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BARODA ADMINISTRATION REPORT 1943-44

(1st August 1943 to 31st July 1944)



Printed at
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1945

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Baroda,
27th March, 1945.

May it please Your Highness,

I have the honour to submit the Administration Report for the year 1943-44.

A summary of important activities in the year is attached at the end of the report.

I remain,
Your Highness' most obedient servant,
B. A. GAEKWAR,
Ag. Dewan.

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Baroda Administration Report

CHAPTER I

GENERAL

TERRITORY — The Baroda State consists of five territorial blocks which lie scattered over Gujarat and Kathiawar, to which natural division it wholly belongs.

The southern district of Navsari lies on either side of the Tapti, forming a mosaic with the villages of the Surat collectorate, and is separated from the Baroda district by the States of the Rewa-Kantha and the Broach district. The western talukas of the district, the Rasti mahals, are flourishing and prosperous. Their rich soil grows good varieties of cotton, fruit and sugarcane. The rivers Tapti, Ambika and Purna drain them from east to west. The eastern parts, forming the talukas of Songadh and Vyara, are called the Rani mahals and comprise areas of forests and backward people — the Raniparaj. The central talukas, Mangrol and Mahuva, combine the features of the Rasti and Rani mahals.

The river Narmada, with its picturesque banks, forms the southern boundary of the Baroda district. Almost in the centre, lies the capital of the State, Baroda, a city of palaces and stately public buildings, of parks and recreation grounds, of broad well-laid roads and beautiful avenues, of colleges, schools and hospitals, a city worthy to be the seat of a modern and progressive State. There are four clearly marked tracts in this district. The tract beyond the Mahi, comprising the talukas of Petlad and Bhadrán, forms part of Charotar, famous for the fertility of its soil and the variety and the richness of its crops, specially tobacco. The central talukas of Baroda and Padra have a composite soil in which sand and lime are intermixed. The bleak and tree-less country to the south is a part of the Kahnám area. It consists of the talukas of Dabhoi, Sinor and Karjan, and produces some of the finest cotton in India. Finally, to the north and south-east is a country of low forests and numerous ravines.

Further to the north, beyond Ahmedabad, lies the Mehsana district, with its historic towns of Patan and Sidhpur, and its archaeological ruins and monuments of historic interest and beauty. Mehsana, the district headquarters, is an important junction on the B. B. & C. I.

Railway line to Malwa and Rajputana. The eastern part of the district consists of fertile and well-wooded country, the west is drier and more barren. Except the trans-Sabarmati area, which is wild and picturesque and cut up by many ravines, the district is a sloping plain unrelieved by hills or rivers.

In Kathiawar, far to the west, isolated and dispersed territories form the districts of Amreli and Okhamandal. The central block of the Amreli district is fertile and well cultivated except in the south where it touches the Gir. Providence has been bountiful to Kodinar and given it fertile soil and abundant water.

Okhamandal has its headquarters at Dwarka, an ancient place of pilgrimage, sacred to the Hindus. The country is bleak and barren, "where even stunted trees are bowed low by the subservient winds in obeisance to Dwarka's Lord." In recent years, however, unsuspected sources of wealth have been discovered. The Port of Okha, with its excellent harbour, has become one of the principal ports of Kathiawar and west India; and industrial concerns like the Associated Cement Company and the Tata Chemicals have been established here. These developments promise to turn a desolate area of the State into one of the richest.

The area and population of these districts are given below:—

District	Area in square miles	Population
Baroda	1,933	959,416
Mehsana	3,080	1,180,541
Navsari	1,811	465,923
Amreli	1,071	206,543
Okhamandal	281	42,587

2. HISTORY — The extraordinary configuration of the Baroda territory—its diversity and fragmentation—is the legacy of two centuries of military exploits, internecine wars and financial and administrative mismanagement. When Pilajirao, the founder of the fortunes of the Gaekwar family, captured Songadh, the hill fortress which commands the southern approaches to Gujarat, he laid the foundation of a new power, which rose on the ruins of the Mughal Empire. The establishment of a principality at Songadh, its extension to include the territory which now forms the Baroda district and the defeat of the other chieftains who disputed the supremacy of the Gaekwar power, was the work of Pilajirao, during his brief career of eleven years between 1721 and 1732. The achievements of his successor, the

able and energetic Damaji (1732-68), were equally brilliant. He completed the conquest of Gujarat, extended the Maratha power into Kathiawar, and so strengthened his position that he aspired to be independent of the Peshwa. It is unnecessary to go into the details of the relations between the Peshwa and the Gaekwar during this period. In the middle of the eighteenth century came the partition of Gujarat and of all future conquests between them. The distribution of territories was effected without any considerations of administrative convenience, and solely on the ground of their revenue yielding capacity. In 1817, the Peshwa's portion passed into the hands of the East India Company and now forms the districts of British Gujarat. This fact explains the dispersed situation of the State territories. Among the acquisitions of Damajirao there were two, which formed the nuclei of the present Amreli district — Amreli and Mul Dwarka which he conquered, and Damnagar which he received in dowry.

It is unnecessary to refer here to the history of the years following the death of Damajirao. The Gaekwar's alliance with the East India Company began in 1802, and in 1805 and 1817 he entered into treaties with the Company under which, among other things, a subsidiary force was placed in Baroda, and for its payment valuable territories, approximately 4,000 square miles in extent, were assigned. These cessions constitute the second of the historical reasons for the scattered nature of the State territories at present.

The rule of Maharaja Sayajirao II (1819-1847) was marked by frequent controversies with the Government of Bombay, arising out of the East India Company's guarantees to the bankers, who had advanced money to the State, to the disbanded Arab mercenaries and others. During this period, the East India Company assumed the direct management of the tributaries, it being agreed that the tributes due from them should be collected by the East India Company and paid to Baroda. This assumption of management is also responsible for the present state of the map of the State.

Little need be said about the three successors who bridge the period between Maharaja Sayajirao II and Maharaja Sayajirao III. In Maharaja Ganpatrao's reign, 1847-56, infanticide and the sale of children were prohibited, and the lands for the B. B. and C. I. Railway were ceded to the British Government free of cost. Maharaja Khanderao's reign, 1856-70, will be memorable for the service he rendered to the British at the time of the Mutiny and the construction of the first railway line in the State between Miyagam and Dabhoi; for reforms which brought a semblance of regularity in the administration of justice and of land revenue. Whatever improvement had been effected in the administration by these two princes, was within a short period of five years, lost by the deterioration in Maharaja Malharrao's time, 1870-75. He returned to the abuses of

the past, introduced a system similar to farming of districts and imposed irregular and special taxes. He was warned in 1874, but in vain. The next year, he was deposed for gross misgovernment, and Maharani Jannabai, the widow of Maharaja Khanderao, was invited to adopt a son who might ascend the Gadi, and Sir T. Madhavrao, one of the ablest administrators of those times, was entrusted with the administration. Maharani Jannabai adopted Gopalrao, a descendant of a brother of Damajirao, who, as Sayajirao III, ascended the Gadi on 27th May 1875.

3. THE GOLDEN PERIOD—The sixty four years that this remarkable man was on the throne, is the golden period in the history of the Baroda State. His achievements were numerous: a scientific system of land revenue, survey and settlement was introduced, great departments of State formed; social laws framed and enacted, compulsory education enforced; important programmes of rural reconstruction and industrial development carried out, the social services of the State extended, a network of railways constructed, the port of Okha developed, and above all, a tradition of just and good Government firmly established. His Highness was assisted by a succession of able Ministers like Sir T. Madhavrao, but the inspiration was always his. Modern Baroda is the great and fitting memorial to Sayajirao.

Maharaja Sayajirao had the great good fortune of celebrating the Diamond Jubilee of his reign in January 1936, amid the widespread manifestations of joy and loyalty of his people. To commemorate this unique event, a memorial trust of a crore of rupees was set apart by His Highness from his private funds for the benefit of his people. He defined his purpose in these memorable words: "My ideal is to improve village life—all sides of it. I wish to develop in my people a keen desire for a higher standard of living, 'a will to live better', and a capacity for self-help and self-reliance. I earnestly desire to make village life interesting and farming a career, the rewards of which will satisfy the most enterprising among the villagers. From the income of this (fund), grants will be made for useful schemes, like extensions of gunthans to relieve overcrowding, village water supplies, communications, educative work of all kinds etc. Special preference will be given (i) to poorer areas which probably have been neglected in the past, and (ii) to the needs of the backward communities like the Raniparaj, the Antyajs, the Thakardas, the Rabaris etc." Rules have been framed and a Trust Board, with the Minister as president, has been constituted for the administration of this fund. The notable part played by this Trust in rural development is described in a chapter following.

The great period of Maharaja Sayajirao closed with his death on the 6th of February 1939. He was succeeded by his grandson, His Highness the Maharaja Pratapsinh Gaekwar, whose reign is already

famous for the permanent reduction in land revenue to the extent of over twenty per cent, the constitutional reforms and the Sayajirao III Memorial Trust of a crore of rupees, the Maharani Shanta Devi Trust fund for the medical relief of women and children, and the extension of the social services of the State.

The first three of these measures, the permanent reduction in land revenue, the constitutional reforms and the Memorial Trust were announced by His Highness, at the time of his accession, in his message to his people on the 20th February 1939. He said:

“During my ten years’ association with the government of the State, I also have come to realise that the agriculturist is the backbone of my State and to take the keenest interest in his economic condition and general well-being. As a practical manifestation of my sympathy and affection, I now direct that the reduced assessment (of land revenue) announced by my revered predecessor be substituted for the existing settlement rates and that it shall be varied only in the course of revisions of settlements.

It is my fervent hope that as the outcome of these concessions, which meet the equities of the case to the fullest extent, the agriculturist will be encouraged in a life of prudence and thrift and will earnestly seek a higher standard of life and level of prosperity.”

The same solicitude for the welfare of his people is seen in the creation of the Sayajirao Memorial Trust. “The long reign of Sir Sayajirao III constitutes the Golden Age of Baroda’s history; and in order that his memory may live for ever and his life be a shining inspiration, it is the universal desire, that there should be a memorial in every way worthy of his greatness.

I have, therefore, decided to set apart from my private funds, the sum of one crore of rupees to perpetuate the memory of the great man whom we have lost. It is my desire that all classes and communities in the State, without exception, should receive the benefit of this Trust.

Thus will generations to come be reminded of a Ruler, who dedicated his life to his people, and who chose service as the highest ideal, in precept and in practice.” The schemes under this Trust are described in a chapter following.

In the same message, His Highness also announced his consent to the recommendations of the committee appointed, in 1938, to consider constitutional advance. He said “The new constitution will emphasise once more the complete identity of interest between the Ruler and the ruled and among all sections of the population; and it is my earnest hope, that it will advance the material and moral condition of my people including those on whom age-old customs have imposed disabilities.”

The System of Government

4. **THE RULER** — The Ruler is the source of all authority and power in the State. He has delegated wide powers to the Executive Council, the Legislative Assembly and the Judiciary, reserving to himself important questions involving policy. The revenues of the State are regarded as public funds, and the Privy Purse or Khangi which includes all expenditure on the Palace is fixed.

5. **GOVERNMENT OF BARODA ACT** — The Government of Baroda Act, 1940, defines the constitution, the functions and powers of the Executive Council, the Legislature and the Judiciary.

6. **EXECUTIVE** — The Executive Council consists of the Chief Minister called Dewan, and four Naib Dewans, two of whom are non-official gentlemen, with a record of public service, appointed from among the members of the Dhara Sabha. All members are responsible to the Maharaja. The Council has been vested with wide powers of administration. Each member is in charge of a number of departments in respect of which he exercises clearly defined administrative powers. The Minister and his colleagues are assisted by a Secretariat, organised on the system prevailing in British India. The entire administration is carried on through well organised departments. These departments address their proposals, when necessary, to the Government, which are submitted to the Member in charge and the Council. The relations with the British Government and Indian States are conducted by the Minister personally through the Political Office.

7. **LEGISLATURE** — The Dhara Sabha or the Legislative Council was reconstituted in 1940 under the Government of Baroda Act. It now consists of sixty members, of whom twenty seven are elected by territorial constituencies on a wide franchise. Every person who holds land assessed at not less than Rs. 30, or pays income tax, or owns immovable property worth Rs. 1,000 or more, or has passed the matriculation or an equivalent examination, is entitled to vote and to stand as a candidate. The number of persons on the voters' list for the general constituencies at the election of 1940 was 239,336 or about 8.5 per cent of the population of the State. Besides these, ten members represent industry, commerce, labour and the co-operative movement as special interests. The other twenty three members of the Dhara Sabha consist of six officials and seventeen non-official gentlemen, nominated to represent minorities etc. The Dewan is the President. There is also a deputy president, who, after the first three years, will be elected by the Dhara Sabha. Four parliamentary secretaries are appointed to assist the members of the Executive Council in their work relating to the Dhara Sabha, and a Dhara Sabha Secretariat, directly under the President, has been formed.

The Dhara Sabha has the power to initiate and pass legislation, to discuss and vote on the budget. The members may also ask questions and move resolutions on matters of public interest, subject to certain limitations. All legislation requires the assent of the Maharaja. Measures affecting the Army, the Privy Purse, treaties or relations with the Paramount Power or other States, the credit of the State, or the provisions of the Government of Baroda Act are excluded from its cognisance. Police department was also added to the reserved departments during the year under report, for the duration of the war, the Dhara Sabha is however allowed to discuss its budget. Similarly, expenditure charged to the revenues of the State is not submitted to the vote of the House. There are certain matters which require the previous sanction of the Maharaja, before measures relating to them can be introduced. The Dewan has power of certification. He may certify a measure before the House as affecting the tranquility of the State, in which case the measure is dropped, or he may certify that a Bill or amendment rejected by the assembly is an emergent measure, and submit it to the Maharaja to enact it as law.

