps, repairs of umbrellas, torches, locks, etc with the aid of simple tools. Many non-traditional workers have entered the occupation of washermen in recent decades. Dry washing shops and big laundries have come up in big towns. The old practices of collecting soiled clothes from the customers' houses is still in vogue. Tailoring occupation has in its fold significant number of women also. Tailoring shops are found scattered all over the district. This vocation has attracted many persons who were not tailors hereditarily.

Making Vibhuti Cubes

The sacred ash or *vibhuti* is generally used after the morning ablutions generally by the Hindus and particularly by the Lingayats. Sacred ash is also used widely in temples and Mathas. Ash cubes or *ghattis* are made by several Jangamas who are a priestly class among the Lingayats. The raw materials required are cattle dung for one method and white clay for another method. Firstly, the cube makers purchase dry dung of cattle at the rate of Rs 5 or 6 per bag and burn it. The ash is made into smooth powder with wooden hammers. This powder is poured into water pot and stirred for a while. Ash water is then poured into a pot by filtering it with cloth in order to separate dust and other foreign particles. This filtered ash water is poured into a pit covered with cloth. When the water evaporates, pure ash is collected and cubes are prepared in different sizes and shapes. After three days, these *ghattis* or *cubes*

are burnt in a kiln using dried dung as fuel. The burnt *ghattis* are ready for sale. In the second method, the raw-material required is white clay which is obtained from Betamcherla area of Kurnool district in Andhra Pradesh, at the rate of Rs 100 per bag of 33 kg (including freight charges). This clay is also reduced into powder by beating and poured into a water pot and stirred and filtered to remove all impurities. In the next stage, this mixture is poured into a small pit covered with cloth and is allowed to dry. The clean white earth is then collected and made into cubes and dried in the sun. An amount of Rs 500 to Rs 1,000 has to be invested in this job, which fetches these *vibhuti* makers a profit of Rs 200 to Rs 400 per month. They sell their products in the nearby shandies or to the retailers or in the well known *jatras* like Yedur, Godachi, Saundatti, Ulvi, Gokarn, etc. Shravana and Shivaratri are busy seasons for this vocation.

Bangle Making

Bangle making was practised at many places of the district in the past. A lithic record of 1261 AD now found in the Sofa mosque of Belgaum reports that Senahalli, Kallukundarage and Nittur were *balegara sthalas* or bangle manufacturing places. Kallukundarage is modern Kalkundri village. Recent competition from European and Chinese glass bangles forced the bangle makers to give up their vocation. Prominent among the bangle sellers were the Maniyars and Kasars, the latter belonged to a sub-division of Jainas. The Kolhapur bracelet units were getting raw-material in the form of large glass pieces, in green and blue colours from Ghodgeri village of this district. Many present bangle makers are non-hereditary workers and are called Kajugars locally. Now, there are 14 bangle making units in Murgod (some units are closed temporarily due to paucity of funds and high cost of firewood), four at Kittur and one at Nesargi. Each of them requires 10 to 15 workers. Basic materials are glass pieces and empty glass bottles which are purchased from Miraj and Pune. The cost per truck load is about Rs 3,500 to Rs 4,000. Colour powders are obtained from Firozabad or Hubli. Bangles are made by traditional way in three colours, black, green and blue. The bangles are made in mud kilns which are about 2 to 2½ feet in height and 10 feet in diameter, with 5 or 6 outlets around it. Earthen bowls of Nandagad containing glass pieces are kept in the kilns and heated from below. The skilled worker dips the point of the long iron rod in the melted glass substance and

withdraws it. Later, with gentle blows, makes a ring out of a little ball of glass substance and passes it on to the other worker who with the help of an instrument makes it to the required size and places on a stone. Wages paid to the first and second workers, per day range from Rs 12 to Rs 18 and Rs 5 to Rs 8 respectively. Two workers together can manufacture 2,500 bangles a day. A capital of Rs 6,000 to 10,000 has been invested in this job. The finished goods are purchased by the wholesale and retail dealers of Bangalore, Mysore, Hubli, Pune, Pandharpur, etc. There is a demand for black bangles in old Mysore area and for green in North Karnataka and Maharashtra. Good season for this occupation is from April to May and lean period will be about four months from June. It provides employment to the workers round the year. Some skilled Kajugars who left Murgod have started bangle units in many places of Shimoga district. Retail bangle sellers are mostly Muslims, who sell them together with the fancy bangles of Ferozabad make.

