

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

Introduction

AN account of the principal sectors of the economy of the district such as agriculture, industry, trade and transport has already been given in the previous chapters, but that does not exhaust the whole field of economic activity, since there is an appreciable percentage of the population which earns its income from other pursuits. There are the learned professions like law, medicine, education, journalism and certain trades and crafts like bread and biscuit-making, tailoring, laundry and basket-weaving, conducting of hotels and restaurants, pounding and parching of grains which are not included in any of the major occupations. These occupations have their own place in the economic life of the district; they provide not only the means of livelihood to quite a large number of persons but also produce essential goods for daily consumption. Some others render useful services to the people in a variety of ways. The rapid growth in the number of such occupations during the last fifty years or more is a significant indication of the pace of urbanisation and is also an index of the degree of prosperity and economic stability attained by some of the sections of society.

Sample Survey of Occupations

A small sample survey, in order to make a selective study of some of these occupations, was made a few years ago in the towns of Bijapur and Bagalkot. This survey enabled the presentation of a rough picture of the economic conditions of the persons engaged in these occupations. The survey was confined to certain aspects of the occupations such as the number of units existing, the nature of the tools and appliances used and their cost, the average monthly expenses incurred and the net income earned. Some of the occupations covered by the survey were: aerated waters, agarbathi manufacture, boarding and lodging houses, brick-making, cap-making, fried rice-making, cycle repair, flour mills, goldsmiths and jewellers, hair-cutting saloons, kambli-weaving, laundries, mat-making and repairing, photo-framing, pounding and parching of grains, restaurants and tea shops, stone-quarrying, tailoring, dyeing and printing and tin-smithy.

It should, however, be realised that the information thus collected from the survey is subject to some margin of error. A small sample survey of this type and covering establishments, which have not appreciated the necessity of observing standards of proper business accountancy, cannot claim complete accuracy in all details. But it does serve the purpose of presenting a broad picture which, by and large, would help in getting a fairly correct idea of the conditions prevailing in these occupations.

A considerable number of people are engaged in the several branches of public administration. They include persons working in the various offices under the Central and State Governments, persons working on various bodies of local self-government and village watchmen who are recognised as village officials. As on 31st March 1963, there were 5,656 State Government employees in the district.

**Public
Admini-
stration**

Under the British rule, whether during the days of centralised government or after the inauguration of provincial autonomy, the district was the most important unit of administration and it continued to be so after the achievement of independence. If anything, the responsibilities of district officers have assumed a new significance with the emphasis on the welfare aspects of the State.

Among the learned professions, the educational service has more persons than other services such as legal and medical services. The table given below shows the number of persons engaged in the educational service which includes teachers, professors and research workers between 1881 and 1951.

Education

<i>Year</i>	<i>Men</i>	<i>Women</i>	<i>Total</i>
1881	410	4	414
1891	1,004	55	1,059
1931	1,111*	78	1,189
1951	3,002	319	3,321

It can be seen from this table that the number of persons engaged in educational service, which was 414 in 1881, more than doubled itself 10 years later and had gone up by more than seven times in 1951. These figures are an eloquent indication of the strides made by education between 1881 and 1951. During 1964-65, there were in Bijapur district, 1,932 primary schools run by various agencies employing 6,729 teachers. There were five training colleges, and 70 secondary schools. Recently two polytechnics have been opened at Bijapur and Bagalkot and a junior technical school at Bagalkot. There were 11 institutions of higher

* This includes servants engaged in educational institutions including private bodies.

education in 1965. Besides these, there were also special schools like language schools, Sanskrit pathashalas, gymnasia, kindergarten schools, tailoring and embroidery schools and music schools. The large increase in the number of persons engaged in educational service during the last few decades is due to expansion and development of educational facilities in the district.

Legal Profession

The legal profession has been drawing an increasing number of persons to its fold since the turn of this century. Although the legal career is not particularly lucrative in the beginning for a young man with average education, the fact of its being an independent profession with plenty of opportunities to make a mark in public life, makes it particularly attractive to ambitious young men. At the 1881 census, there were only 21 pleaders in this district. The 1911 census recorded 113 pleaders and 65 clerks and petition-writers. The 1951 census recorded the number of practising lawyers at 217 and the number of clerks and petition-writers at 133. In 1965, the number of lawyers practising in this district was about 250. In Bijapur city itself there were about 120 legal practitioners while in Bagalkot their number was about 40. In the headquarters town of Bijapur, there are now the courts of the District and Sessions Judge, First Additional District and Sessions Judge, Second Additional District and Sessions Judge and Civil Judge, two courts of Munsiffs and two courts of Judicial Magistrates. Outside Bijapur city, there are eight courts of Munsiffs, two at Bagalkot and one each at Hungund, Badami, Mudhol, Jamkhandi, Muddebihal and Bagewadi. All the Munsiffs are *ex-officio* Magistrates, First Class. At Indi, there is a First Class Judicial Magistrate's Court, which has jurisdiction over Sindgi also.