8. THE JUDICIARY — The judiciary is separate from, and independent of, the Legislature and the Executive. The judges of the High Court hold office till the age of retirement, and may only be removed by His Highness on the ground of misbehaviour or infirmity of body and mind. Their salaries are also not subject to the vote of the Dhara Sabha. Under the present Act, the position, status and functions of the Huzur Nyaya Sabha and the Varisht Court have been stabilised and put on to a statutory basis.

9. THE POLICY — The policy of His Highness the Maharaja has been set out clearly — it is the close association of the people with the Government. To give effect to this policy, he has promulgated the new constitution which, in His Highness' memorable words, "will emphasise once more the complete identity of interest between the Ruler and the ruled and among all sections of the people." Baroda has developed for many decades on lines of its own and evolved an individuality of which it is justly proud. In constitutional matters too, it has developed forms and institutions, which, while giving full effect to the principle of close association, are suited to her conditions and serve her special needs. In the Dhara Sabha no attempt has been made to form blocks. Members always formed and expressed views, independently on the merits of individual issues. These valuable features are sought to be preserved, as far as possible in the present constitution.

Administrative System

10. REVENUE DEPARTMENT — Under the old farming system, the revenue farmers were not only collectors of revenue, but exercised civil and criminal jurisdiction as well. When this system gave place to

direct settlement of land revenue with the ryot, it became necessary to create revenue, judicial and police services. The present hierarchy, with clearly defined powers of each grade, dates from that time.

The revenue administration of the State is modelled on the system prevailing in the Ryotwari provinces of British India. In one important principle, however, it departs from the policy of the British Government. There has been almost complete separation of the executive and the judiciary since 1907-08.

The revenue administration consists of a gradation of officers, with the Sar Suba at the head. He deals with Land Revenue, Barkhali, Giras, Boundary and Railway demarcation, Registration and Stamps, Guardians and Wards, Estates under Government management, Compensation, Charitable Institutions, Income-tax, Customs, Excise and Opium and Local Self-Government. Under the Sar Suba, there is a Suba or a Collector, at the head of each of the five districts of the State.

The Suba, as District Magistrate, is primarily responsible for the maintenance of law and order and for the work of the police. As Collector, he is the official head of his district, and it is his duty to see that the land revenue, income-tax and other revenues are duly collected. The maintenance of land records by village officials, the state of the crops, the economic condition of the people and the grant of remission of land revenue, when necessary, demand his attention.

A district consists of eight to ten mahals or talukas, each in charge of a vahivatdar—smaller talukas called peta-mahals are placed under mahalkaris. The vahivatdar is the chief revenue officer in the taluka. He exercises second class magisterial powers for the purpose of maintaining peace and order. There are thirty four talukas and eleven peta mahals in the State.

Over a group of three to four talukas there is a naib suba, primarily a supervising and inspecting officer. There are 11 subdivisions. There are also personal naib subas stationed at district headquarters, who help the Subas in general supervision, and administer with Suba's powers Stamp and Registration, Court of Wards, Compensation, Estates under Government management, and Devasthan.

The lowest unit for administrative purposes is the village. In each village, there is a headman, patel, an accountant, talati, and a staff of village servants. The patel is responsible for the collection of revenue, and its remittance to the taluka treasury. He must maintain law and order in his village, and must report the occurrence of crimes to the higher authorities. He is the president of the village panchayat. The talati is responsible for the maintenance and custody

of the accounts and land records. During the cultivation season he records the crops raised in each field, the area in which it is raised and an estimate of their outturn.

11. JUDICIARY — The Varisht (High) Court is the supreme tribunal in the State, subject to an appeal to the Maharaja, in cases similar to those in which appeals are permitted in British India to the Privy Council. In the disposal of these appeals, the Maharaja is advised by the Nyaya Sabha, which corresponds to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council. The Nyaya Sabha consists of the Legal Remembrancer and two members, including a judge of the High Court.

The Varisht Court does not exercise original civil or criminal jurisdiction, but only appellate and revisional powers. It, however, possesses extraordinary powers to try original cases both civil and criminal, and it exercises a general superintendence and control over the whole administration of justice. The judges of the High Court are appointed by the Maharaja from among the district judges or leading members of the bar.

Under the High Court there are five district courts, which try civil suits of any limit, small causes suits upto Rs. 1,000, and sit as sessions court for criminal cases. Assisting these, are assistant judges' courts, with the same civil jurisdiction (small causes suits upto Rs. 500 only) as district courts, but with limited powers in criminal cases. In talukas, there are munsiffs' courts. They hear civil suits upto Rs. 10,000, small causes suits upto Rs. 200 (Rs. 500 when sitting in bench) and enjoy first class magisterial powers. The judicial cadre consists of three High Court judges, five district judges and magistrates, five assistant district judges, and thirty nine munsiffs.

12. POLICE — Formerly, magisterial and police functions were exercised by the same officers; nor was there any clear demarcation between the army and the police. With the reforms of Sir T. Madhavrao, magisterial and police functions became separated, and a police service independent of the army was created. At present, the Force consists of two distinct bodies — the stipendiary and the village police. The former is under the control of the Police Commissioner, and the latter, though under the Revenue department, is responsible to him for their police duties.

The stipendiary police consists of five units with 5,113 officers and men. The armed forces, which consist of about two thirds of the stipendiary police, guard jails and treasuries, escort prisoners etc. A special armed reserved force is maintained in each district for emergencies.

Besides this, there is the mounted police, which, in each district, patrol the boundaries, guard dangerous points, pursue dacoits and form an escort during His Highness' tours; the city police, which is

in charge of registration of vehicles in Baroda City, and controls traffic; the railway police on the State Railways in the Baroda and Mehsana districts; and the water police whose duty is to prevent and detect crime on the sea, and smuggling in Kodinar and Okhamandal.

The Police organisation is a graded hierarchy of the jamadar, with a few constables under him in charge of a chowky, the outpost with its naib foudar, the police station under foudar, the circle under sar foudar and the police naib suba in charge of the district. Each officer is responsible for the maintenance of law and order in his jurisdiction. The head of the department is the Commissioner of Police.

13. ARMY — The Baroda Army consists of regular and irregular troops. The maximum strength of the former is 3,592 (effectives)—cavalry 738, infantry 2,788, band 61, and 5 staff officers.

14. FINANCE — Till 1875, the finances of the State rested on the twin system of revenue farming and the potdari. The State did not collect its revenues, but auctioned the right of collection to the highest bidder; nor did it maintain a treasury of its own, but drew upon accredited bankers for such sums as it required, and for repayment, granted them letters of credit on some farmer of revenue. On these transactions the State paid a heavy rate of interest and a commission. Sometimes the Maharajas themselves were bankers to the State.

One of the earliest reforms of Sir T. Madhavrao was to abolish the potdari system and establish an Accounts department. The Accounts department, under the Accountant General, has now four sections: Finance, Investment, Accounts, and Audit. It prepares the budget statement of the estimated receipts and expenditure for the coming year, keeps the Government informed of the chief causes of fluctuations, and with the help of the Budget Committee, advises Government on all questions affecting the finances of the State; submits to Government a reappropriation report, explaining the reasons of the variations. It attends to the investment of surplus funds, and in this work it is advised by an Investment Committee and financial experts. It tabulates receipts and expenditure under prescribed heads, and compiles monthly and annual statements of accounts. It audits accounts of all Government offices, in Baroda City on pre-audit and elsewhere on post-audit system.

15. STATE RESERVES — In 1938–39, the Government adopted two important measures as a result of the examination of the finances of the State, following the reduction in the land revenue of Rs. 23·65 lakhs, and the concession of Rs. 3·04 lakhs in favour of prant panchayats made that year.

- (i) *The constitution of a State Reserve Fund* : Out of the liquid assets of the State, Rs. 350 lakhs were set apart to form a reserve. This amount will be utilised for schemes of remunerative capital expenditure.

- (ii) *The formation of a Land Revenue equalisation fund* : As land revenue forms the main source of income of the State, seasonal vicissitudes had serious repercussions on the budget estimates. To avoid such dislocations, this fund has been created, taking normal realisations from land revenue at Rs. 95 lakhs. If the actual realisations exceed this standard, the excess is added to the fund; if the receipts fall short, the deficit is made good by drawing upon it. To start with, the fund was credited with Rs. 50 lakhs from the savings of the State. Fluctuations under land revenue thus cannot affect the activities of the development departments, or restrict the range of social services rendered by the State.

16. **AGRICULTURAL DEPARTMENT**—The Agricultural department was founded in 1909, in sympathy with the general movement in the country, following the great famines of 1899–1901, to improve the methods of agriculture. Till recently, however, the policy towards agricultural development, was to wait and watch the results of scientific work obtained at the British institutions, and particularly at those located in the immediate neighbourhood of the State, and to try to demonstrate improvements of proved value to the people. The agricultural department developed on these lines, however, did not prove as useful as was expected. In 1936, therefore, a policy was adopted of vigorous technical development, and an equally vigorous propaganda to carry the knowledge of improved agriculture to every agriculturist of the State. A technical expert of great experience was appointed Commissioner of Agriculture, and the department expanded to meet the new needs. A measure of the development of the department is the increase in its expenditure from Rs. 1·8 lakhs in 1934–35 to Rs. 9·35 lakhs in the year under report.

For administrative purposes the State is divided into the northern and southern circles, each under a deputy director. The different sections: agricultural chemistry, engineering, marketing, horticulture and animal husbandry and veterinary relief are also in charge of qualified officers.

17. **CO-OPERATION**—The Co-operative Credit Societies Act was passed in the State in 1905, a year after the enactment of a similar nature in British India. This Act provided for the organisation of credit societies only. It was amended in 1912, to permit the organisation of non-credit societies as well. The number of societies in the State is now 1,359, and it has been calculated that 18·1 per cent of the population is directly affected by the movement. The Registrar of co-operative societies is assisted by two assistant registrars and 22 auditors.

18. **COMMERCE**—The Commerce department deals with commerce and is in charge of the activities connected with the Ports of the State. The customs agreement of 1936 with the Government of India set at rest a long pending dispute in regard to the customs' rights of the State.

19. **INDUSTRIES**—The department of industries is maintained to implement the Government's policy of active assistance in starting new, or developing existing industries. This assistance extends in several directions. The department takes a share in industrial research work; it provides technical assistance to industrialists; it conducts surveys, and supplies information to the public; it examines applications for special concessions and grants of loans to industries, or for assistance by participation in the share capital of pioneer industries, or for concessions, such as acquisition of land, remission of octroi duty, supply of cheap power and water.

In the administration of the Boiler Act and the Factories Act, the Director of Industries is assisted by a Boiler Inspector and a Labour Officer.

For the revival and development of cottage industries, the Government maintain a central institute, the Diamond Jubilee Cottage Industries Institute at Baroda, and a large number of special training classes in villages, and give grant-in-aid to private institutions working towards this object.

20. **STATISTICS**—The Statistics department was constituted in 1935. It compiles statistics useful to industrial and commercial classes and the State. It is also in charge of the administration of the Companies Act, the Insurance Act and the Insurance of State servants.

21. **FORESTS**—The total area of forests in the State is 712 square miles. The area is divided into nine ranges for administration. Of these, five are in the Navsari district and one in each of the other districts. The work of conservation and exploitation is controlled by a Conservator of Forests and two assistants.

22. **FISHERIES** — The Fisheries department was created in 1937. The Director is assisted by an assistant director and a small technical staff. The work mainly consists of improving the food supply of the people, by developing both the marine and fresh water fisheries of the State, the introduction of new fishery industries, and the improvement of the material and moral condition of the fishing community.

23. **EDUCATION** — The history of education in the State begins in 1871, when for the first time two Gujarati and two Marathi schools were opened by the Government. Four years later, the Vernacular

Education department was formed under the Vidyadhikari. The progress was at first slow, and when Sayajirao III assumed full powers in 1881, there were no more than 180 primary schools with 7,465 pupils. Under his inspiration, however, education developed rapidly. In 1893, compulsory primary education was introduced as an experimental measure in the Amreli district, and rapidly extended, till in 1906 it was made applicable to the whole State. Education is now free and compulsory between the ages of 7 and 12, and all primary education upto class V is free.

The Education department controls and supervises the entire primary education in the State. In this the Vidyadhikari, Commissioner of Education, is assisted by an assistant commissioner, and six divisional inspectors, each in charge of a division, and two inspectresses of girls' schools. Under these district inspectors there are 31 deputy inspectors, and special deputy inspectors for Urdu, Antyaj and Raniparaj schools. Compulsion is enforced by fines imposed by head masters and is based on the list of children of school going age, drawn up in each village by the patel and the school master. The fines do not form revenues of the State, but are credited to a separate fund, which is utilised for constructing school buildings and awarding scholarships.

Secondary, university and technical education are also under the Commissioner of Education, as also all Government educational institutions such as the museum, the libraries, the Oriental Institute and the music and Sanskrit schools. There are, however, directors or curators in charge of each of these sections to assist him.

There are 2,496 Government primary schools with 6,746 teachers and 50 Government secondary schools with 477 teachers. There is a special inspector for secondary schools.