Sweet-meat Making

Kunda is a sweet-meat, very popular in Belgaum city for which, *khova*, sugar and cardamom are used. Most of the 73 sweet-meat shops and few hotels in Belgaum sell it in addition to other eatables. The capital invested in some of the sweet-meat shops exceeds Rs one lakh. Gokak town is famous for its special sweet-meat called *kardantu*. It is being sold in many sweet-meat shops and hotels along with other eatables. For preparing *kardantu*, cashewnut, jaggery, dry grapes, tree gum, ghee, poppy seeds, etc are used.

Leather Toy Making

There is only one leather toy making unit in the district, and six family members are engaged in it. In this three decades old occupation, miniature models of four-legged animals in leather or stuffed skin are made. These hand made toys depict various wild and domestic animals in realistic forms. They serve as teaching aids and are displayed at art galleries, educational institutions, especially in the deaf and dumb schools. This unit is being run in residences and workers are employed on a piece work of Rs five per item for its fragile stitching work. Raw materials required in this craft are tanned goat skin, iron wires, pure cotton cloth, rayon waste, paper pulp, plastic teeth and glass eyes. The last two are

specially manufactured for this purpose. A little quantity of copper-sulphate will be used in the toys as insecticide. Simple hand tools such as knife, scissors, needles, etc, are used to make toys. Among the raw materials, the main element is the Jamunapari goat skin purchased from the Satpura valley of Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh. The skeletal frame of the animal is first assembled with iron-wires and later filled with cloth and paper pulp is coated to get the required shape. Then, tanned goat skin is wrapped and stitched. Horns are made from cotton and fixed. Every month, about 300-400 miniature models of animals are prepared and sold. Capital invested in this job is about Rs 15,000 and average earning of the toy maker per day is Rs 50. Bulk of the skin toys are being supplied to the dealers in Bombay for marketing. They were also exported to U S A and U K.

Toy Making

Belgaum is famous for its fret toys or educational toys. The pioneer to start this craft in the district was Krishnoji Hanumantha Rao Renake. In 1922, he had set up his unit at Manoli. A few people were trained by him. They established their own units in Belgaum later. Teaching aids like counting frames, post boxes, matching plates and several other articles needed for nursery and montessori education are made by the skilled workers. In addition to it, domestic animals, wild animals and other toys fitted with wheels, are also made. Although, these products do not have fine finish, they are durable and within the reach of common people. Raw materials required are locally available wood, yellow teak, Nandi wood, plywood, enamel colours and the like. Important equipments used in the work are fret machines, circular saw-disc, grinder, belt grinder, wood turning lathe, sprayer for painting, carpenters' hand-tools, and others. Usually, toy makers are helped by their family members. In case of exigency, they employ carpenters on daily wages. The capital investment made in this vocation is upto Rs 10,000 and monthly income is about Rs 1,000 to Rs 1,300. Apart from local sales, the toys are sent to the dealers or educational institutions based at Karwar, Bijapur, Dharwad-Hubli, Goa and other places. The toy makers get orders for educational toys before June and children's toys after September. The season between June to September is dull.

Horn articles

Few families of Dombari caste based in Khanapur town and

Belgaum city are engaged in making fancy articles from cattle horns. These workers purchase horns from Nandagad, Parishwad or locally at the rate of Rs four or Rs five per pair. By using saws, knives, *bachi*, etc, fancy items like fish, birds and flower vases and combs are produced. A kind of leaves called *mithili ele* grown in the forest areas are used by them for polishing purpose. Their favourite selling places are railway stations, bus-stands, busy roads and they travel upto Londa or Goa with their stocks for sales. A small capital of Rs 200 to Rs 300 has to be invested in this calling and monthly income may be about Rs 400 to Rs 500. The tourist traffic during April to June will be a good season.