Medical Profession

The number of persons following the medical profession has shown a remarkable increase during the last few decades in this district. The 1881 census recorded 101 medical practitioners and personnel. The 1951 census recorded 722 medical practitioners and personnel, of whom 85 were women. It recorded also *vaidyas* and *hakims* and gave a separate enumeration of dentists, veterinary surgeons, compounders and nurses, who were till then grouped under one category. The number of registered medical practitioners, according to the 1951 census, was 120; *vaidyas* and *hakims* 184; dentists 13; hospital and health service employees 221; midwives 14; nurses 62; vaccinators 6; veterinary surgeons 13 and compounders 89. Besides this, the 1951 census recorded 486 persons as engaged in sanitary services. Detailed corresponding figures of the 1961 census are yet to be made available.

URBAN OCCUPATIONS

Aerated water manufacture

There were in 1965, 16 establishments manufacturing aerated waters in Bijapur and the number of such shops in Bagalkot was 21. This is an occupation providing employment

throughout the year; but the brisk season is in the summer months. Most of the establishments are small in size except about two or three at Bijapur and they do not possess up-to-date and modern equipment and decent and comfortable furniture. The equipment of an ordinary soda factory consists of soda and ice-cream machines, bottles, glasses and some furniture, a refrigerator and perhaps a fan and a radio. The initial capital required for starting a factory on a modest scale is anywhere between Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 4,000 while the bigger establishments having better and more elegant type of furniture and which manufacture a large variety of drinks require an investment ranging from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000. A small soda factory spends about Rs. 500 to Rs. 800 per year on raw materials which consist of cylinders of carbon-dioxide, milk, sugar, salt, ice, sawdust, essences and preservatives; a big factory spends about Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 2,000 a year on the same items. Ordinarily, all the materials are locally available except essences and preservatives which are imported. Normally, about two or three persons are employed for catering, each of whom is paid about Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 a month. A big soda factory can make a profit of about Rs. 3,000 a year and a small factory can make about Rs. 600 to Rs. 800 a year. Some of the soda factories give their ice-cream pots on hire for a day or two particularly during the marriage season and this adds to the income. In recent years, quite a large number of small units have sprung up which cater to the increasing demand of the customers in the hot season. Most of them stop working during the rest of the period as they are unable to meet the cost of the establishment.

Agarbathis and sandalwood sticks are used as incense for worship and also on occasions of festivals and marriages. Practically every household has a demand for this, either in smaller or bigger measure. This business holds out great promise of development, provided financial help is made available to the manufacturers and provided also steps are taken to advertise the goods in the surrounding regions. Some of these establishments have, besides their principal occupation, engaged themselves in selling snuff and hair oils as a subsidiary occupation. The sample survey conducted revealed that in the case of most of the establishments, borrowed funds formed a substantial percentage of the working capital which was estimated to be between Rs. 1,500 to Rs. 2,000 for a single establishment. This indicates that there is considerable dearth of owned capital and the skilled workers are dependent on outside agencies for monetary help. Business is found to be kept going through bank credit obtained at a fairly high rate of interest, since no tangible security could be offered for the loan. The total cost of production of an average establishment of this type works out at Rs. 200 per month, the cost of raw material such as scent, charcoal powder, sandalwood powder, bamboo, gum and wrapping paper accounting for nearly 70 per cent

**Agarbathi
manu-
facture**

of this cost. The rent of the building, transport and postage charges account for the rest ; about 2,000 bundles of agarbathi each weighing a seer or so and worth about Rs. 300 are manufactured in a month yielding a net income of Rs. 80 to Rs. 100. Both men and women are employed. The average earning per day of the employees is about two rupees. The process of manufacture consists in making a dough out of a mixture of charcoal powder, scent, gum and sandal powder in suitable proportions and pasting the mixture around long thin sticks of bamboo of about nine inches in length. The process seems simple, but involves considerable skill. The agarbathis manufactured in Bijapur district are known for their excellence. The occupation is a profitable one, but it has not been able to establish itself on a firm footing, probably because of lack of capital, which is particularly necessary during the busy seasons of festivals and marriages.