24. LIBRARY MOVEMENT — Perhaps the most important development in education in recent years, is the establishment of a network of village libraries throughout the State. The genesis of the district library movement lies in the fact, realised after some years of experience of compulsory education, that a boy or a girl who has passed the fifth standard Gujarati, lapses into illiteracy within a few years, unless opportunities are provided to him or her to continue reading. The Government, therefore, adopted a policy of providing with a library every village where there is a school, the help given by the Government and the district boards being equal to the contribution raised by the village; and for annual expenses, the Government gives a grant equal to the contribution raised by the library. With this object mofussil libraries are grouped under three classes: district libraries receive upto Rs. 700; town libraries upto Rs. 300; and village libraries upto Rs. 100. Women's libraries and children's

receive grant on the basis of village libraries and reading rooms upto Rs. 50. Under this policy, the number of district libraries rose from 697 in 1930 to 1,505 in 1944. Besides this, there is the travelling libraries' section which serves about 375 centres. The population served by the libraries now forms 100 per cent of the town population, and 78·27 per cent of the village, and 82·6 per cent of the population of the State as a whole.

25. **MEDICAL DEPARTMENT** — The Medical department was organised in 1876, when a few medical graduates were appointed. Between 1881 and 1919, an extensive programme to provide all district towns with hospitals, and all taluka towns with dispensaries was carried out. The same period saw the establishment of two great hospitals in the City : The Countess of Dufferin Hospital in 1886, and the State General Hospital in 1907. In 1919, a programme was adopted for opening dispensaries in rural areas, so that medical help would be available within five miles of every village. The programme has been completed and 69 new dispensaries established. These dispensaries are in charge of L. C. P. S. sub-assistant surgeons and the others in that of medical graduates. There are now 126 medical institutions—one for 64·9 square miles or 22,659 of the population, 145 sub-assistant surgeons, 167 nurses and midwives, and 107 compounders.

The Maharani Shanta Devi Trust Fund : A separate trust, associated with the name of Her Highness the Maharani, has been created, which will extend the facilities now available for medical aid for women and children. The Government have transferred to the Trust Rs. 5 lakhs, representing the amount accumulated from the fines levied under the Child Marriage Act, and will contribute every year about Rs. 50,000, of which about Rs. 40,000 will be from the yearly income of such fines, and Rs. 10,000 from the Sayajirao III Memorial Fund. The Trust has so far sanctioned seventeen medical institutions for women besides a separate children's hospital attached to the general hospital in the Baroda City.

26. **SANITARY DEPARTMENT** — Sanitation forms the principal function of municipalities in towns and village panchayats. The municipalities are assisted by sanitary committees, consisting of municipal members and others. The village panchayats are guided by district sanitary inspectors. The Sanitary Commissioner exercises a general supervision, in which he is assisted by two assistant commissioners. He is also in charge of the work connected with vital statistics.

Vaccination is now compulsory in the Baroda State, and revaccination at the age of 8 in Baroda City and district, in Okhamandal and the Mehsana district.

27. **PUBLIC WORKS** — The Public Works department, formerly known as Imarat Karkhana, was constituted in 1877, and an ambitious

programme of public buildings, irrigation and gardens was undertaken. In 1885, a separate branch for the development of irrigation works was created and during the next thirty five years, old irrigation tanks were renovated and no less than 23 new ones constructed at the cost of Rs. 52 lakhs. They were designed to supply water to over 100,000 bighas. These have, however, not been altogether successful.

The department is organised in five sections : civil, architecture, mechanical and boring, irrigation and gardens, each under a qualified officer, with the Chief Engineer at the head. For the civil branch, the Chief Engineer is assisted by a superintending engineer. The State is divided into the City, and four divisions, each in charge of an executive engineer, Okhamandal being under the Harbour Board for public works purposes. The executive engineers control the district staff, consisting of 26 sub-divisional officers. These are employed on irrigation and other public works.

28. **RAILWAYS** — Baroda was among the earliest of the States to initiate a regular system of railways. The first line was opened in 1869 between Miyagam and Dabhoi. Since then a network of railways has been constructed in the State, and to-day Baroda has a total mileage of 795 miles, of which 21·42 miles are broad-gauge, 345·64 miles metre-gauge and 428·11 miles narrow-gauge, the total capital invested being Rs. 5·92 crores.

29. **ELECTRICITY** — The department has two sections : electricity proper, and telephones. The principal undertaking of the department is the City electric supply. Besides this, there are electric supply concerns at Petlad, Okha and Gandevi, and the water lifting stations at Manekpur and Umra. The telephone section controls the telephone systems of the Baroda City, Navsari, Billimora, Petlad, Dabhoi, Kalol and Mehsana.

30. **STATIONERY AND PRINTING** — The supply of stationery to all Government offices is controlled by the Manager, State Press. The printing work for Government is done at the Government Press established in 1924.

Local Self-Government

31. **VILLAGE PANCHAYATS** — The new system of administration of land revenue, justice and police deprived the village organisations of much of their power and usefulness. But Baroda can pride itself on the fact, that from the beginning steps were taken to preserve the self-government of the village. Panchayats were constituted in all villages, and entrusted with powers and duties, which they had enjoyed by custom, and funds provided for them.

Since then, from time to time the panchayats have been reorganised, their constitution made more liberal, and their resources and powers extended.

To-day, every village with a population of more than 500 has its own panchayat ; smaller villages are grouped together, and a common panchayat organised for them. Two thirds of the members are elected under a very wide franchise. The Patel is the ex-officio president, but the panchayats appoint their own secretaries and treasurers. They enjoy power of supervision over village affair and institutions, and are in charge of village sanitation, water supply and drainage. They are entrusted with revenue functions, such as ordinary cases of mutations of lands, giving permission to build, and a few of them have been given power to try civil and criminal cases. A proportion of the local cess, contributions by prant panchayats, and certain items of Government revenue, such as sale proceeds of grass, trees etc., form their main sources of income.

32. DISTRICT BOARDS — In 1940, the system of representative institutions was extended to districts, and prant panchayats or district boards constituted. The prant panchayats now consist of a majority of members elected on a broad franchise. They have been entrusted with the construction of roads, wells, cattle troughs, dharmashalas and schools, and with sanitation and public health. Since 1939, they elect their presidents. They have their own engineering staff. Formerly, they were entrusted with full control over primary schools, but they were not found suitable agency for enforcing compulsion, and the control was resumed. They, however, continued to pay a third of the local cess towards education till 1939, when to strengthen their resources and enable them to undertake work of importance, they were relieved of this (Rs. 2.75 lakhs) as well as their contribution of Rs. 0.29 lakhs towards veterinary services. This added Rs. 3.04 lakhs to their resources. The total income of five prant panchayats is about Rs. 9.01 lakhs.

33. THE BARODA MUNICIPALITY — Previous to the Municipal Act of 1892, there were no self-governing institutions, for the management of municipal affairs in towns. In that year, the principle of election was introduced in the Baroda Municipality. Its present constitution is based on the Act of 1905 which separated the executive and the deliberative functions, conferred considerable financial powers, and increased the elected members from half to two thirds. Since then its powers, responsibilities and privileges have been extended, and it now elects its own president. Except for such matters as taxation, making rules and bye-laws, the municipality enjoys independent powers. Its income, including a Government grant of Rs. 1.25 lakhs, is about Rs. 12.87 lakhs.

34. DISTRICT MUNICIPALITIES — In other towns, there was no municipal government in any real sense, prior to the Municipal Act of 1905, which was based on the Bombay Municipal Act III of 1901.

Under this Act, municipalities are classed "A" and "B" according to their size, importance and fitness for self-government. The proportion of elected members differs slightly in these two and the presidents in both cases were, till recently, Government officials. Since 1939, however, all the "A" and some of "B" class municipalities, have been allowed to elect their presidents. In the early days, the sole source of income of these bodies was Government grants, but these have been largely discontinued, and municipalities are empowered to levy house tax, octroi and such other duties. There are eleven "A" class and thirty "B" class municipalities. The total income of "A" class municipalities is about Rs. 7·59 lakhs and of "B" class about Rs. 5·40 lakhs.

The system of land revenue

35. **SETTLEMENT OF RYOTWARI LANDS** — In the earlier days, districts were annually farmed out to the highest bidders, and the cultivator enjoyed neither security of tenure nor of assessment. Sayajirao III's most memorable reform was the settlement of the lands on a just and equitable basis. In this, he followed the Bombay system and the principles formulated in the Joint Report of 1847.

36. **OCCUPANCY RIGHTS** — In Baroda territories, as in those comprising the Province of Bombay the common tenure was the ryotwari tenure, under which the occupant of land deals directly with the Government, and is responsible for the payment of revenues, assessed only on his own holding. This tenure was accepted as the basis of the new system. The rights, which the occupant enjoys over his occupancy, were stated, and are now defined in the Baroda Land Revenue Code. The occupancy can be inherited, sold, burdened with debt, relinquished or otherwise alienated. In certain parts of the State, however, laws have been passed in the interest of the backward classes, restricting the right of alienation. These are described in the chapter on Social and Economic Legislation.

37. **SURVEY** — To define precisely the lands in respect of which these rights are given, an accurate survey is necessary. The arable land, whether cultivated or not, is therefore, split up into fields or survey numbers, the "field" being an artificial unit of such a size as would make for flexibility of transfer of land and permit the ryot to contract or enlarge his holding according to his resources. The maximum size is ordinarily eight bighas in dry and three in wet land. The fields are measured with chain and cross staff and their boundaries fixed by official boundary marks. The record of the survey is preserved and maintained by an elaborate system of maps and measurements. In the surveys that were carried out, it was necessary to split up holdings larger than the standard size, and combine holdings of less than a minimum area. Subordinate shares within a survey number were measured, assessed and demarcated as pot-numbers.

38. SETTLEMENT — The settlement of the revenue is made taluka by taluka, at long intervals of 15–30 years, by officers appointed specially for the purpose, and once made, remains unchanged for the period for which the guarantee has been given. The revenue officer has normally nothing more to do than administer it.

The conditions at the time of the Original Settlements did not justify settlements for a period longer than fifteen years. There was much waste land, rents were low, cultivation was fluctuating, and there was likelihood of a rapid development of resources owing to the construction of roads and railways, an increase in population, a rise in prices and the establishment of peace and order in the State. These considerations, however, did not prevail to the same extent at the time of the Revision Settlements which, therefore, were invariably made for thirty years.

The settlement is based on the principle that “land should be assessed in accordance with its capabilities.” Such a settlement involves two distinct processes :—

- (i) *The determination of the aggregate amount of assessment for a taluka :* The main considerations, which guide the Settlement officer in determining whether the existing assessment of a taluka is suitable or requires to be modified, are its rainfall, the state of communications and markets, the class of cultivation and the state of husbandry, the revenue history including statistics of demand, collection, remissions, arrears and coercive measures, and the expansion or contraction in the area occupied as indicating the pressure of assessment. The statistics of rents, sales and mortgages, as indicating the proportion of assessment to the profit of agriculture, and the movement of prices, indicate the extent to which the aggregate may be modified.
- (ii) *Distribution of the aggregate :* The aggregate having been determined, the next operation consists of apportioning the aggregate to the various fields or survey numbers, according to their relative values. The circumstances affecting the values of fields within the same village are three: their natural productive capabilities, irrigation facilities and position with respect to the village. Lands are, accordingly, divided into classes on lines familiar to the cultivator—dry crop and irrigated—and each class further classified according to factors that affect their natural productivity: depth, texture and quality of the soil, irrigation facilities etc. Fields are examined and their relative value in respect to these factors is expressed in terms of anna valuation, or frac-

tional shares calculated in sixteenths. Irrigation facilities, such as wells, in the earlier settlements were taxed by additional assessment on the fields they served. But this, as it amounted to a tax on improvements, was against Government's policy of taxing only the natural capabilities of the soil, and the system lent itself to easy evasion. In later settlements, therefore, the system of subsoil rate was adopted. Water facility is considered as one of the fertilizing elements of the soil, and included in the soil classification, according to the depth and quality of the subsoil water. A light burden is thus imposed on all who enjoy land possessing irrigation facilities, instead of a heavy rate on those only, who made their use. The system has relieved the cultivator of all apprehension regarding assessment of well improvements, and has provided an impetus to the construction of wells.

The calculation of the assessment each survey number should bear, according to its capacity as expressed by classification, is a purely arithmetical process. But in doing so, the relative situation of the villages of the taluka in respect of climate, communications and markets and such other enduring factors, is considered. The taluka is divided into groups of villages and the aggregate apportioned between group and group in relation to these advantages and disadvantages.

These were the principles on which the Original Settlements of the talukas of the State were made between 1880 and 1901, mostly by two officers of the Bombay Government, Mr. Elliot and Mr. Seddon.

39. **REVISION SETTLEMENTS** — Periodical revisions, though based on the same principles, raises the fundamental question with regard to **taxation** of improvements. The policy of the Baroda Government is defined in the Land Revenue Code and the Revision Settlement Rules. These enactments secure to the cultivator in perpetuity, the whole of the profit arising from improvements in his land carried out at his own cost, such as wells and tanks; and he is secured against an increase in assessment, on account of improvement in the soil or conversion of dry land into *kyari*, by provisions in the Revision Settlement Rules, under which lands are not to be reclassified, except when there has been a change of a permanent nature in the physical features of the soil over a fairly large area. Enhancements at settlements are fixed solely on the basis of a general rise in prices of standard crops, and the policy is to see that assessments are raised only moderately—the agriculturist being allowed a proportion of the benefit due to increase in prices.