Agarbatti Production

Agarbatti or incense sticks and perfumes were sold by the Attars who are Muslims. Initially, Agarbatti making was taken up on a limited scale which has now become a major source of earning for a large number of women. Hukeri in the district has emerged as the chief centre for the manufacture of incense sticks, where it is being made in about 350 homes as a part-time job, predominantly by women. Other places, where it is made are Ankalgi, Pachapur, etc. Before the construction of the Hidkal dam, Pachapur was a flourishing place in Agarbatti making. When the dam construction started, most of the workers deserted their units to join dam construction work lured by the high wages offered to them. All the raw materials, except packing tubes are purchased from Bombay, Bangalore and in the local market. The workers are given raw materials in terms of kilograms and they should deliver the finished unpacked raw batties on the same terms. Margin in weight is allowed for wastage in the process. Generally, it is a part-time vocation and a worker can earn about Rs five to Rs ten per day. During 1984, some quantity was exported to Saudi Arabia.

Casting of Images

The strength of Oataries or smelters was 77 in the district in the last century. They were supposed to have come from northern Deccan. By melting metals, they were making idols of gods of various sizes, platters, toe-rings or *jodvis* etc. Their women assist in preparing moulds. Even now in Chikodi, some of these hereditary workers are carrying on this old vocation. At the outset, they make the required models in honey wax and subsequently in plaster of paris. Moulds are later cast out of brass or silver metals as the case may be. The

cast articles are suitably carved and polished. Brass or silver images and masks of gods and goddesses of Hindu and Jain pantheon, lamps, etc are made. Occasionally, silver work is also undertaken and one of these reputed workers has made a beautiful idol of Sharvani Devi, weighing about 22 kg for a temple in Goa. Important materials that are used in this calling are honey wax, plaster of paris, brass and silver. Wax is obtained from Maharashtra and plaster of paris from Nipani. For the local Oataries, casting images is the main occupation, in which they have invested upto Rs 5,000 and may earn Rs 500 to Rs 1,000 per month and those who get bulk orders earn more. It provides employment throughout the year. Apart from local sales, these handicrafts are also sent to Maharashtra and Goa on orders.

Gokak Toys

Toy making vocation is being practised in Gokak for more than two centuries. The Jingars who are traditional workers and few others are making painted toys which are popularly called "Gokak Toys". In natural forms and attractive natural colours, a wide range of fake fruits, toys and vegetables are made by the trained artisans in their premises and in the local Chitragar Society. They resemble remarkably the original vegetables, and fruits, etc. Some of the most needed raw materials for the work are *hariwala* wood (*Erythrina indica*), *poliku* wood (*Givotia rottleriformis*, Griff), empty tea packing cases, colour powders, iron wire, aluminium plates, glasses and some others. Of them, *hariwala* and *poliku* wood are obtained from Nipani, Chikodi, Sankeshwar, Ghataprabha and other areas. The tools of the workers are carpentry and hand tools. Besides fruits and vegetables, toys, cradles, masks, images of deities and palanquins are made for carrying processional images. Prior to the Ganesha festival, clay Ganesha images are made by these Jingars. They purchase suitable clay for this purpose known as *bili shedu mannu* from Thavalageri village at the rate of Rs 60 per cart load. Some clay Ganesha images will be sent to Maharashtra and Goa. Painted toys are sold in singles or in sets, consisting of several fruits or vegetables. The Gokak Chitragar Sahakari Utpadak Sangha was registered on 28-6-1948. As on 30-6-1985, there were 67 members in the society. At present, six members are working in the premises of the society on piece work and they are supplied with necessary raw materials. Each of them may earn about about Rs 250 to Rs 300 per month. These Gokak fruits and vegetables worth Rs 10,000 were

exported to USA by the society. In 1983-84, articles worth Rs 40,000 were sent to Karnataka State Arts and Crafts Emporium. Two master craftsmen of this place, Halappa Siddalingappa and Gurnatha Ananda Chitare were awarded Karnataka State merit certificates in the years 1982 and 1984 respectively for their artistic products.