Bakeries

There were, in 1965, 13 establishments in Bagalkot and 21 in Bijapur city for the manufacture of bread. Most of the bakeries in these towns are family establishments where the owners themselves run the business with the help of family members. In the establishments in Bagalkot there were only three paid workers and the establishments in Bijapur employed 46 workers. The business of manufacture of bread and biscuits provides employment throughout the year. The equipment of an ordinary bakery consists of a large wooden table to prepare the dough, an oven with its accessory equipment such as tin trays, small iron sheet boxes, moulds, cupboards and baskets. The cost of equipment ranges from Rs. 500 to Rs. 1,200 depending upon the size of the establishment. Most of the bakeries are housed in rented buildings, the rent varying from Rs. 15 to 25 per month. The use of modern machinery is almost entirely absent and most of the work is done by the physical labour of persons who have acquired skill through years of experience. The raw materials that are required are : wheat flour, sugar, yeast, butter, flavouring essences and eggs. The cost of raw materials consumed per day ranges from about Rs. 12 to Rs. 45. The total cost of production other than the cost of the raw materials on an average unit works out to Rs. 450 a month of which a significant portion goes towards the cost of fuel, water and light charges and rent of the building. About 40 to 50 lbs. of bread, 5 to 8 lbs. of biscuits and about two dozen cakes are manufactured in a day of eight working hours by a medium-sized establishment, the value of the total quantity manufactured being about Rs. 30. Boys employed for carrying the bread for sale are paid about Rs. 25 a month in addition to about 20 paise a day for their tea. The net income derived from this business varies from about Rs. 75 in the case of smaller establishments and to about Rs. 200 in the case of bigger establishments. The business is normally brisk during the winter when people have a keener appetite. The demand for bread is not stable and is subject to fluctuation. This, coupled with the fact that the

process of manufacture is crude, is the reason for the negligible margin of profit which affords little incentive for the owner to develop the business on a larger and more profitable scale.

The hotel industry in which a fair number of persons are engaged has different kinds of establishments like boarding houses, which provide only food to customers and which are known as *khanavalis*; residential hotels that provide living accommodation as well as food; and restaurants and tea shops. In 1965, the total number of such establishments in Bijapur city was 163, with 503 paid workers, while the corresponding figures for Bagalkot were 93 and 431 respectively. Both paid employees and family members are engaged in this business. The establishments in Bijapur are found to be heavily concentrated in the bazar area. This is a business providing employment throughout the year. The establishments are mostly housed in rented buildings. The minimum initial capital required for establishing a boarding house on a modest scale is estimated to be between Rs. 1,200 and Rs. 1,800, excluding the rent of the building. The minimum equipment for the normal boarding houses consists of about 15 low wooden stools on which boarders sit and take their meals, eating plates, small cups, and cooking utensils. Plates and drinking pots are either of brass or of stainless steel. Some of the establishments provide also dining tables and chairs. In addition, there are a couple of benches and chairs for the customers to rest after meals. Bigger *khanavalis* spend anything between Rs. 1,000 to Rs. 2,500 for this equipment. There are both men and women workers in this occupation. Men are assigned jobs of cooking, serving and cleaning of tables, while women are employed mostly for washing utensils and cleaning rice, pulses and other grains. In a few establishments where managers are employed, they are paid about Rs. 75 to Rs. 100 a month. Cooks, waiters and cleaners are generally provided two meals besides their wages. Where this practice is not in vogue, the wages paid are normally higher. The monthly net income derived from a modest boarding house ranges anywhere between Rs 100 and Rs. 400. The area occupied by some of the medium-sized *khanavalis* consists of three or four rooms and a verandah from where the proprietor or manager can supervise the working. These rooms consist of a kitchen, a bathroom, a store-room and a couple of rooms where customers are served food. The rent of the building of such a size varies from Rs. 50 to Rs. 75 a month. In respect of those which are located in less busy parts of the towns it is invariably less. Boarding houses provide morning and evening meals and also the facility of a bath. In certain cases, a small extra charge is levied for the bath. The customers are ordinarily divided into two classes: (1) boarders who are regular members on a monthly basis and (2) casual boarders. Monthly boarding charges vary from Rs. 35 to Rs. 50, whereas a single meal costs anywhere between 75 paise to Rs. 1-25. The number of regular members taking meals in the

**Hotels and
Restaurants**

cases of small establishments is about 15 and the number of casual boarders fluctuates between 10 and 20. The large establishments have as many as 30 to 50 regular members and an equal number as casual boarders.

Residential hotels are comparatively few in Bijapur city and Bagalkot. The monthly working capital required for residential hotels is considerably more than in the case of ordinary boarding houses. The total net income of lodging establishments comes to about Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 per month. The upper limit is reached in certain seasons like winter when there is a large number of tourists and on certain occasions like large fairs which attract a large number of persons. The total charge of boarding and lodging is given as Rs. 90 for a person in the case of a single bedded room and between Rs. 50 to Rs. 75 for a room which is shared by another. For the casual lodgers, the rate varies from Rs. 1-50 to Rs. 3 per head depending upon the type of room available. The number of casual lodgers is very small and may be estimated at not more than five per day per hotel.