40. **SUSPENSION AND REMISSION**—In a fixed cash settlement, the Government revenue represents the sum that may fairly be demanded on an average of seasons, and it is assessed in the belief, that cultivators will save from the surplus of good years to meet the deficit in bad. It is, however, difficult to make allowances for failure of crops in framing the assessment rates; nor have the agriculturists as a rule learnt to regard good harvests, as a means of insurance against bad years. The revenue system of the State has, therefore, recognised the necessity of special arrangements for relaxation in realisation of the revenue demand, where there is serious failure of crops, and with a view to ascertain the correct yield in any individual season, a procedure has been laid down whereby in any year, the yield in the different crops is ascertained as annis, proportioned to the normal yield in the particular crop in the tract concerned.

The Settlement of Barkhali (alienated) lands

41. **ORIGIN OF BARKHALI LANDS**—In the times of trouble preceding the establishment of ordered government in the State, the right of alienating lands was assumed by farmers of revenue and executive officers of all grades even down to patels. Repeated efforts were made by the Government to prevent these alienations but to no purpose. By 1875, the extent of alienated lands in the State was considerable. The settlement of these lands was organised in 1889, and rules, which are still in force, were formulated. Inquiry into individual cases was not made, the Government preferring, as in Bombay, a summary settlement according to certain principles. All lands acquired before 1826, the year in which Sayajirao II had issued orders forbidding alienations, were charged a quit rent of 2 annas, and others of 4 annas and where title to land was recognised, sanads were given guaranteeing succession to direct and collateral heirs and recognising adoption.

42. **KINDS OF BARKHALI LANDS**—The Barkhali lands, to which this settlement referred, consist of four kinds of inams: personal, devasthan, hereditary service and political.

- (a) *Personal*: These inams were given as gifts to persons out of favour or for past service. Such, for instance, are jat dharma-daya lands bestowed on Brahmins, Bhattis, Charans, etc.; or the Wazeefa lands granted by Muslim Governments to pious persons or for past services. Such grants were continued unconditionally.
- (b) *Devasthan lands*: Lands alienated for the maintenance of temples, mosques and such other religious or charitable institutions of a permanent character are devasthan Inams. These were continued permanently free of assessment, except in cases where the temples or gods had ceased to exist.

(c) *Service grants*: There are three distinct classes of service grants:

(i) Dharmadaya Chakariat were lands given for worship or as payment for services at religious or charitable institutions. As these inams were given to individuals, the reason for a total or a permanent exemption from revenue did not apply. Therefore, the inams were continued only in the family to which they had been given and permanent alienation was prohibited.

(ii) Vatans were grants for performance of civil duties. These inamdars were deeply in debt and had mortgaged their property, and all except Muzumdars and a few Desais, had long ceased themselves to render any service, but sent low paid clerks instead. Measures were adopted to rehabilitate them. A settlement of their remuneration on a fair, intelligible and stable basis was made, their service and its nature defined, and rules framed for regulating succession. A similar settlement of inami villages was also made.

(iii) Chakariat lands were given for village service and are, strictly speaking, not alienated lands. They are assigned in lieu of cash payments. When the settlement was undertaken, some of the larger villages had no Government assistance towards guarding the field produce, and others towards conservancy, and so forth. Most of the village servants had mortgaged or sold their lands. So, the two main points of settlement were: (a) an equal distribution of village services among all towns and villages according to population, revenue, and geographical position, and (b) a choice for all village servants to accept their remuneration in cash or in shape of freedom from assessment on such lands as they held. Most preferred cash remuneration as they had sold or mortgaged their lands. At the same time, the services of darjis, dhobis, mochis, malis and priests were dispensed with, and their lands resumed.

(d) *Political inams*: These were given for political considerations.

43. ADANIA — Besides these, there was an extensive alienation of land in the form of mortgage tenure — Adania. The patels, in order to raise funds to meet their liabilities, sold (vechania) or mortgaged (gharania) Government lands for a trifling sum, guaranteeing the total exemption from assessment. The vast extent of such lands in the Mehsana and Baroda districts made a solution of the problem difficult.

In their settlement the Government followed a liberal policy: it determined to redeem what it had the right to resume. In Kadi the lands were resumed for a consideration which varied according as the alienation dated before or after 1826. In the Baroda district there was much more vechania land than gharania. The Government continued indefinitely, on payment of fixed charges, all such lands acquired before 1826; and those acquired after 1826 were continued for two lives.

44. NON-RYOTWARI TENURES — Though Ryotwari is the common tenure in the State, two other forms, corresponding to village and zamindari tenures, are also found.

- (i) *The Narvadari and Bhagdari tenures* : Both these involve a joint responsibility for the payment of the Government revenues. The bhagdari tenure, however, differs from the narvadari in that in the former, each field is separately assessed and the village pays the sum of the field assessments, while in narvadari, the revenue is fixed in the lump on the village. But in neither case does the contribution of the sharers to the revenue bear any relation to the land they hold at present. They continue to bear the same share of the total revenue as originally. The persons cultivating the lands of these villages are tenants, not of government but of the bhagdars. The customary tenants, however, cannot be ejected so long as they pay the customary rental. The Government seldom interfere between the bhagdars and the tenants.
- (ii) *Ankadabandi and Ekankadi* : In Ankadabandi villages a lump sum is assessed on the whole village and recovered from the headman of the village or the whole body of proprietors. In Ekankadi villages the Government demand is permanently settled. The Government did not interfere in the internal fiscal management of the villages till recently. In 1934, however, Government found it necessary to enact the Ankadia Villages' Tenants Act. This measure was intended for the protection of tenants, and defined who shall be 'permanent' tenants, and who 'occupancy' tenants not liable to eviction so long as they paid the rents and did not commit acts of 'waste.'

Social and economic structure of the State

45. OCCUPATIONAL DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION — The area of the State is 8,176 square miles, the population 2,855,000. The density of population varies from district to district. It is 418 to the square mile in the Baroda district, 383 in Mehsana, 257 in Navsari, 193 in Amreli and 152 in Okhamandal. The average for the whole State is 349 to the square mile.

The distribution of population between urban and rural is in the ratio of 1:4. The rural population lives in 2,894 villages of which 1,401 have a population of less than 500. There is a marked tendency to migrate from small congested villages to the towns, a tendency which is evident from the increase in the number of 'towns' from 50 in 1931 to 64 in 1941. Many of these towns are mere distributing centres, and the increase in the number does not signify corresponding industrial progress. Indeed, the predominance of agriculture as a means of livelihood has as yet been little affected and 64.6 per cent of the population are engaged in it. Of the remaining 35.4 per cent, industries absorb 13.3 per cent, exploitation of minerals 0.1, transport 1.9, trade 8.1, professions and liberal arts 3.5, public administration 1.6, public force 1.7, domestic services 1.1, while 0.6 live on their own income, 0.5 are unproductive and 3.0 follow insufficiently described occupations.

46. AGRICULTURE—The agriculturist is the backbone of the State, and the strength of the rural society lies in the large number of proprietor farmers. It is a noteworthy fact that the proportion of these to those living directly on the land is double that in British Gujarat, and four times as high as in the Province of Bombay. The distribution in different grades to 1,000 workers on the land is as follows:—

Non-cultivating proprietor	...	...	17
Cultivating proprietor	...	...	420
Tenant cultivators	...	...	31
Agricultural labourers	...	...	166
Total			634

Making also for the strength of rural economy is the high percentage of earners and working dependents to the population. It is 49.5 per cent in the State as against 42.5 per cent in British Gujarat, 39.2 per cent in the Province of Bombay and 43.6 per cent in India.

The number of women who supplement the income of their families is in Baroda State exceptionally high—744 to every 1,000, as against 567 in British Gujarat and 428 in the Province of Bombay. In those parts of the country, where custom and caste insist on the seclusion of women, such a state of affairs would indicate adverse economic conditions, but in Gujarat no such sentiments prevail, and the large number of women supplementing the income of their families adds strength to the economic structure.

These factors make for the strength of rural economy. On the other hand, there are three main factors which are a source of weakness to the rural society: (i) The first is the inadequacy of an average hold-

ing. The average holding in the State is only four acres (in British Gujarat it is five), and the area of crop per head of population 1.35 acres (British Gujarat 1.36); and this problem is accentuated by fragmentation or subdivision. The measures taken to prevent further subdivision and to consolidate small holdings have been defeated by sentiment, laws of inheritance and succession, and the absence of diversified occupations. (ii) The second is the absence of irrigation facilities. The irrigated area constitutes only 6 per cent of the area of the State—a feature which is shared by the State with British Gujarat. (iii) The excessive number of cattle is another disadvantage. The number of cattle to 100 acres sown is almost double what it should be. In Baroda State it is 46 and in British Gujarat 50, and the area under fodder crops is only 2 per cent of the area sown. These factors, and the unfamiliarity of the farmers with scientific methods of cultivation and the fall in prices have affected injuriously the position of the cultivator. The extent of his indebtedness in the State cannot be stated with any accuracy but, as in the rest of India, it is heavy. The Government is pledged to develop co-operative credit to meet this need. Substantial measures are also being taken for the improvement of agriculture. Irrigation works have been constructed all over the State. Large irrigation schemes based on the Sabarmati and Zankhari rivers are being investigated; the Vijapur tube-well irrigation scheme costing in its experimental stage Rs. 10 lakhs is already in operation; on perennial rivers electric installations for pumping water are set up. A comprehensive programme for the improvement of irrigation tanks in the Mehsana district is being undertaken. In the Amreli district, wells are being dynamited to yield larger supplies. These and other measures which the State is taking are described in later chapters of the report.

47. INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT—Industrially the Baroda State is an advanced area in India as shown by the following table:—

				Factory operatives	
				1941	1921
Textile	...	...	...	27,481	8,130
Chemicals	...	...	...	4,455	201
Building industries (including cement, stone quarries, bricks and tiles).				1,576	143
Miscellaneous.	...	...	...	3,051	2,739

The total amount of paid up capital of joint stock companies (excluding foreign insurance companies) working in the State has increased from Rs. 152 lakhs in 1921 to Rs. 2,014 lakhs in 1944. A noteworthy feature of this industrial development is that it is broad based. There are eighteen cotton mills, one woollen mill, two

cotton and silk weaving factories. There is a large chemical industry, the Tata Chemicals in Okhamandal, the Alembic in Baroda, the Hindusthan Chemical and Colour Works and several other smaller concerns. The cement factory at Dwarka produces about 2,00,000 tons a year and the Okha Salt Works 75,000 tons of salt. There are two match factories, a sugar factory, oil mills and a number of miscellaneous industries.

48. RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS—Almost all religious denominations of India are found in the State. Of the total population, 2,560,000 or 89.34 per cent are Hindus, including 373,000 or 13 per cent Tribal, 224,000 or 7.83 per cent Muslims, 47,000 Jains, 9,500 Christians, 6,900 Parsis, and 2,400 Tribal. The spread of education and of liberal ideas has softened the edges and angularities of different faiths, and created a broad sense of toleration, which has strengthened the tradition of communal harmony in the State.

49. CHILD MARRIAGES—The result of thirty eight years of the Child Marriage Prevention Act is that marriages below the age of ten are practically non existent, and child marriages below the penalised age have decreased from 33.2 per cent in 1916-20 to 13 per cent in 1936-40, in spite of the age having been raised. The working and effect of this law is reviewed in the chapter on Social and Economic Legislation.

50. LITERACY—There are now 653,000 literates (482,000 males and 171,000 females) and 160,000 partially literate. Thus, 229 per mille of the population are literate, 56 per mille partially literate, and the wholly illiterate from 715 per mille as against 780 in 1931.

The literates have increased by 50.2 per cent in the last ten years. The male literates have increased by 35.8 per cent, while literacy among women has shown the remarkable progress of 114.2 per cent. The great disparity among sexes in the matter of education, however, persists, the percentage of male literates being 32.8 and of females 12.4.

At the top of the literate population, stands the advanced section comprising those who are able to read and write in English. The literates in English now number 56,953 (52,300 male and 4,653 females)—an increase of 77.9 per cent over 1931 figures (73.1 per cent for males and 157.9 per cent for females).

CHAPTER II

THE PALACE

51. (1) VISITS ETC. — His Highness the Maharaja Saheb inspected the offices of the Sarsuba, the Accountant General and the Legal Remembrancer in August 1943 and heard the suggestions made for improvements and better working of the departments.

(2) His Highness unveiled the bust of the late Dr. Bhagwanlal Indraji under the auspices of the Gujarat Research Society in Bombay in August 1943, and donated a sum of Rs. 15,000 and also became a Patron of the Society.

(3) His Highness visited Ooty during October 1943. On the 14th February 1944, His Highness the Maharaja Saheb addressed the members of the Dhara Sabha wherein he assured his subjects that their interests and welfare were nearest to his heart. He was pleased to announce the addition of one more popular minister to the State Executive Council. His Highness' speech was received with great ovation by the Assembly and the Press.

(4) In April 1944 His Highness the Maharaja Saheb and Her Highness the Junior Maharani Saheb visited Kashmir, when excursions were arranged to Kohalai Glacier, Pahlgam and Gulmarg.

52. Her Highness the Senior Maharani Saheb performed the opening ceremony of the Maternity Home at Vyara on 30th December 1943. Her Highness also performed the opening ceremony of the Arts and Crafts Exhibition organised by the Gujarat Sahitya Parishad.

53. In January 1944 Shrinant Yuvaraj Saheb presided over the Prize Distribution Ceremony of the Hind Vijaya Gymkhana. He also performed the Prize Distribution Ceremony of the Hockey Tournaments held on 4th March 1944.

54. Shri. Maharaj Kumari Mrinalini Devi inaugurated the ladies sports of the Hind Vijaya Gymkhana on 23rd December 1943. She also performed the Prize Distribution Ceremony of the Badminton Tournaments held at the Maharaja Pratapsinh Coronation Gymkhana on 15th March 1944.