Rope Workers

Rope making was one of the side occupations of Korvis who were formerly scattered in all the taluks except Khanapur. The main raw material is being derived from the fibre yielding plants that are grown along the rivers, stream banks and open fields. They are locally known by the names *kalnaru*, *aap*, *alasyati*, etc. Besides, the farmers are cultivating a kind of hemp called *pundinaru* in their lands in many areas for the purpose of making ropes. About 100 families of Kunchi Koravars in Ramdurg town have rope making as their household calling. A variety of ropes are made for agricultural and domestic use by hand and also with the aid of mechanical devices costing about Rs 400 to Rs 500. Capital involved in this pursuit is upto Rs 1,000 and the workers may earn Rs 200 to Rs 300 per month. Many a time, the farmers supply the hemp for making required ropes and in such cases, the workers will get Rs four per kg of hemp as labour charge. The articles are carried to *jatras*, shandies, urban places, etc, for sales. There is a constant demand for these products. In several places of district cotton chords are made and Dodwad village in Sampgaon taluk has about 25 Muslim families engaged in making cotton chords. These traditional workers are making varieties of cotton threads for domestic and agriculture purposes. The chief raw material, cotton yarn, is obtained from Hubli, Belgaum, Gokak, etc. The workers have also installed twisting machines (having ball bearing wheels) in their homes which costs Rs 800 to Rs 1,200 per machine. On an average, they may earn about Rs 20 per day. Apart from local sale, the cotton chords are sent to Andhra and Maharashtra for marketing.

Leather craft

Leather craft was practised throughout the district in the 18th century. Leather articles were bridles, whips, harnesses, shoes, sandals, ropes and water bags. Their women folk were fringing the shoes with silk. Currently, there has been a spurt in this traditional

craft, especially in Athani taluk. The hand-made open Indian foot-wear of tanned leather is familiarly known in the trade circles as *kolhapuri chappals*. This type of foot-wear is made in Athani, Madabhavi, Mole, Shedbal, Ainapur, Halyal, Nipani, Ananthapur, etc in Athani taluk and in Ramdurg, Saundatti and some other places. In the number of workers and production, Madhabhavi tops other places with 3,500 workers, followed by Athani. The important raw materials such as soft and tanned leather, plastic thread, lace, etc, are obtained from Madras, Miraj, Kolhapur and some times obtained locally. An individual worker can stitch about 20 pairs per week and in this vocation, sewing machines are being extensively used. The capital ranging from Rs 500 to Rs 50,000 has been invested in it. Monthly income of the cobbler is about Rs 350 to Rs 500 and those that are well established earn Rs 1,000 to Rs 2,000. Usually, the leather workers sell foot-wear to the Charmalaya (Branch of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission, Government of India) and Lidkar (Branch of Karnataka Leather Industries Development Corporation) at Athani. These branches were established with a view to end exploitation by the private parties, to encourage local talent in leather craft and lastly to provide marketing facilities. Often, agents of exporters will be visiting Madbhavi and they directly purchase required sandals for sending them to Italy, Germany, Australia, etc.

Vantmuri brand foot-wear made in Hukeri town has acquired fame for its durability and quality in the taluk. After the submersion of Vantmuri village in the Hidkal dam, one cobbler family from there migrated to Hukeri and another to Pachapur. Soon, they began making sandals known as *vantmuri chappals* which gained popularity in the taluk. Leather, the main raw-material is obtained from Hebbal, Yamakanamaradi, Sankeshwar, etc.

Basketry Work

Basket making was the chief or part-time vocation of Medars or Buruds, Korvis and others during the last century. They were found in all parts of the district and were making different types of baskets, blinds, cornbins and the like. Apart from traditional workers, some non-hereditary people have also taken up this calling. In houses and in open places, the workers are preparing baskets, blinds, fans, winnows and articles connected with agriculture. The Forest Department issues 50 bamboos per worker every month on the

basis of permits. Bamboos are also purchased from Nagaragali, Ajra, Radhanagar (Maharashtra) and other growing areas. Considerable number of basketry workers are concentrated in Belgaum, Athani, Gokak and Sankeshwar. Women and children are assisting in this occupation. Some well placed basket makers have invested capital upto Rs 15,000 and may earn Rs 600 to Rs 700 per month. It provides employment throughout the year. To supplement income, many of them erect pandals for marriages and functions.