Caps

A sample survey of a few cap-manufacturing establishments in Bijapur city and Bagalkot revealed that the manufacturers of caps do the work themselves with the help of workers employed by them on their own equipment. There were 16 cap-making establishments in the two towns in 1965. The equipment for this trade consists of a couple of sewing machines, cupboards, needles and card-board valued at Rs. 800 to Rs. 1,000 per establishment while the working capital is of the order of Rs. 150 to Rs. 200 a month. The larger establishments purchase raw materials such as cotton and woollen cloth, embroidery, canvas and card-board. The monthly out-turn of caps in the large establishments was valued at Rs. 2,500. The employees are paid Re. 1 to Rs. 2 per dozen caps. The worker earns between Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 a month according to his efficiency and out-turn of work. The trade in caps is fairly brisk during the marriage season. Persons engaged in this industry are not very optimistic of a bright future for this industry in view of the new fashion of discarding the use of caps and going about bareheaded.

Cycle Shops

There were about 90 bicycle hire and repair shops in the towns of Bijapur and Bagalkot, besides six dealers in bicycles in 1965. The establishments in Bijapur city are fairly evenly distributed among all the localities. On an average, a big cycle shop has about 15 to 20 bicycles for hire, each costing between Rs. 150 to Rs. 250. Other equipment consists of spanners, air-pump, screw drivers, hammers, puncture solution, grease and also spare parts like tyres, tubes, bells and seats. The value of the equipment in the case of the larger establishments may be estimated at Rs. 3,000 to Rs. 8,000 and in the case of the smaller ones between Rs. 750 to Rs. 1,500. The minimum working capital required is about

Rs. 500 for the larger establishments and about Rs. 250 for the smaller ones. The net income in the case of the larger establishments could be estimated at Rs. 500 per month which is made up of the money derived out of hiring of bicycles and also out of the sale of cycle accessories and repairing. The net income of the smaller establishments can be anywhere between Rs. 80 and Rs. 150 per month. The hiring out of gas lamps is an ancillary business of some of these cycle establishments. The number of employees in this industry is small since in a majority of cases, the owners of the establishments themselves do the work. Summer season is a brisk season for this business. Of late, several new units have sprung up resulting in severe competition and the lowering of the margin of profit.

Flour mills in this district have a good business since jowar **Flour Mills** and wheat breads constitute the staple food of the people. Besides grinding the various grains, they are also engaged in polishing and husking rice. There were 37 flour mills in Bijapur city and 16 in Bagalkot in 1965. In many cases it is a principal occupation and provides employment throughout the year. Most of the establishments are housed in temporary sheds made of tin or corrugated asbestos sheets, with rents varying from Rs. 10 to Rs. 25 a month. A majority of the flour mills work on oil engines mostly using crude oil. The initial investment for a medium-sized flour mill working on a 12-15 H.P. engine ranges from Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 8,000, out of which the cost of the engine would be about Rs. 2,000 to 2,500. In the case of the larger establishments with two engines, the investment can be more than Rs. 10,000. Other tools and appliances consisting of leather straps, drums for storing oil, boiler, a pair of grinding stones and electric motor would cost about Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 3,500. A smaller initial outlay is required in the case of an electric machine whereas an oil engine costs much more but lasts longer. In both the towns of Bijapur and Bagalkot these flour mills are found scattered in all the parts of the town. Most of these are one-man establishments where the owner with one or two family members does all the work. Where workers are engaged, a grinder is paid about Rs. 30 to Rs. 40 per month, a cleaner about Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 per month and a fitter about Rs. 40 to Rs. 50 a month. The income is derived from grinding jowar, bajra, wheat, chillies, tur-dal, turmeric and also from polishing and husking rice. The monthly net income would be about Rs. 75 in the case of smaller establishments and Rs. 200 in the case of the larger establishments. Business is brisk at the time of fairs and festivals and on bazar days.

There were in 1965, eleven establishments in Bijapur city and **Florists** five at Bagalkot doing business in selling flowers. Almost all the establishments are concentrated in the bazar area. Equipment consisting of earthen pots, open baskets, wooden hangers, scissors,

knives and needles would cost about Rs. 600. The working capital which varies from Rs. 3 to Rs. 15 per day is obtained mostly on a loan basis from private agencies on the condition of repaying partly out of the day's earnings the same evening. The average monthly expenses can be estimated at about Rs. 200, out of which the cost of the flowers amount to more than half. The net income of an establishment dealing in flowers may be estimated at about Rs. 70 to Rs. 125 in the hard seasons and much more during the festival and marriage seasons. When orders in bulk are placed for garlands and nosegays of various kinds, business is very brisk and many outworkers are engaged on a piece-rate basis. The general demand for flowers has shown a tendency to rise and the profession of the florist has been showing improvement.