55. DISTINGUISHED VISITORS — His Highness the Raja Saheb of Savantwadi paid a visit to Baroda in January 1944. He again paid a visit in March 1944 along with Her Highness the Regent Rani Saheb of Savantwadi.

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb of Dhar paid a visit to Baroda in March 1944.

CHAPTER III

RELATIONS WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS

56. GENERAL — The Baroda Government continued to be on cordial relations with the British Government and with the Governments of other Indian States. These relations are conducted through the Minister.

57. RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENTS — Reciprocal arrangements were arrived at during the year—

- (i) with the Government of Bombay for collection and transfer of excise duty on exports of Indian made foreign liquor and spirituous preparations ;
- (ii) with the Government of Indore for collection and transfer of excise duty on exports of spirituous preparations ;
- (iii) with the Governments of the N. W. F. Province and Delhi for collection and transfer of excise duty on exports of Indian made foreign liquor ;
- (iv) with the Jodhpur Government for extradition of prisoners charged with offences mentioned in schedule I of the Indian Extradition Act ;
- (v) with the Jammu and Kashmir Government for exchange of statistical bulletins.

58. PASSPORTS — There were 573 applications for passports to East Africa, South Africa and other places.

There were no applications for passports to Europe or America.

59. CONFERENCES — The Baroda Government participated in the following conferences held by the Government of India in New Delhi :—

- (1) Food Conference,
- (2) Plenary Labour Conference,
- (3) Standing Labour Committee,
- (4) Central Advisory Board of Health.

The Baroda Government also participated in

- (1) the 20th Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission held at Aligarh ;
- (2) the 6th Session of the Indian History Congress held at Aligarh ;
- (3) the 8th Session of the Indian Roads Congress held at Gwalior ;
- (4) the Conference of Chief Engineers held at Nagpur in December 1943 ;
- (5) the Indian Public Schools Conference held at Lahore in October 1943.

At the invitation of the Baroda Government, the Central Advisory Board of Education held its 10th meeting at Baroda in January 1944.

The Baroda Government also invited the Board of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry in India to hold at Baroda the 5th meeting of their Crops and Soils Wing. The meeting was held in November 1943.

The Industrial Planning Research Committee appointed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research of the Government of India visited Baroda in March 1944.

The Baroda Government also invited the Ministers Committee of the Chamber of Princes to hold one of its meetings at Baroda. Accordingly the Committee met at Baroda in September 1943.

60. SCHEMES OR PROJECTS — The Baroda Government participated in the schemes of the Government of India

- (i) for the census of Burma evacuees,
- (ii) for the organisation of a Blood Transfusion Society in India.

The collaboration with the Government of India in the scheme for the control of locusts and with the Government of Bombay for investigation into the diseases of poultry was continued.

The Baroda Government agreed to co-operate with the Government of Bombay

- (i) in their liquor excise arrangements made for ameliorating the social and economic condition of the Bhils and Mavchis of West Khandesh ;
- (ii) for collecting data for the schemes of soil conservation in Gujarat.

61. THANKS — The thanks of the Baroda Government are due to

(1) the Government of India :

- (i) for lending the services of Dr. M. H. Sahani of the Geological Survey of India for carrying out investigations in connection with the Sabarmati Irrigation project ;
- (ii) for giving facilities for the training of two of the Baroda State railway officers in the Railway Accounts and Audit department and for the training of the Assistant Loco and Carriage Superintendent of the G. B. S. Railway in the working of the departments of the Loco Workshop at Ajmer ;

(2) the Government of Bombay :

- (i) for giving facilities to the State Bacteriologist for attending a Refresher Course at the Haffkine Institute, Bombay ;
- (ii) for admitting the State Radiologist to the special classes of training in Radiology at the G. T. Hospital, Bombay;
- (iii) for giving facilities to two Survey officers of the State to study the arrangement of survey records in the office of the Superintendent of Land Records, Northern Circle, Ahmedabad.

62. WAR EFFORTS — The Baroda Squadron of the R. A. F. is continuing to maintain by its record the high traditions of that Force. The same remark applies to H. M. I. S. Baroda. The Second Baroda Infantry and the Mechanical Transport Sections also continue on active service. The training of technicians continues at the Kalabhavan Workshop. The Driving and Maintenance School has been converted into Driver Mechanics School. The training of candidates for the Auxiliary Nursing Service continues at the State General Hospital, Baroda. The Baroda Government have agreed to meet the expenditure of Technical Recruiting office in Baroda.

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb gave a donation of

- (i) Rs. 1,05,000 to the Indian Red Cross Society,
- (ii) £. 500 for Christmas and New Year gifts to the members of the Baroda Squadron of Spitfires.

The State War Gifts Fund now stands at Rs. 2.53 lakhs. Investment by the State in 3% Defence Loans and Interest-Free Bonds amounted to nearly Rs. 129.59 lakhs and Rs. 25 lakhs respectively. The total contribution of the State to the War Purposes Fund amounts to Rs. 24.31 lakhs.

His Highness has also adopted two ships H. M. I. S. "Baroda" and H. M. I. S. "Narbada" of the Royal Indian Navy.

The National War Front Organisation is now over two years old. In addition to the work of rooting out defeatism and stopping alarmist rumours, the National War Front Workers are entrusted with the work of the Savings Campaign. The National War Front supplement to the weekly bulletin issued by the Publicity department has a wide circulation.

CHAPTER IV

ATTACHED AREAS

63. **ATTACHMENT SCHEME** — By a communique issued on the 16th April 1943, H. E. the Crown Representative directed the attachment to the Baroda State of 246 States, talukas and estates in Kathiawar, Sabarkantha and Rewakantha. Of these 59 are semi-jurisdictional, the rest are non-jurisdictional. The terms of attachment of the different classes of units have been prescribed in instruments of attachment issued to them. The assumption of charge of these areas took place in *June* and *July* 1943. On the 27th of July His Highness the Maharaja sent a message to the Chiefs, Talukdars, Bhagdars and the people of the areas in which he announced :—

- (i) the setting apart of an annual grant of Rs. 50,000 out of the income of the Shri. Sayajirao Diamond Jubilee Trust for rural reconstruction in the attached areas,
- (ii) the creation of a new trust associated with his own name, yielding an annual income of Rs. 50,000 to supplement the grant under (i) and
- (iii) the setting apart of a sum of Rs. 10,000 every year for grants for education to the sons etc. of Chiefs and Talukdars.

The text of the message is given in Appendix A.

64. **EXTENSION OF THE SCHEME** — In November 1943 H. E. the Crown representative directed the extension of the attachment scheme to all States in the Western India States Agency which prior to 1925 used to be designated 3rd and 4th class States on the basis of their limited jurisdictional powers. Accordingly Mansa, Malpur, Bajana, Vadia and Bilkha States were attached to Baroda State with effect from 7th December 1943.

65. **AREA AND POPULATION** — Thus a total area of about 6076 square miles with a population of about 6,00,000 has been attached to the State.

66. **BAWISHI THANAS, NIRMALI AND JEHER** — After their attachment, the following units in the Bawishi, Vatrak Kantha and Gadhwada thanas have been amalgamated in the State. They have thus become an integral part of its territory. These units have been now placed under the direct control and supervision of the Sar Suba.

- (1) *Gadhwada Thana*: Chandap and Gazipur.
- (2) *Bawishi Thana*: Amraji-na-Muada, Harkhaji-na-Muada, Vatva, Bardoli, Harsoli, Lawad, Palundra, Dabhoda, Vadodra, Siawada, Šalki, Anguthla, Rakhial, Khanpur, Lihoda, Kalyanji-na-Muada, Sahebji-na-Muada, Kadjodra, Sametri and Barimuada.
- (3) *Vatrak Kantha Thana*: Nirmali and Jeher.

The estates in Bawishi thana have been constituted into a separate mahal called Dabhoda Mahal and placed under a Vahivatdar; a peta mahal has been created for the estates of Jeher and Nirmali, while Chandap and Gazipur have been amalgamated with the Kheralu Mahal.

67. **MESSAGES OF GOODWILL**—In the Budget Session of the Dharasabha held on 19th July 1943, several members tabled resolutions conveying the good wishes of the Body to the Talukdars, Chiefs and the people of the areas. The Minister, on behalf of the Government, wholeheartedly associated himself with these sentiments and assured the units attached to the State that no efforts would be wanting on the part of H. H. the Maharaja Saheb or of his Government to co-operate in the realisation of the object underlying the new relationship now created, namely, "the firm establishment of conditions in which the areas concerned will secure and enjoy full opportunity for progress and development."

68. **MACHINERY FOR ADMINISTRATION**—For the administration of the attached areas, two Special Officers, one at Baroda and the other at Amreli, have been appointed, with deputies stationed at Baroda, Mehsana, Patan and Amreli. To cope with the additional work the staff has been increased and a post of Huzur Deputy Special Officer created temporarily. The police force has been augmented; the Accounts branch has been generously staffed and the necessary judicial machinery for the exercise of the residuary jurisdiction established. A large number of the Agency personnel of the several establishments like education, police, medical, political etc. have been reemployed by the State on the existing conditions of their service under the Agency. For the development of these attached areas and for the introduction of the co-operative movements wherein, a special establishment under the Commissioner of Agriculture has been sanctioned. A post of Assistant Superintendent of Vaccination and Sanitation under the Sanitary Commissioner and that of an Assistant Engineer under the Chief Engineer have been created for attached areas.

69. **FACILITIES TO THE PEOPLE OF THE ATTACHED AREAS** — The departments of the Baroda State concerned have been instructed to afford to the people of the attached areas benefits of secondary and technical education and medical treatment in the State hospitals and dispensaries on the same terms as the subjects of the State. These people have been also made eligible to protection and privileges enjoyed by the Baroda State subjects and to the recruitment to the State services.

70. **HELP TO THE CHIEFS, TALUKDARS AND ESTATEHOLDERS** — After the inauguration of the scheme, it was found that some of the units were heavily indebted. To relieve the incidence of heavy interest on them, so that thereby they might have means to ameliorate the condition of things in their own talukas etc., His Highness the Maharaja Saheb has sanctioned to them loans of varying amounts at easy rate of interest.

71. **REFORMS** — (a) Compulsory education has been introduced in Charkha, an estate included in the Thumbala taluka of the Amreli Attached Areas. The question of introducing it in Dhasa of the Talukdar of Rai Sankli is under consideration.

(b) Village panchayats have been organised in 28 estates of the district under the Deputy Special Officer, Patan, also in Katosan under the Deputy Special Officer, Mehsana and Dhasa and Charkha in the Amreli Attached Areas.

(c) The Government have sanctioned the following grants for the construction of wells:—

- (i) Rs. 14,500 for Jhinjhuwada, Dasada and Katosan Thanas.
- (ii) Rs. 20,825 for 39 villages in Kankrej and Deodar Thanas ;
- (iii) Rs. 7,378 for Nangam and Jiral-Kamsoli in the Sankheda Mewas.

72. **FLOOD RELIEF** — In August 1944, owing to the heavy rainfall in the Central Provinces, the waters in the river Narmada began to rise and the town of Wadia, headquarters of the Sankheda Mewas on its banks was inundated. Though there was no loss of human life and cattle, heavy damage was caused to stocks of food grains and property. Help in all forms was rushed to the place and the people appreciated the prompt arrangements made by the Baroda State for their relief.

CHAPTER :V

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

73. **EXECUTIVE COUNCIL** — Sir V. T. Krishnamachariar, K. C. I. E., worked as the Dewan of the State and the President of the Council upto 26th April 1944. Mr. B. A. Gaekwar, B. A., LL. B. (Cantab), Bar-at-Law, acted as the Dewan of the state and the President of the Council from 27-4-1944 for the remaining period of the year.

Besides the President, other members were :—

- (i) Mr. R. S. Mane Patil.
- (ii) Mr. M. V. Desai.
- (iii) Mr. D. R. Daboo.
- (iv) Col. S. M. Pagar.

74. **TOURS** — The Dewan and the Members toured for 42 days in the five districts, to keep themselves in direct touch with the rural areas.

CHAPTER VI

LEGISLATION

Dhara Sabha

(i) Constitution and functions

75. CONSTITUTION — The Dhara Sabha or the Legislative Council, as reconstituted under the Government of Baroda Act, 1940 and inaugurated on the 16th of November 1940, continued to function during the year. It consists of fifty-nine members, of whom twenty-seven are elected by territorial constituencies on a wide franchise. Every person, who holds land assessed at not less than Rs. 30, or pays an income-tax or owns immovable property worth Rs. 1,000 or more, or has passed the matriculation or an equivalent examination, is entitled to vote and to stand as a candidate. Besides these, ten members represent industry, commerce, labour and the cooperative movement as special interests. The other twenty-two members of the Dhara Sabha consist of eight officials including seven ex-officio members and fourteen non-official gentlemen, nominated to represent minorities etc. The seven ex-officio members include two members of the Executive Council chosen by His Highness from among the non-official members of the Dhara Sabha. The Dewan is the President. There is also a deputy president, who, after the expiry of the statutory period of the first three years, was elected by the Dhara Sabha. Parliamentary secretaries are appointed to assist the members of the Executive Council in their work relating to the Dhara Sabha and a Dhara Sabha Secretariat directly under the President has been formed.