Khadi Production

There are about 54 centres in the district engaged in spinning and weaving Khadi cloth. *Charakas* are operated by women, leaving weaving to the hereditary and self-trained artisans. Average monthly earning of the women workers may be about Rs 200 per month. For spinning one *ladi* (hank) cotton yarn, at present (1985) 45 paise is paid and muslin yarn 72 paise for each *ladi*. Those who are engaged in weaving Khadi cloth of cotton get Rs 1.80 to Rs 3.75 per metre and their average monthly earning is Rs 500. Weavers of muslin cloth are being paid Rs 4.80 to Rs 6.00 per metre and they get monthly wages of Rs 800. The workers are availing medical and advance facilities. Bonus of 3% of the wages earned will be paid to the weavers while spinners will get 5% of the wages earned. At various centres of the district, there are 1,525 spinners and 508 weavers.

Lime Burning

Uppars and Kolis are the lime burners and they are scattered throughout this district. The raw-lime stone available around Yadwad is of superior grade. This is reflected in a local proverb "Lime of Yadwad and colour of Gokak". (*Yadwadada sunna Gokakada banna*). The Sunagars, as the lime workers known in their places, are exploiting the natural lime stone available in plenty at Yadwad, Awaradi, Hallimatti, etc. Lime kilns have been set up in the open fields as well as in the premises of houses. They are about 5 feet high and 3 to 4 feet in diameter. As fuel, cow dung and firewood are used. Many retail traders are purchasing burnt lime from Yadwad. The Sunagars of Ramdurg and Bailhongal get the lime stone from here. It is the chief occupation of the lime burners who earn about Rs 600 per month as income.

Brick making

Brick making is a flourishing occupation in Khanapur taluk and

at Manjari in Chikodi taluk, where lakhs of bricks are manufactured and supplied to the construction works in Kolhapur, Miraj, Sangli, Goa, Hubli and in many places of Belgaum district. It is a seasonal occupation starting from November and continues upto April or till the onset of rains. Many contractors are involved in brick making, chiefly in the areas of Garlagunji, Jamboti, Parishwad, Nandgad, Ganebail and Manjari. Each of them employs 10 to 30 workers, on piece rate. Raw-bricks are made from the earth obtained from the private land owners and they are paid Rs 100 to Rs 200 as remuneration. Brick kilns can burn at a time 20,000 to two lakh raw-bricks, and firewood and cinder of the railways are used. The last material is purchased from Davanagere, Dandeli, Bhadravathi and other places. The wages for shaping 1,000 raw bricks is Rs 45 in Khanapur taluk and at Manjari Rs 100. To secure the services of brick workers, the contractors vie with each other and pay Rs 3,000 to 5,000 well in advance. The rate per 1000 bricks is Rs 150 and it may go upto Rs 250.

Gold and Silver Smithy

Gold and silver smithy has now hereditary workers engaged in the occupation. In recent decades Belgaum has been the chief centre for jewellery making. Popular ornaments that are made here are ear-top, necklaces, *mangalasutras* specially fitted with corals and garnet stones, bangles, *patli* and silver ware like household vessels, plates, drinking glasses, images of various gods, *ramkada*, umbrellas apart from silver sprayers. Capital investment of the trade is from 5,000 to Rs 1,50,000, and in the later case hydraulic press, lathe, spinning lathe, etc are installed. There are many master craftsmen who are reputed for making presentation articles in gold and silver. For example, one master craftsmen had made an electric pumpset in nine kgs of silver and another executed delicate silver and gold work in the famous Mangesh temple of Goa. Silver articles are also sent to Bombay and Gujarat on orders.