Goldsmithy

In Bijapur city there were 61 goldsmithy and jewellery establishments in 1965 and in Bagalkot there were about 50. In all cases it is a principal occupation providing employment throughout the year. Most of the establishments are hereditary and housed in rented buildings. The equipment of the goldsmith is simple and consists of an anvil, bellows, hammers, crucibles, moulds, cupboards and showcases. The cost of equipment generally ranges between Rs. 50 and 100 in the case of a normal artisan. In some cases where a large number of workers are employed, the capital is estimated at Rs. 50 in the case of smaller establishments and about Rs. 500 or more in the case of the larger establishments. Goldsmiths make and mend gold and silver ornaments, set gems and work in precious stones. Silver vessels and silver ornaments are also made. Necklaces, ear-rings and rings and nose-screws are some of the articles usually manufactured by the goldsmiths. A considerable amount of skill in enamelling, engraving and plating is involved in the work of these gold and silversmiths. In most of the establishments, the owners themselves with the help of their family members do all the work. In some of the larger establishments, however, there is some sort of a division of labour, skilled work being done by persons having special training and previous experience. The average monthly earning of an ordinary worker amounts to Rs. 50 and about three times as much in the case of the larger establishments. Skilled workers and experienced craftsmen earn about Rs. 75 to Rs. 100 a month. The value of the daily turn-over can be estimated at Rs. 100 in the case of the small establishments and about Rs. 300 to Rs. 400 per day in the case of the larger establishments. A large number of these establishments obtain work directly from the customers. A few of the bigger ones get work on a commission basis from the big *sarafs*.

In recent years, due to gold control measures, there have been, however, some difficulties for goldsmiths. In order to help their rehabilitation, the Government have taken several steps. Two industrial co-operative societies have been organised, one at Bagal-

kot and another at Bijapur. A sum of Rs. 30,000 has been sanctioned for setting up smithy and carpentry workshops at the Bagalkot society, whereas it is proposed to start an agricultural implements manufacturing centre at the Bijapur society at a cost of about Rs. 40,000. A training course in tailoring is being conducted at Ramatirtha. During 1964-65, 16 persons were trained in that craft at this centre. During 1964-65, a sum of Rs. 50,000 was allotted to the district for advancing loans to displaced gold smiths for starting petty traders. A special state-level scheme for training 528 candidates in four batches for a period of six months in industrial training institutes was launched during 1963-64. The Government industrial establishments, the Employment Exchange and the Education Department have been also rendering them help in various ways.

There were 75 hair-cutting saloons in Bijapur city and 43 in Bagalkot in 1965. About half the workers engaged in this trade are employees, the rest being the owners and their family members. In both the towns, the establishments are distributed over all the localities of the place. In a majority of cases the establishments are small ones run by the owners. Most of the establishments are in rented buildings. The rent ranges from Rs. 15 in the case of those situated far away from the bazar area to more than Rs. 50 per month in the case of those situated in important and busy localities. The equipment consisting of some furniture, mirrors, dressing tables, scissors, razors and cropping machines and toilet requisites would be worth Rs. 300 in smaller establishments, Rs. 600 in the medium-sized establishments and Rs. 1,000 in the larger establishments. Ordinarily, the employees get about 50 per cent of the total gross income in a month as their wages, the other half being the owner's share. On a rough estimate, the monthly earnings of an adult employee may be between Rs. 30 to Rs. 45 in the case of small establishments and about Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 in the case of big establishments. None of the establishments employs women. The average daily expenditure on toilet requirements incurred by the saloons is estimated between Rs. 2-50 to Rs. 6, but it adds to very much more in the case of some of the larger establishments. The number of customers served daily by these establishments depends on their size as judged by the number of persons working therein and also on their vicinity to the central bazar area. Sometimes, subjective factors like the popularity of the owner, the conveniences and comforts offered and the general reputation of the saloon also play a part. The monthly net income of the small-sized establishments can be estimated to be between Rs. 75 and Rs. 100; about Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 in the case of medium-sized establishments and more than Rs. 200 in the case of the larger establishments.

Hair-cutting Saloons

In 1965, there were 33 laundries in Bijapur city and 21 in Bagalkot. Very few of the workers are paid employees, since a

Laundries

majority of the washing companies are family concerns where the owners with the help of their family members carry on their business. The equipment in the case of medium-sized establishments consists of a couple of ironing machines, two or three show cases for keeping washed clothes, a large table for ironing and a furnace known as *bhatti*; the total cost of the entire equipment varies between Rs. 250 and Rs. 300. The working capital requirements for the purchase of charcoal, soap, petrol, washing soda and bleaching substances are estimated at about Rs. 75 to Rs. 100 per month and perhaps even more in the case of the larger establishments. The majority of the establishments own the capital themselves. The wages paid to the employees, working on a wage basis, are about Rs. 30 per month in the case of a man who irons, Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 in the case of a clerk or a manager for keeping the accounts and Rs. 40 to Rs. 60 for a washerman who is sometimes in permanent employ of the laundry.