76. POWERS OF THE HOUSE — The Dhara Sabha has the power to initiate and pass legislation, to discuss and vote on the budget. The members may also ask questions and move resolutions on matters of public interest, subject to certain limitations. All legislation requires the assent of the Maharaja. Measures, affecting the Army, the Privy Purse, treaties or relations with the Paramount Power or other States regulating the borrowing of money, giving of any guarantee by the State or amending the law with respect to any financial obligation undertaken by it, or affecting the provisions of the Government of Baroda Act are excluded from its cognisance. Similarly, expenditure charged to the revenues of the State is not submitted to the vote of the House. There are certain matters which require the previous sanction of the Maharaja, before measures

relating to them can be introduced. The Dewan has power of certification. He may certify a measure before the House as affecting the tranquility of the State, in which case the measure is dropped, or he may certify that a Bill or amendment rejected by the Dhara Sabha is an emergent measure, and submit it to the Maharaja to enact it as law.

(ii) *Sessions*

77. OCTOBER SESSION — The first session of the year, which was held on 11th October, lasted for four days. There were 7 official and 2 non-official bills. Of the 7 official bills 4 were passed, 2 were withdrawn and 1 was postponed to the next session. Of the non-official bills, 1 was passed and the other was postponed for next reading. There were 12 motions asking for leave to introduce bills. Out of these 3 were allowed, 4 were rejected by the House, 1 was ruled out of order and 2 were withdrawn. The remaining 2 motions were not pressed in view of the discussion regarding them. There were 132 resolutions. Of these, 11 were accepted, 18 were accepted with modification, 1 was carried, 101 were not pressed or were withdrawn and 1 was postponed to the next session. 78 questions were tabled.

At the conclusion of the session the President announced His Highness the Maharaja Saheb's decision to extend the life of the Dhara Sabha, which was due to expire on 15th November, by one year.

78. FEBRUARY SESSION — The second session for the year was held on 14th February and lasted for five days.

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb was pleased to inaugurate it. In his opening speech, His Highness was graciously pleased to make an announcement which marked a further step in the scheme of constitutional advance, in the following words :—

“At present I have three Councillors and one Dewan. In view of the increasing work I have decided to add one more Councillor to the Executive Council. The new Councillor will be a popular member of the Dhara-sabha.”

The President accordingly announced on 17th February the appointment made by His Highness, of Raj Priya Dinshaw Ratanji Daboo, B. A., as a member of the Executive Council for the life time of the present Dhara Sabha.

There were 7 official and 5 non-official bills. Out of 7 official bills 5 were passed and 2 were referred to the Select Committees. Of the non-official bills 3 were passed and 2 were withdrawn. There were 112 resolutions. Of these 23 were accepted, 33 were accepted

with modifications, and 1 was carried. The remaining were either not pressed or withdrawn. There were, besides, 54 questions.

79. JULY SESSION — The budget session of the year, which commenced on 24th July, carried on its business for six days. There were 6 official and 1 non-official bills. Out of the 6 official bills, 4 were passed and 2 were referred to Select Committees. Among the bills passed the Land Improvement Schemes Bill was a new measure. The non-official bill was passed by the House. There were 3 motions asking for leave to introduce bills. Of these, 1 was carried, 1 was not pressed and the remaining 1 was carried over to the next session. There were 10 resolutions. Of these, 8 resolutions which were of a complimentary or congratulatory nature were adopted by the House and accepted by the Government. The remaining 2 resolutions were accepted with modifications. Of the 118 cut-motions tabled, 59 were discussed and 59 were guillotined for want of time. Of the cut-motions discussed, one was adopted by the House and the rest were either not pressed or withdrawn on information and replies given by Government Members. 86 questions were asked.

Legislation

80. ACTS — The following Acts were passed during the year :—

- (i) The Wills Act (No. XXI of 1943). The provisions regarding disposal of property by 'Will' were not in consonance with the provisions of the Indian Succession Act (No. XXXIX of 1925) of British India. The Wills Act has been made on the lines of the Indian Succession Act, with suitable modifications so as to apply to all subjects of the State. It embodies certain special provisions of Sharih for Musalmans.
- (ii) The Telephone Act (No. XXIII of 1943).
- (iii) The Hindu Code (Amendment) Act (No. XIII of 1943). This provides that the rule of prohibited degrees of marriage shall not be applicable when there is a long established custom in any family, community or country to marry a descendant of the mother's ancestors. By the same amendment, schedule 7 of the Code was amended and trial of divorce suits with the aid of assessors was dispensed with.
- (iv) The Hindu Code (Amendment) Act (No. VI of 1944). This provides that if after the attainment of majority by the husband as well as the wife, if the husband did not keep the wife in his house for more than 3 years even though she was willing to stay with him, the wife could sue for divorce; similarly if the wife did not go to the husband for

more than 3 years in spite of the willingness of the husband to keep her in his house, the husband was given the right to sue for divorce.

- (v) The Cotton Factories (Amendment) Act (No. XVII of 1943). An exception has been provided to the effect that if it is marked on a bale that it contains cotton of the same variety but of different seasons, it does not amount to an offence.
- (vi) The Court Fees (Amendment) Act (No. XIV of 1943). It is now provided, in the case of suits for excess amount of compensation, that the memo of appeal should bear the stamp on the difference between the amount claimed in appeal and the amount awarded by the original court.
- (vii) The Act for the protection of khata lands belonging to the backward classes (Amendment No. XXV of 1943). By this amendment, the naib suba is given power to restore the possession of lands to a khatedar of the backward classes if he is deprived of it unlawfully or by force.
- (viii) The Stamp (Amendment) Act (No. XXIV of 1943). According to Hindu Law, partition of property can be effected even without a written instrument. In order that people may be induced to have deeds of partition in writing, the stamp duty on partition deeds is reduced.
- (ix) The Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Act (No. XX of 1943). By this amendment the trying magistrate is empowered to hand over to the police an accused extradited from outside if any mudamal or other evidence is to be secured from him only under exceptional circumstances.
- (x) The 'A' Class Municipality (Amendment) Act (No. VIII of 1944). Sub-section 9 was added to section 23 of the "A" Class Municipality Act to the effect that the Suba was authorised to convene the meeting of the 'A' Class Municipality in case the President or the vice-president could not or did not call the meeting for the election of the President.
- (xi) 'B' Class Municipality (Amendment) Act (No. IX of 1944). Provision similar to that in 'A' Class Municipality Act was made in the 'B' Class Municipality Act by the addition of section 26 and the naib suba is authorised to convene a meeting in circumstances mentioned in No. 10 above.

81. MISCELLANEOUS — The number of amendments to the existing rules was 23.

During the year under report 16 bills were published in the *Adnyapatrika* for eliciting public opinion. Of these, 6 were subsequently passed into law and 10 were pending at the end of the year.

Ten ordinances and thirty-six orders connected with the war were promulgated. The number of amendments made in the Defence of India Act and Rules as applied to the State, was 12 and that of amendments made in orders and ordinances relating to war was 35. Gujarati translations of certain orders previously promulgated were also published.

CHAPTER VII

JUSTICE

82. THE COURTS — Besides the High Court, there were five district judges' courts and the Okhamandal sessions court, 25 small causes courts, 25 subordinate judges' courts, 5 district magistrates' courts, 25 magistrates' courts and 18 revenue magistrates exercising 2nd and 3rd class magisterial powers.

There were also five revenue officers exercising civil powers, two village munsiffs' courts and five persons exercising magisterial powers.

Huzur appeals

83. THE HUZUR NYAYA SABHA — To advise His Highness the Maharaja Saheb in the disposal of civil and criminal appeals and revisional applications which may under the law for the time being in force lie to His Highness, from the decisions of the High Court, a Huzur Nyaya Sabha is constituted.

The Huzur Nyaya Sabha is composed of three members selected from the following :—

- (1) judges of the High Court,
- (2) the Legal Remembrancer,
- (3) a list of persons determined by His Highness and possessing the qualifications mentioned in section 38 of the Government of Baroda Act,

provided that a person connected with the proceedings of a case at any stage may not sit on the bench hearing the case.

84. WORK DONE — The following statement shows the work done by the Huzur Nyaya Sabha :—

Nature of work	File including arrears		Disposal		Pending at the end of the year	
	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43	1943-44
CIVIL						
Appeals	42	41	7	14	35	27
Extraordinary applications.	105	134	45	53	60	81
Review applications ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
CRIMINAL						
Appeals	20	21	10	10	10	11
Extraordinary applications.	65	64	51	44	14	20

85. DETAILS OF CIVIL CASES DISPOSED OF — During the year under report 67 civil cases were disposed of. Out of these 67 cases, 31 cases were disallowed *prima facie* and 36 cases were heard by the Huzur Nyaya Sabha. The judgments of the High Court were upheld in 34 cases and reversed in 2 cases.

86. DETAILS OF CRIMINAL CASES DISPOSED OF — During the year 54 criminal cases were disposed of. 35 cases were disallowed *prima facie*, 19 cases were submitted to the Huzur. The decisions of the High Court were upheld in 13 cases and reversed in 6 cases.

87. KHATA NIHAYA SADAR ADALAT — The Khata Nihaya Sadar Adalat is the highest departmental tribunal for the disposal of appeals and applications against decisions of heads of departments, Ministers and the Council. Its decisions to allow appeals or applications are submitted to His Highness in the form of recommendations for final orders. During the year, 9 cases were submitted to the Huzur, the recommendations of the Adalat were accepted in 4 cases, partly accepted in 2 cases and disallowed in 3.

Civil Justice

88. LITIGATION — The total number of civil suits on the file was 36,193 as against 38,621 in the previous year. The number of suits decided was 26,350. The number of suits left undisposed of at the end of the year was 9,843. There were 887 suits pending for more than a year showing an increase of 284 on the figures of the previous year.

The total value of the suits was Rs. 29.45 lakhs as against 35.89 lakhs in the previous year.

89. EXECUTION — 13,768 applications for execution out of 19,780 were disposed of during the year. The amount realised in execution of decrees decreased from Rs. 13.92 lakhs to Rs. 9.23 lakhs and the percentage of recovery was 29 as against 35 in the previous year.

90. DURATION — In the District courts the duration of ordinary suits showed an increase from 346 days to 434 days. In the munsiffs' courts, the duration of ordinary suits decreased from 163 days to 151 days and of small causes suits increased from 66 days to 74 days. The duration of first appeals in the High Court increased from 282 to 307 and the duration of regular appeals in the district courts increased from 207 to 209.

At the end of the year there were no appeals pending for more than a year in the High Court. There were 186 old appeals as against 158 in the preceding year in the district courts, and 763 suits as against 525 in the previous year in the munsiff and the small causes courts.

91. THE HIGH COURT — A statement showing the work done by the High Court is given below :—

	1942-43	1943-44
First appeals including arrears ...	176	124
" disposed of ...	112	89
Second appeals including arrears ...	556	599
" disposed of ...	296	349
Miscellaneous appeals with arrears ...	62	42
" disposed of ...	50	28

92. DISTRICT COURTS — A statement of the appellate work done in the district courts is given below :—

	1942-43	1943-44
Regular appeals filed including arrears...	1,681	1,807
" disposed of ...	874	1,109
Miscellaneous appeals filed ...	216	215
" disposed of ...	145	172

93. MUNSIFF AND SMALL CAUSES COURTS — Civil work in the munsiff and the small causes courts is shown below :—

	1942-43	1943-44
Ordinary suits with arrears ...	10,586	10,680
" disposed of ...	6,803	6,184
Small causes suits with arrears ...	15,812	13,738
" disposed of ...	12,819	11,216
Miscellaneous suits with arrears ...	7,330	6,524
" disposed of ...	6,119	5,453
Ordinary execution applications with arrears	13,942	11,940
" " disposed of	8,441	7,340
Small causes execution applications with arrears.	9,170	7,840
" " disposed of	7,228	6,392

94. VILLAGE MUNSIFFS — The village munsiffs' courts worked at Limbodra in Kalol taluka.

Criminal Justice

95. CRIMINAL WORK — The total number of cases on the file, including arrears, increased from 38,085 to 42,543. 37,992 cases were disposed of as against 32,196 in the previous year leaving a balance of 4,551 cases as against 5,889 in the previous year.

96. HIGH COURT — The following statement shows the disposal of criminal work in the High court:—

	1942-43	1943-44
First appeals with arrears	74	118
„ disposed of	49	78
Second appeals with arrears	80	70
„ disposed of	77	60
Acquittal appeals with arrears	120	129
„ disposed of	98	96
Referred cases	30	29
„ disposed of	29	25
Revision cases	258	231
„ disposed of	252	203
Miscellaneous applications	130	83
„ disposed of	127	79

97. SESSIONS COURTS—The following statement shows the criminal work in the district courts :—

	1942-43	1943-44
Regular appeals with arrears	475	513
„ disposed of	413	454
Miscellaneous appeals with arrears	27	55
„ disposed of	23	46
Sessions cases with arrears	262	230
„ disposed of	232	207
Miscellaneous applications	575	520
„ disposed of	555	489

98. MAGISTRATES' COURTS—The following statement shows the criminal work in the magistrates' courts :—

	1942-43	1943-44
No. of cases with arrears	30,125	34,197
„ disposed of	24,751	30,343
Miscellaneous applications	5,929	6,280
„ disposed of	5,590	5,824

99. DURATION—The average duration of criminal cases is shown below :—

Nature of work	Average duration in days	
	1942-43	1943-44
HIGH COURT		
First appeals	51	149
Second appeals	38	26
Acquittal appeals	67	56
SESSIONS COURTS		
Sessions cases	27	52
Criminal appeals	68	52
MAGISTRATES' COURTS		
Criminal cases	46	43

Registration

100. DOCUMENTS REGISTERED—The number of documents registered during the year was 65,293 and their total value Rs. 5.65 lakhs as compared to 70,294 documents of the value of Rs. 5.85 lakhs in the previous year. The decrease of 5,001 documents was due to stringent adoption of anti-inflationary measures by the Government.