Pith Working

Some self-employed people have taken up the manufacture of decorative *basinga* (coronets) used at marriages by the bride, bridegroom and as a side occupation. The design of the *basinga* used varies from caste to caste. These craftsmen are assisted by their household members. The needed materials are pith, colour papers, aluminium foils of several colours, tinsel powder, gum, etc. Out of these, pith

is available only after Deepavali festival and it is purchased from Kittur, Dandeli, Haliyal, Lakshmeshvar, etc. From paper materials, these coronet makers prepare *toranas* or festoons required for important functions. A capital of about Rs 2,000 to Rs 5,000 has been invested in the calling. This business has April to June as the peak season. On an average the coronet makers may earn upto Rs 600 per month.

Pottery

The traditional potters are engaged in pottery making in the district. Fine clay found around Khanapur is noted for its quality and pottery items made from it look like glazed articles and are durable. They are made at Garlagunji, Topinakatti, Nandgad, Singanakoppa and some other places. Garlagunji has about 750 pottery workers. Varieties of clay pots are made (flower pots, garden pots, cut garden pots, square and fish type hanging pots, country tiles, earthen ware of all sizes, etc). All of them are sold as Khanapur pottery. A small remuneration is paid to the land owners in lieu of the clay used from these fields. To make red pots, the top of the kiln is left open and one or two holes are made in the kiln. The potter will seal the entire oven to make black pottery. In some big units, a capital upto Rs 10,000 has been invested and they may earn Rs 1,500 or more every month. Making and selling of clay images of Ganesha, burnt bricks and clay ovens are the subsidiary occupations in some stray cases. There is very good market for Khanapur pottery and dealers from far away places like Sholapur and Kolhapur visit Khanapur and Garlagunji. At Konnur in Gokak taluk, the local pottery society and few potters prepare as many as 20,000 Ganesha images in different attires for about nine months. For this, needed earth is brought from Dhupdal dam site. Images are sent to the customers at Miraj, Sangli, Madhavanagar, Goa, Belgaum and Dharwad. The workers will be getting a profit of Rs 1,500 to Rs 2,000 per month, during the busy season. They make annually six to eight thousand Astra and ordinary clay ovens, and sell them through the society or directly. Black pottery makers elsewhere are catering to the local needs and big fairs held every year at Godachi and Saundatti provide an opportunity to sell their products on a larger scale.

Tobacco processing

The reasons for the speedy expansion of tobacco processing in and around Nipani, are due to the extensive tobacco cultivation

and ready labour. A good number of labourers are working in these units and the scene is dominated by women workers. Their minimum monthly earning is about Rs 90 and maximum Rs 180, besides 8½ per cent bonus annually. Male workers are employed exclusively for loading and unloading of bags. Although these workers are provided with continuous work round the year, sometimes the processing work will be temporarily suspended due to rainfall. There are about 2,524 female workers and 51 male workers, engaged in tobacco processing work at Nipani, as on 31-3-1986.

Stone Images and Statues

Carving stone images and statues for new or old temples or Mathas is the profession of several good sculptors in Murgod, Yamakanamardi, Hanbarhatti, Narasingpur and other places. Both hereditary and self-employed workers are involved in it. Only a few of them make images in wood. The popular material widely used for stone sculpture is the Shellikeri stone of Bijapur district and the next is the Arabhavi stone and locally available other stones are also used. Generally the period taken for making big images is 6 to 12 months. The sculptors accept orders on contract basis and initially they take advance from the customers. To make one big stone image, the labour charge may range from Rs 6,000 to Rs 10,000 including the cost of the stone. Helpers are engaged by some of these craftsmen to carry out rough stone work, on a daily wage rate of Rs 15 to Rs 20. Out of *saguvani* and *shivani* wood, images of various deities, their carriers, *prabhavali* and other articles are carved. Later they are decorated and painted. The labour cost may range from Rs 500 to Rs 10,000 and the cost of the timber is borne by the carver. A sculptor of Anigol in Belgaum City has sent stone idols to many foreign countries. (Murlidhar to Italy, Vishwakarma to Greece, Nataraja with 18 hands to USA, panel carving to UK). Voddars or stone workers of Narsingapur and Arabhavi are very good in stone temple building or construction of towers. They have many temples to their credit in the district, besides one each at Pandharpur and Sangli in Maharashtra.