Motor Repair Works

Most of the establishments under the category of motor-body builders and repairers undertake only the work of repairing parts of motors. There are about thirty such shops in Bijapur city and eight in Bagalkot. The occupation in all cases is a principal one and provides employment throughout the year. Equipment consists of lathes, battery charging plants, electric drills, tools, jacks and testing instruments valued at Rs. 500 in the case of a medium-sized establishment and between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 5,000 or even more in the case of the larger establishments. The minimum working capital required is Rs. 100 to Rs. 250 a month in the case of smaller establishments and Rs. 200 to Rs. 500 in the case of the larger establishments. The principal raw materials such as charcoal, petrol, tin sheets, steel wires, paints and varnishes, nuts, bolts and white metal for soldering are obtained partly locally and partly from outside. The cost of the raw materials comes to about Rs. 100 to Rs. 400 in the case of the larger units. The workers employed in these units are blacksmiths, welders, fitters and carpenters. Both daily wage rates and piece rates are prevalent. Ordinarily, all the tools and appliances are provided by the owners. The monthly earnings of a skilled worker varies between Rs. 45 and 70 and of the unskilled worker between Rs. 30 and 60. The monthly net income of a medium-sized establishment ranges from Rs. 250 to Rs. 750.

Oilseed Crushing

The crushing of oilseeds has been passing through an interesting stage of change in this district. While the old method of extracting oil by means of a ghani, driven by bullocks is still prevalent, there has also been a steady development of the process of extraction of oil by means of crushers and expellers. The equipment in the case of the establishments working on ghanis consists of the ghani, a pair of bullocks, drums for storing oil and a few utensils. The total cost of equipment in the case of the establishments working on ghani can be

put at Rs. 500 including the cost of the ghani and that in the case of the other establishments comes to about Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 2,500. The working capital for the purchase of raw materials can be anywhere between Rs. 50 and Rs. 100. The monthly net income ranges between Rs. 200 and Rs. 350 in the case of the larger establishments and about Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 in the case of smaller units. Both paid workers and family members are employed. The products, namely kardi and groundnut cakes, oil and husk are sold both retail and wholesale. Business is usually brisk after harvest. Oil seed pressing in ghanis was, in the past, one of the most flourishing occupations and a valuable secondary source of employment to villagers in off-seasons. But the introduction of mechanical process of extraction of oil has been responsible for the gradual decadence of the old traditional type of oil seed-pressing.

There were 128 establishments in Bijapur city engaged in **Tailoring** tailoring and about ninety-six in Bagalkot in 1965. About half the number engaged in this occupation are paid workers. It is a principal occupation providing employment throughout the year. Small establishments usually have only one sewing machine and besides the proprietor who himself works at it, a boy is usually employed for buttoning and other minor work. A medium-sized establishment possesses two or three machines and employs about five persons, of whom three are tailors and two apprentices, while a large establishment has more than six machines and employs about eight to ten persons and sometimes more.

A number of tailors in both these towns purchase the sewing machines on instalment basis from the local agents of the manufacturing companies. A big establishment invests about Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 2,500 on sewing machines alone. Other materials needed are scissors, cutting table, cup-boards, mirrors, ironing machines and a few pieces of furniture costing in all between Rs. 500 and Rs. 1,000. The monthly working capital for the purchase of raw materials is estimated to be between Rs. 15 and Rs. 20 in the case of the smaller establishments where only one man works and about Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 in the case of larger establishments. Usually, the firms engaged in tailoring do not keep any cloth for sale, but stitch the cloth provided by the customers. Different tailoring firms specialise in stitching for men, women or children.

OTHER OCCUPATIONS

Basket-weaving has been one of the most flourishing occupations in the rural areas of Bijapur district. A number of places in the district like Bagalkot, Gudur, Kolhar, Kyatankeri and Sangam are centres of production of a variety of quality articles made of bamboos, such as mats, ladders, baskets, winnowing **Basket Weaving**

trays and sieves. The Medar community in the district has accumulated a traditional skill and a high degree of craftsmanship in this occupation. Other communities like the Haranshikaris have also an interest in this occupation. The occupation is mainly hereditary, and it seems as though sentimental attachment to the work which has been handed down generation after generation is the reason for the workers to continue in this occupation than real profit. The value of a normal basket weaving establishment whose equipment consists of sickles, iron baskets, chisel, buckets, grass and palm leaves, varies from Rs. 25 to Rs. 250. Both men and women are employed in this business. The business is spread throughout the district; some backward tribes take to this occupation just to eke out their living. The business is usually brisk from January to April since there is a large demand, because of the harvest, for mats, brooms and winnowing trays. Ladders are usually in great demand immediately after the monsoon sets in. Some of the families which are engaged in this occupation belong to the 'Bajantri' community and the women members of the family carry on the business entirely by themselves during the marriage season when the male members are engaged in playing the band and other musical instruments.