The documents registered by Co-operative Societies and Agricultural Banks, which were exempted from registration fees numbered 512 and the remissions thus granted amounted to Rs. 7,001.

The gross receipts from registration fees decreased from 3.45 lakhs in the last year to Rs. 3.41 lakhs. The expenditure of the department was Rs. 0.73 lakh and the net income decreased from Rs. 2.76 lakhs to Rs. 2.68 lakhs.

101. RECORD OF RIGHTS—The Record of Rights Act has been in force in the Karjan taluka of the Baroda district since 1932. During the year 536 lists were sent to the revenue authorities.

Attached Areas

102. ATTACHED AREAS—In addition to the courts mentioned above, the following courts have been constituted for the administration of civil and criminal justice in the Attached Areas :—

- (1) The High Court.
- (2) Three district courts viz : District & Sessions Judges' courts, (1) Baroda Attached Areas (2) Mehsana and Patan Attached Areas, and (3) Amreli Attached Areas.
- (3) Four Deputy Special Officers' and First Class Magistrates' Courts, (1) Baroda Attached Areas (2) Mehsana Attached Areas, (3) Patan Attached Areas and (4) Amreli Attached Areas.

Civil work

103. CIVIL WORK — In the High Court there was one first appeal, 7 second appeals of which 2 were disposed of and 16 miscellaneous cases of which 11 were disposed of.

In the district courts, 44 out of 62 regular appeals, 5 miscellaneous appeals, 1 out of 15 original suits and 27 out of 36 miscellaneous cases were disposed of. 4 out of 9 execution applications were disposed of.

In the Deputy Special Officers' courts 39 out of 102 ordinary suits and 17 out of 27 miscellaneous cases were disposed of. 174 out of 261 execution applications were disposed of. The percentage of recovery was 12.9.

Criminal work

104. CRIMINAL WORK — In the High Court 5 out of 10 first appeals, 1 out of 3 acquittal appeals, 1 out of 2 referred cases and 8 out of 15 revision cases were disposed of.

In the sessions courts 28 criminal appeals, 2 miscellaneous appeals, 33 out of 36 session cases and 31 out of 33 miscellaneous applications were disposed of.

In the Deputy Special Officers' court 119 out of 148 criminal cases, 103 out of 111 miscellaneous applications were disposed of.

CHAPTER VIII

LAW AND ORDER

Press Report

105. PRINTING PRESS—The number of printing presses at the beginning of the year was 94. Two new presses were started and 5 were closed. There were thus 91 presses actually working at the end of the year.

106. OUTPUT OF THE PRESS — The total literary output of the press was 3 dailies, 1 bi-weekly, 5 weeklies, 1 fortnightly, 46 periodicals and 127 books including pamphlets.

The leading news-papers published in the State were: Sayaji Vijay, the Nava Gujarat and the Rajhuns in Gujarati and the Jagrati in Marathi.

107. PERIODICALS AND THEIR NATURE -- The periodicals are classified below :—

Subject	Number
General literature	15
Religion	7
Law	2
Physical culture	4
Communal	10
Miscellaneous	8
Total	46

108. BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS — One hundred and twenty-seven books and pamphlets were published during the year under report.

Subject	Number
Politics	8
Education	15
Religion	12
Poetry	26
Drama	4
Novel	33

Subject	Number
Biography	6
Physical Culture	1
Literature	2
Travel and Description	1
Ethics	2
Domestic Science	1
Medicine	1
Miscellaneous	15
Total	127

109. TOPICS DISCUSSED— The main topics discussed in the Press related to responsible government in the State, Congress and the Baroda Raj Praja Mandal Movement, Dearness Allowance, Price Control, Press Restriction and High Prices, etc.

110. GENERAL TONE OF THE PRESS— The general tone of the Press was, on the whole, loyal to the Baroda and the British Governments. The influence of general political awakening on local journalism continued to be increasingly felt.

111. DOMICILE CERTIFICATES — 14 applications for domicile certificates were received during the year. Certificates were granted to 12 persons and 2 applications were rejected.

112. SECURITY CASES— There were in all 336 security cases prepared by the Police. In 94 cases persons, against whom security cases were launched, were ordered to be bound over, persons involved in 150 cases were let off, 92 cases remained pending at the end of the year.

The Police

113. STRENGTH AND DISTRIBUTION — The strength of the police force in the State was 1,065 officers and 4,148 men as against 1,044 officers and 4,099 men in the previous year.

In addition to these, there were 122 officers and 338 men for the attached areas.

The proportion of the number of the police to the population varies with the different districts from 1 policeman to 984 inhabitants in Baroda district to 1 policeman to 338 inhabitants in Amreli district. It averages 1 to 692 for the State and 1 to 1,236 for the attached areas.

The proportion of the number of police to the area is 1 policeman to 0.19 square miles in Baroda city, 2.87 square miles in Baroda district, 2.67 square miles in Navsari district, 2.26 square miles in Mehsana district, 1.84 square miles in Amreli district and 11.45

square miles in the attached areas. There are 2,714 Hindus and 1,430 Muslims in the police force, their percentage to the total force being 64.98 and 34.36 respectively.

The corresponding figures for the attached areas being 252 Hindus, and 202 Muslims. Their percentage to total force was 53.45 and 46.55 respectively.

114. EDUCATION — The percentage of men able to read and write was 85.22 as against 83.92 in the preceding year and the percentage in the attached areas was 53.68.

New recruits are regularly trained at the district head-quarters and are sent out when they have passed the recruits' course. Training is continued in the talukas and head-quarters where regular parades and inspections are held. Special attention is paid to drill, discipline and out door games.

115. PUNISHMENTS AND REWARDS — The percentage of the total number of punishments to the actual force was 21.24 as against 12.24 in the preceding year. The percentage in the attached areas is 11.29.

181 members of police force were given money rewards as against 160 in the preceding year. Special promotions were given in 37 cases as against 21 last year. Besides this, 16 members of the village police and 45 persons from the public were also given money rewards as against 15 and 31 respectively in the previous year.

In the attached areas 31 members of the police force, 5 members of the village police and 5 persons from the public were given money rewards.

Crime

116. FLUCTUATION IN THE NUMBER OF CRIMES — The total number of cognisable crimes reported to the police was 4368 including 598 cases from the attached areas. Two cases were taken up from the dormant file. The following table shows the fluctuations in the crimes reported to the police in the last five years, excluding cases taken up from the dormant file:—

Year	Baroda City	Baroda District	Mehsana District	Navsari District	Amreli District	Mehsana A. A.	Baroda A. A.	Amreli A.A.	Total
1943-44	573	952	1,537	386	322	323	137	138	4,368
1942-43	518	1,283	1,418	519	354	...	...	...	4,092
1941-42	387	984	1,188	424	300	...	...	...	3,283
1940-41	349	832	1,211	254	298	...	...	...	2,944
1939-40	408	999	1,446	299	282	...	...	...	3,434

The following table shows the increase or decrease district by district under three main classes of cognisable offences:—

District	1943-44	1942-43	Increase	Decrease
CLASS I. OFFENCES AGAINST PERSON				
Baroda City ...	88	75	13	...
Baroda ...	212	261	...	49
Mehsana ...	370	403	...	33
Navsari ...	88	101	...	13
Amreli ...	62	53	10	...
Total ...	820	892	23	95
CLASS II. OFFENCES AGAINST PROPERTY				
Baroda City ...	406	319	87	...
Baroda ...	542	661	...	119
Mehsana ...	751	737	14	...
Navsari ...	180	281	...	101
Amreli ...	138	133	5	...
Total ...	2,017	2,131	106	220
CLASS III. MISCELLANEOUS				
Baroda City ...	79	124	...	45
Baroda ...	198	361	...	163
Mehsana ...	416	279	138	...
Navsari ...	118	137	...	19
Amreli ...	122	169	...	47
Total ...	933	1,069	138	274
Grand total ...	3,770	4,092	267	589
			Net increase = 322	

117. **ARREARS AND DISPOSAL** — Besides 3,770 cases reported to the police during the year, one case was taken up from the dormant file, 1,202 cases were pending with the police at the beginning of the year. Thus the total number of cases for disposal with the police of the State was 4,973. These cases were dealt with as follows:—

1. Time-barred ...	...	...
2. Found to be false ...	...	260
3. Placed on the dormant file...	...	654
4. Compounded before trial ...	...	5
5. Undetected ...	...	148
6. Placed before the courts ...	...	2,671
7. Pending with the police at the end of the year.	...	1,235

4,973

Besides 598 cases reported to the police of the attached areas during the year one case was taken up from the dormant file, 39 cases were pending with the police at the beginning of the year. Thus the total number of cases for disposal with the police of the attached areas was 638. These were dealt with as under :—

1. Time barred ...	...	...	...
2. Found to be false ...	...	...	49
3. Placed on dormant file ...	...	...	75
4. Compounded before trial ...	...	...	1
5. Undetected ...	...	...	10
6. Placed before the courts ...	...	...	397
7. Pending with the police at the end of the year.			106
			<hr/> 638

118. DISPOSAL OF CASES BEFORE MAGISTRATES — Besides 2,671 cases placed before the courts of the states there were 812 cases pending with them from the list of the previous year. The total number of cases with the magistrates for disposal was, therefore, 3,483 as against 3,330 in the preceding year. The cases were dealt with as follows :—

1. Compounded or withdrawn in courts ...	577
2. Ended in conviction ...	1,301
3. Ended in acquittal ...	731
4. Pending with the magistrates ...	874
	<hr/> 3,483

Besides 394 cases placed before the courts of the attached areas, there were 54 cases pending with them from the list of the previous year. The total number of cases with the magistrates for disposal was, therefore, 448. These cases were dealt with as follows :—

1. Compounded or withdrawn in courts ...	98
2. Ended in conviction ...	177
3. Ended in acquittal ...	40
4. Pending with magistrates. ...	133
	<hr/> 448

The percentage of cases convicted to cases tried in the State was 64·03 as against 70·89 in the year before.

The percentage of cases convicted to cases tried in the attached areas was 81·57.

119. GRAVE CRIMES—The number of grave crimes increased. The following table shows the result of the cases dealt with by the courts:—

Important Offences	Number of true cases	Number of cases actually tried	Number ended in conviction	Percentage of conviction	
				1943-44	1942-43
Murder and culpable homicide.	173	103	63	61·16	45·95
Dacoity ...	64	22	12	54·54	66·66
Robbery ...	72	30	19	63·33	45
Burglary ...	673	236	156	66·10	78·57
Thefts ...	972	498	290	58·23	62·04
CASES OF THE ATTACHED AREAS					
Murder and culpable homicide.	16	14	8	57·14	...
Dacoity ...	...	...	...	...	...
Robbery ...	8	5	3	60	...
Burglary ...	42	26	24	92·31	...
Thefts ...	114	85	74	87·06	...

120. PROPERTY STOLEN—The number of cases of stolen property reported was 1·64 as against 1559 in the previous year. The number of such cases in the attached areas was 160. The percentage of cases in which property was recovered to cases reported was 46·38 as against 41·07 in the previous year. The percentage in the attached areas was 86·87.

Miscellaneous

121. CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT—The Criminal Investigation department and the Finger Print Bureau continued to work satisfactorily.

122. EXPENDITURE—The total expenditure of the department including that on account of the attached areas amounted to Rs. 18 lakhs as against Rs. 16 lakhs in the previous year. If the expenditure for the attached areas is excluded the expenditure shows a decrease of Rs. 59,789.

Extradition

123. EXTRADITION DEMANDS—The Baroda Government made extradition demands in 174 cases and received similar demands from the British districts and Indian States in 137 cases. 202 persons involved in 122 cases were surrendered to Baroda and Baroda surrendered 118 persons involved in 72 cases. Of 313 persons tried in 166 cases, 27 were discharged, 98 were acquitted, 76 were sentenced and 1 was dealt with otherwise. 78 cases against 111 persons remained pending at the end of the year.

Prisons

124. NUMBER OF PRISONERS — 5,743 new prisoners were admitted during the year, of these 5,594 were males and 149 females; these figures include 448 male and 14 female prisoners of the attached area. Of the total number of 5,743 prisoners, 2305 were convicts, 3,368 undertrials, 58 civil court prisoners and 12 lunatics. Of the convicts admitted during the year 203 or 14·6 per cent. were sentenced to terms not exceeding one month, 202 or 14·5 per cent. to terms exceeding one month but not less than three months.

125. HABITUALS — Of the convicts admitted during the year, 42 or 3 per cent. were habituals. Their conduct was on the whole satisfactory.

126. JAIL OFFENCES — The number of jail offences during the year was 63 as against 49 in the preceding year.

127. CONDITIONAL RELEASE OF PRISONERS — The system continued during the year and 63 prisoners were released.

128. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE — The net income from all jails and lock-ups amounted to about Rs. 58,000 as against Rs. 43,600 in the previous year. The expenditure amounted to about Rs. 2·93 lakhs as against 2·69 lakhs in the preceding year. The average cost per prisoner was Rs. 148 as against Rs. 141 in the previous year.

CHAPTER IX

THE ARMY

129. STRENGTH OF THE REGULAR FORCE — The following table shows the strength of State troops (regulars):—

Description of the force	Fixed strength prior to re-organisation	Fixed strength after re-organisation	Actual strength
Artillery ...	93	Amalgamated with Baroda Detachment as an Ordnance Platoon,	
Cavalry ...	1,500	819	738
Infantry ...	3,071	3,040	2,788
Band ...	111	61	61
Chief of the Military Staff & Staff officers.	6	5	5
Total ...	4,781	3,925	3,592

Non-effectives have not been included in the above.