Bidi Rolling

In some parts of the district bidi rolling is the main source of income for a large number of people. There are bidi making units, functioning at Nipani, Ramdurg, Ankalgi and a very insignificant units at other places. Women workers have undertaken bidi rolling,

as a part-time occupation. They too attend this job in their houses. Necessary raw-materials such as tobacco and bidi wrapping leaves are given in terms of kgs and the workers are required to return the prepared bidis on the same terms. The finished product is delivered to the units daily. The workers are paid Rs 10.40 for rolling 1,000 bidis and workers earn upto Rs 10 a day on an average as wages. Earning of the *bhatti* workers who dry bidis is about Rs 10 to Rs 15 per day. Their yearly bonus ranges from Rs 250 to Rs 800. Nipani has about 2,036 women bidi rollers, as on 31-3-1986.

Stone Quarrying

Stone quarrying was the vocation of Beldars of Gujarat origin and Kal Voddars in the past. This calling has been carried on by the present hereditary workers who are residing at Arabhavi, Kolvi, Kadakol, Konnur and some other places where stone quarries exist. Among all the quarries, there is a great demand for ochre colour stones of Arabhavi which is very much liked by the people and used for making stone images, and to construct shrines, *mathas*, buildings, etc. Some of the Vaddars themselves are sculptors and make images of all deities. They have constructed shrines in Sangli and Pandharpur. Usually other materials made and sold in the district are rollers for grain separation, grinding stones, *tulasikatte* or *brindavana*, *jelly*, etc. The stone cutters are engaged by the contractors on piece rate and male workers may earn Rs 10 to Rs 30 per day, while females get daily wages of Rs 5 to Rs 6. There is a continuous demand for these workers.

Weaving of Kamblis

Several sheep breeding and wool producing societies have established *kambli* or rug weaving centres at many places. Such centres are working at Benakatti, Raybag, Sankeshwar, Suttatti and a few other places. The societies are purchasing needed raw-wool from the sheep rearers of this district and outside, at the rate of Rs 20 to Rs 25 per kg. A little quantity of marino wool is also obtained from the Kokatnur farm in Athani taluk. In hundreds of homes, women twist *kambli* yarn by charakas. They are paid Rs 15 for ginning and twisting one kg of yarn and Rs 12 per kg for those who do not attend ginning work. The women work about 250 to 500 grams per day and earn Rs 150 to Rs 200 every month. Weavers get the wool yarn from the society and work in the society worksheds or in the looms at their houses. They get Rs 25 for weaving one

grey *kambli*. A good weaver can weave about 15 *kamblis* per month and earn Rs 300 to Rs 450 per month. For weaving one merino wool *kambli*, they get Rs 60 to Rs 70. These rugs are sold through the sales outlets of the societies and through its salesmen appointed by the Khadi Commission and the salesmen get 9% as commission. Some salesmen sell 500 to 600 *kamblis* annually.

TABLE 1

District Index of self-supporting persons (Males and Females in Non-agricultural vocations) as in 1951 Census

<i>Occupations</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
1	2	3	4
Aerated water and ice vendors in shops	896	5	901
Artists, sculptors and image makers	4	4	8
Barbers and beauty shops	1,781	43	1,824
Basket making	1,452	344	1,796
Bidi and tobacco products manufacture	515	316	831
Blacksmiths	1,820	36	1,856
Carpenters	3,966	71	4,037
Coppersmiths	401	18	419
Cotton ginning and pressing	1,847	685	2,532
Cotton spinning and weaving	5,863	1,102	6,965
Dhobies and laundry servicers	894	249	1,143
Glass bangle manufactures	105	10	115
Painters and house decorators	171	6	177
Potters	1,584	204	1,788
Priests and religious workers	636	133	769
Rope makers	696	211	907
Shoe making and cobbling	1,369	123	1,492
Silk weaving and spinning	1,534	321	1,855
Tailoring	2,916	221	3,137
Toy manufacture	4	—	4