Bhatar-making

Bhatar-making is an important rural occupation and is very popular in Bijapur district. Bhatar is made of jute and hemp woven into a thick rope which tied in squares serves as a container for cotton. The bhatar-making equipment consists of weaving tools, wooden table, a couple of benches and cupboards. This occupation requires between Rs. 250 and Rs. 600 as capital and the sale of finished products per year varies from Rs. 2,000 to Rs. 5,000. The total value of production of a large-sized unit engaged in this industry is estimated to be Rs. 7,500 per year; of this, the share of wages paid to the employees amounts to as high a figure as Rs. 3,500. The total value of the important raw materials that are used, namely jute and hemp, is estimated at about Rs. 2,000 per year. On an average, about 1,200 lbs. of hemp and 400 lbs. of jute are consumed in a week by a single establishment. The average price of a single bhatar varies from about Rs. 2-50 to Rs. 3-50. The monthly net income of an establishment varies from about Rs. 100 to Rs. 150. It is interesting to note that the proportion of paid workers employed in these establishments is considerably larger than that of the family employees. The men workers are usually employed for weaving the bhatar and the women workers are employed for spinning the yarn necessary for the bhatar. This industry has been newly developed in this district. It was first started on an experimental scale after the partition of the country which greatly accentuated the difficulties of obtaining gunny bags for transporting goods. Bhatar-making is eminently suited to be a cottage industry providing employment to a large number of persons and can be both a full-time and a

subsidiary occupation affording immense scope for the skill of the persons employed in it.

One of the numerous small indigenous crafts that are in a steady process of decadence, because of competition from powerfully organised units with superior methods and technique of mass production, is the chappal and shoe-makers' trade. Bijapur city had 46 of these establishments in 1965; this is the principal occupation for about 250 persons throughout the year. The tools and appliances in use consisting of punches, hammers, scissors, iron spike, wooden blocks and scrapers would cost about Rs. 100 altogether. In addition, the sewing machine would cost another Rs. 300. The working capital required for the purchase of raw materials could be valued at Rs. 200 per month in the case of a medium-sized establishment. A few of the establishments have borrowed their working capital from co-operative societies. The monthly production of chappals and other kinds of foot-wear ranges between 800 to 1,000 pairs in the case of the larger establishments and about 150 to 200 pairs in the case of the ordinary one-man shops. The net income of the establishments varies between Rs. 60 and Rs. 200. Most of the establishments generally prefer to have their family members as workers. In a few, where paid workers were employed, the piece-rate system was prevalent. The wage rate ranges from about a rupee for a pair of chappals in the case of the ordinary variety to Rs. 2 to Rs. 2-50 or even Rs. 3 in the case of the superior kinds of chappals and shoes. Women workers are not generally employed in this industry. The chappals of Bijapur and Bagalkot have a market extending all over the district and sometimes outside it also. Only a small percentage of the total production is made to order. The whole of the rainy season is a slack period for this trade.

Shoe-making

The establishments engaging themselves in *churmuri* and fried rice-making are housed in rented buildings. The equipment consists of a drum, long bamboo sticks, big iron pots and mats worth about Rs. 100. The working capital required for the business is estimated between Rs. 250 to Rs. 600 per month depending upon the volume of business. The value of production of the larger establishments is about Rs. 500 per month of which about a half is spent on the purchase of raw materials such as paddy, gram, bhaimug and sand; Rs. 100 on wages and about Rs. 30 on rent of the building. In the case of the smaller establishments, the value of production would be about Rs. 200 per month. The net income in the case of larger establishments can be put down at Rs. 100 per mensem and in the case of others it varies from about Rs. 50 to Rs. 100. Most of the establishments employ family members and paid workers in an equal proportion. The process of frying rice consists in first heating paddy with boiled water and drying it. Then it is thrashed with a lathi and husk is removed and the rice is finally fried with sand. *Churmuri* is sold

Churmuri and Fried Rice

both directly by the establishments and through wholesale and retail dealers.

**Copper and
Brass Smithy**

The sample survey conducted revealed that the condition of copper and brass smiths, who at the time of the compilation of the old Gazetteer had a flourishing business, had considerably worsened during the last sixty or seventy years. A peculiar feature of these establishments is that they are seasonal, busy seasons being from November to May. The industry is entirely in a non-mechanized stage so far as the process of manufacture is concerned. The process which is in vogue is that of beating plates of copper and brass according to indigenous methods. The value of the equipment consisting of scissors, iron bars, hammers, furnace, and soldering material varies between Rs. 20 and Rs. 100 and the working capital between Rs. 10 to Rs. 100. Ordinarily, these establishments get their copper sheets and other essential raw materials from the shop-keepers or wholesale dealers. The average daily earning of a worker employed in these establishments was not even a rupee. The industry on the whole appears to be in a very depressed condition. Most of the copper and brass-smiths are in debt to the shop-keepers and wholesale dealers with whom they have transactions for the purchase of raw materials and for the sale of finished products.

**Kambli
Weaving**

Kambli-weaving is one of the few occupations in which a good number of persons are engaged, especially in the rural parts. Persons engaged in this occupation form distinct communities known as *kurubars* and *dhangars* and are found to the south of the Krishna in Bagalkot and Hungund taluks and to some extent in Sindgi taluk, where the best wool is produced and sheep are bred better than in the other parts. The occupation is a hereditary one.

Kambli or blankets are used as covering by all sections of population. Most of the establishments are family concerns in which no outside labour is employed. It is a principal occupation providing employment throughout the year. But business is brisk in winter and the rainy seasons and extremely slack during summer. Some of the weavers who are deprived of their income during these slack months have made efforts at supplementing their earning by keeping poultry, taking to cane-work and repairing small tools and implements used in agriculture. The value of the equipment in an establishment hardly exceeds Rs. 250 and consists of one loom with a fly-shuttle technique, one or two charkhas and one or two bobbins. The working capital for the purchase of the yarn is estimated at about Rs. 20 to Rs. 30 per week and is usually provided by co-operative societies organised for rehabilitating the wool-weaving industry. The cost of production of one kambli is estimated at about Rs. 12 to Rs. 15 and the selling price would be about Rs. 15 to Rs. 25. The total net income

of a family establishment would be between Rs. 60 to Rs. 90 a month. The kamblis are normally sold through the co-operative societies, but sometimes they are also sold directly through the local merchants. The market extends over the entire district. The economic condition of this class of people does not appear to be satisfactory and they are reported to be in debt to money-lenders.

In the establishments engaged in the manufacture of **Mattresses and Pillows** mattresses and pillows, all the workers are family members. A large number of them who are called *pinjaris* wander from street to street as itinerant craftsmen carrying their instruments and appliances. They get orders for pressing mattresses and pillows at the houses of the customers who supply them the cotton and cloth and pay them the labour charges. Most of the *pinjaris* belong to the Muslim community and carry on their business almost as a matter of family tradition, despite the low income that they get from their vocation. The appliances used are simple consisting of a bow and a sort of baton costing not more than Rs. 10 to Rs. 25 and lasting over a series of years. Cotton, cloth and thread are the main raw materials used. On a rough estimate the average monthly earning of a *pinjari* ranges from Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 a month. In the brisk season which is usually the period between October and December, outworkers are also employed at the rate of Rs. 1-50 to Rs. 2-50 for stitching a bed and a pillow.

Stone-quarrying and cutting is one of the few distinctive **Stone-quarrying and cutting** occupations of the Bijapur district. Bagalkot and the neighbouring regions, extending as far as Badami abound in rocky hills noted for their quality stones. There are building stones, grind stones, lime stones and sandstones. The work of quarrying these stones is an occupation of a fairly large number of people called *vaddars*. Equipment consists of hammers, chisels, tapes and levelling instruments, the cost ranging between Rs. 30 and Rs. 75. Those of the stone-cutters who have their own carts incur an additional expenditure of Rs. 350 to Rs. 600 for the cart and the oxen. The stone-cutters can be classified under two categories: (1) those who own their own carts and bring stones from the nearby hills and sell them after cutting and polishing, and (2) those who are purely wage-earners, cutting and polishing the stones. Most of the persons belonging to the latter category work on daily wages and in very rare cases are free-lance stone-cutters doing independent work. The average net income of those who own their own carts would be between Rs. 90 and Rs. 140 a month. Wage earners get about Rs. 2 to Rs. 3 per day. During the off-season which is from June to October most of these stone-cutters work as field labourers.

Tin Smithy

The business of tin smithy is not the main occupation of those engaged in it, since they combine odd jobs like repairing stoves and umbrellas with the main business of tinning. A few of them also collect old bottles from house-holds and sell them. The majority of the persons engaged in this occupation are Muslims. The equipment of the tin smiths is simple, consisting of hammers, scissors, anvil and bellows, costing about Rs. 30 to Rs. 50. The working capital to the extent of Rs. 10 to Rs. 25 a month is required for purchasing raw materials like tin, charcoal and sulphuric acid. All the raw materials are obtained locally. The net income of a medium-sized establishment would not be more than Rs. 75 a month and in the case of smaller ones it hardly exceeds Rs. 45 a month.