1	2	3	4
Goldsmiths	1,898	30	1,928
Hawkers and street vendors	155	58	213
Pan, bidi and cigarette retail traders	634	47	681
Vegetables and fruits	92	—	92
Wollen spinning and weaving	436	189	625
Brooms, mats and other wooly materials manufacture	35	45	80
Hosiery manufacture and embroider	91	12	103
Ivory and bone products manufacture	78	5	83
Lime burners	24	9	33
Musical instruments manufacture and repair	6	—	6
Quarrying	179	24	203
Umbrella repairers	35	7	42

Government of Bombay

Source : 1951 District Census Handbook District Belgaum

Note : The 1951 Census of Belgaum District, includes the figures of Chandagad taluk which is now in Maharashtra.

TABLE 2

Occupational classification of persons at work (other than cultivation) in Belgaum District as per 1961 Census

Occupation	Male	Female	Total
1	2	3	4
Painters, decorators and commercial artists	131	8	139
Musicians and related workers	546	21	567
Ordained religious workers	632	113	745
Non-ordained religious workers	197	71	268

1	2	3	4
Hawkers, pedlars and street vendors	2,401	1,624	4,025
Quarrymen	1,042	261	1,303
Spinners, pickers and winders	2,584	6,286	8,870
Warpers and sizers	71	438	509
Drawers and weavers	9,248	3,408	12,656
Spinners, knitters, weavers, dyers and related workers, n e c	4,617	3,540	8,157
Fishermen and related workers	287	26	313
Quarrymen	1,042	261	1,303
Shoe makers and shoe repairers	2,959	143	3,102
Blacksmiths, hammer smiths and foremen	2,515	45	2,560
Jewellers, goldsmiths and silver smiths	2,645	232	2,877
Carpenters, joiners, pattern makers (wood)	6,266	46	6,312
Stone cutters, stone carvers and stone dressers	688	167	855
Brick layers, plasterers, masons	2,614	70	2,684
Brick layers, plasterers and construction workers	616	65	681
Potters and related clay formers	2,006	1,463	3,469
Cheroot, cigar and bidi makers	959	1,135	2,094
Tobacco preparers and product makers, etc	131	439	570
Basketry weavers and related workers	2,406	3,075	5,481
Craftsmen and production process workers	496	280	776
Barbers, Hairdressers, Beauticians and related workers	2,430	9	2,439
Launderers, dry cleaners and pressers	1,307	987	2,294
Bakers, confectioners, candy and sweetmeat makers	894	165	1,059

Source : Census of India 1961 - District Census Hand Book, Belgaum District

TABLE 3

Occupational classification of persons at work according to main activity
(other than cultivator) in Belgaum District, as per 1971 Census

<i>Occupation</i>	<i>Males</i>	<i>Females</i>	<i>Total</i>
Sculptors, painters, photographers and related creative artists	180	5	185
Composers & performing artists	630	75	705
Salesmen, shop assistants, street vendors, canvassers, news vendors, etc	5,708	398	6,106
Launderers, dry-cleaners and pressers, etc	1,325	635	1,960
Hair dressers, barbers, beauticians and related workers	3,283	10	3,293
Fishermen and related workers	266	20	286
Spinners, weavers, knitters and related workers	18,258	4,768	23,026
Tobacco preparers and Tobacco product makers (includes beedi, cigarette, cigar makers and tobacco preparers)	590	2,304	2,894
Tailors, dress makers, sewers, upholsterers and related workers	6,949	947	7,916
Shoe makers and leather goods makers	4,380	205	4,585
Carpenters, cabinet and related wood workers	10,431	75	10,506
Stone cutters and carvers	1,064	178	1,242
Blacksmiths, tool makers and machine tool operators	3,400	10	3,410
Jewellery and precious metal workers and metal engravers	2,704	55	2,752
Glass formers, potters and related workers	2,847	692	3,539
Painters (spray and sign writing, etc)	641	20	661
Brick layers and other construction workers	7,802	314	8,116

Source : Census of India 1971 - Series 14 - Mysore Part II B (iii) 'Economic Table'.