130. STRENGTH OF THE IRREGULAR FORCE — The following table shows the total fixed strength of the irregular forces during the year:—

Horse

Shilledars	Shibandir	Paganihaya	Khalsa	Total
908	383	182	577	2,000

Foot

Shibandi	Khalsa	Total
1,139	667	1,806

131. COST OF MAINTENANCE OF REGULAR FORCE — The following table shows the cost of maintaining the regular force during the year:—

Force	Year	
	1943-44 Rs.	1942-43 Rs.
Artillery	Amalgamated with Infantry	
Cavalry	8,61,318	7,73,476
Infantry	11,93,433	12,94,687
Band	39,107	39,126
Chief of the Military Staff and his Staff.	85,859	76,178
Medical establishment	26,000	28,011
Veterinary establishment	12,243	13,130
Total	22,17,960	22,24,608

The decrease is due to the larger number of vacancies in the Army.

The annual average cost of each effective in the Cavalry was Rs. 1,167, in the Infantry Rs. 428 and in the Band Rs. 641. The average cost of an effective in the force taken together was Rs. 617 or about Rs. 51·4 a month.

The expenditure on account of irregular force came to Rs. 63,033 as against Rs. 54,250.

132. TOTAL COST OF THE ARMY — A fixed grant of Rs. 20,00,000 has been allotted for maintenance charges and Rs. 2,50,000 for pension and gratuity. Besides this an additional grant of Rs. 6,50,000 was granted for maintenance expenses due to war condition. The total cost of the Army for the year came to Rs. 22,80,994 as against Rs. 22,78,858 for the last year and Rs. 1,98,014 have been expended this year from the pension and gratuity fund. The additional expenditure incurred as the result of war conditions have been made by a special grant over and above the fixed allotment.

133. IMPORTANT CHANGES AND ACTIVITIES — The following are among the important activities in the year:—

- (i) Pension scale of State and Indian officers has been revised.
- (ii) Recruits are taken from British India for the reinforcement of the 2nd Baroda Infantry.

- (iii) Driving and Maintenance School has been continued for one year more during which period it has trained 1,000 men from the Indian Army in Driver Mechanics course and 48 men from the State Forces in Drivers Course.
- (iv) The scheme regarding Indian State Forces Training Unit has been sanctioned.
- (v) The establishment of the Training Company has been revised and men in the reinforcement of the 2nd Baroda Infantry are given pay and free ration as is given in the Indian Army.
- (vi) A new post of the Deputy Chief of the Military Staff has been created and Col. Sadekar Powar has been appointed to the post.
- (vii) Officers and men from the State forces were sent for training in several courses outside.
- (viii) Death gratuity and family pension have been granted to the heirs of the deceased men of the 2nd Baroda Infantry.

134. DISCIPLINE AND EFFICIENCY MAINTAINED — The discipline and efficiency of the troops were maintained and improvement was effected in practical training.

CHAPTER X

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

135. ESTIMATES — The budget estimates for the year provided for a revenue of Rs. 323·26 lakhs and an expenditure of Rs. 322·83 lakhs and anticipated a surplus of Rs. 0·43 lakh. The year, however, proved better than expected. The actual receipts were Rs. 381·53 lakhs, exceeding thus the anticipated receipts by Rs. 58·27 lakhs. The actual expenditure was Rs. 333·70 lakhs, exceeding thus the estimates of expenditure by Rs. 10·87 lakhs. The year, therefore, closed with a surplus of Rs. 47·83 lakhs.

136. INCREASE IN RECEIPTS — Improvements in revenue as compared with budget estimates were under the following heads:—

(1)	Taxes	...	...	Rs. 34·86	lakhs
(2)	Forest	...	...	" 7·75	"
(3)	Excise	...	...	" 21·30	"
(4)	Opium	...	...	" 1·81	"
(5)	Stamps	...	...	" 2·18	"
(6)	Village Panchayats	...	...	" 1·67	"
(7)	Interest	...	...	" 2·02	"
(8)	Port	...	...	" 0·63	"
(9)	Judicial	...	...	" 0·54	"
(10)	Medical	...	...	" 0·64	"
(11)	Education	...	...	" 1·28	"
(12)	Agriculture	...	...	" 1·15	"
(13)	Commerce, Industries, Co-operative, Statistics, etc.	...	...	" 1·20	"
(14)	Miscellaneous	...	...	" 1·05	"

counter-balanced by decreases under

(1)	Land Revenue	...	Rs. 0·83	lakh
(2)	Customs	...	" 11·82	lakhs
(3)	Tribute and other heads	...	" 0·70	"

137. INCREASE IN EXPENDITURE — Increases in expenditure occurred under the following heads:—

(1)	Village Panchayat	...	Rs. 0·52	lakh
(2)	Interest	...	" 1·50	lakhs

(3)	Payment in lieu of contingent	...	Rs.	2.75	lakhs
(4)	Jail	...	"	0.70	"
(5)	Medical	...	"	0.55	"
(6)	Miscellaneous	...	"	35.62	"
(7)	Famine Relief	...	"	0.65	"

counter-balanced by decreases under

(1)	Land Revenue	...	Rs.	1.56	lakhs
(2)	Contribution to Land Revenue equalisation fund.	...	"	0.83	"
(3)	Central Administration	...	"	3.91	"
(4)	Police	...	"	1.37	"
(5)	Education	...	"	2.51	"
(6)	Commerce & Industries	...	"	1.70	"
(7)	P. W. Dept.	...	"	6.29	"
(8)	Nemnook Assami	...	"	0.52	"
(9)	Subsidy to Local Boards.	...	"	2.90	"

138. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE — The receipts and disbursements of the year under report are compared in the following statements with those of the previous year. In regard to commercial departments — Railways, Electric, Ports and the Press — only the net revenue has been shown :—

RECEIPTS

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Sr. No.	Head	1943-44	1942-43	Increase or Decrease
1	Land Revenue ...	103.17	106.31	—3.14
2	Taxes ...	57.36	23.76	33.60
3	Forest ...	16.33	9.52	6.81
4	Excise ...	55.92	41.53	14.39
5	Opium ...	4.46	3.04	1.42
6	Customs ...	39.08	55.01	—15.93
7	Salt ...	5.70	5.70	...
8	Stamps ...	17.98	17.10	0.88
9	Registration ...	3.40	3.50	— 0.10

Sr. No.	Head	1943-44	1942-43	Increase or Decrease
10	Receipts under Motor Vehicles Act.	0'94	0'11	0'83
11	Tribute ...	3'90	6'50	— 2'60
12	'B' Class Municipalities ...	0'20	0'27	— 0'07
13	Village Panchayats ...	3'32	2'23	1'09
14	Interest ...	24'52	22'72	1'80
15	Railways ...	23'22	23'09	0'13
16	Electric ...	1'71	1'73	— 0'02
17	Irrigation ...	0'10	0'05	0'05
18	Port ...	1'13	1'80	— 0'67
19	Press ...	—0'02	—0'02	...
20	Furniture Factory ...	...	...	...
21	Dairy ...	0'13	0'09	0'04
22	Central Administration ...	0'27	0'12	0'15
23	Judicial ...	1'54	1'07	0'47
24	Police ...	0'42	0'42	...
25	Jail ...	0'58	0'44	0'14
26	Army ...	0'08	0'09	— 0'01
27	Sanitation ...	0'49	0'55	— 0'06
28	Medical ...	1'47	1'25	0'22
29	Education ...	5'66	5'21	0'45
30	Agriculture ...	1'83	1'41	0'42
31	Commerce, Industries, Co-operative and Statistics.	1'52	0'66	0'86
32	Public Works ...	2'24	6'19	— 3'95
33	Miscellaneous ...	2'77	8'65	— 5'88
34	Profits received in conversion of securities.	0'11	13'57	—13'46
Total Receipts ...		381'53	363'67	+17'86

DISBURSEMENTS

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Sr. No.	Head	1943-44	1942-43	Increase or decrease
1	Land Revenue ...	21'24	21'61	— 0'37
1a	Contribution to land revenue equalisation fund.	8'10	11'24	— 3'14
2	Taxes ...	0'94	0'64	0'30
3	Forest ...	1'32	1'23	0'09
4	Excise ...	2'00	1'94	0'06
5	Opium ...	0'70	0'25	0'45
6	Customs ...	0'28	0'57	— 0'29
7	Salt ...	...	...	...
8	Stamps ...	0'47	0'57	— 0'10
9	Registration ...	0'71	0'72	— 0'01
10	"B" Class Municipalities ...	0'26	0'21	0'05
11	Village Panchayats ...	2'22	1'67	0'55
12	Interest ...	8'00	6'15	1'85
13	Irrigation ...	0'07	0'09	— 0'02
14	Dairy ...	0'55	0'67	— 0'12
15	Civil list including Shri. Yuvraj Saheb's budget.	23'00	23'00	...
16	Central Administration ...	16'72	13'50	3'22
17	Judicial ...	5'56	5'61	— 0'05
18	Police ...	15'64	16'15	— 0'51
19	Payment in lieu of contingent ...	2'75	3'75	— 1'00
20	Jail ...	1'86	1'66	0'20
21	Army ...	22'50	22'50	...
22	Sanitation ...	1'10	1'20	— 0'10
23	Medical ...	11'05	9'42	1'63
24	Education ...	39'41	38'57	0'84
25	Agriculture ...	8'39	6'86	1'53

Sr. No.	Head	1943-44	1942-43	Increase or decrease
26	Commerce and Industries ...	1'81	1'84	— 0'03
27	Statistics ...	0'20	0'19	0'01
28	Fisheries ...	0'20	0'16	0'04
29	Co-operative ...	0'67	0'67	...
30	P. W. Department ...	21'25	20'36	0'89
31	Miscellaneous ...	75'71	51'69	24'02
32	Loss in conversion of securities.	...	...	...
33	Ecclesiastical ...	1'95	1'88	0'07
34	Nemnook Assami ...	9'88	10'27	— 0'39
35	Pensions ...	9'82	9'71	0'11
36	Subsidy to Local Boards ...	5'02	10'29	— 5'27
37	State Ceremonials ...	...	...	...
38	Famine Relief ...	12'35	7'79	4'56
39	Huzur Discretionary grant ...	...	...	...
	Total Disbursements ...	333'70	304'63	+ 29'07

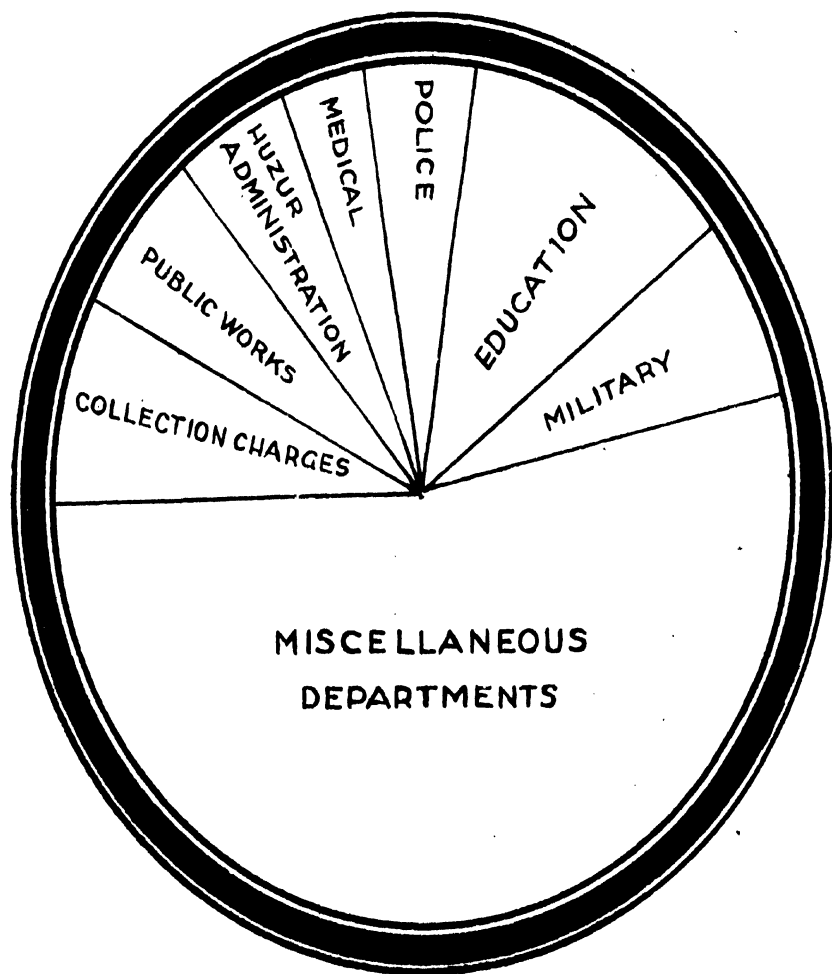
Variations in Receipts

139. REASONS FOR VARIATIONS IN RECEIPTS — The reasons for the more important variations in receipts as compared to the preceding year, are given below:—

(Figures in lakhs)

- | | | |
|------------------|-------|---|
| 1. Land Revenue. | —3'14 | Mainly due to less recovery of land revenue during this year. |
| 2. Taxes. | 33'60 | Increase in super-tax and income-tax realised this year. |
| 3. Forest. | 6'81 | Larger receipts from timber. |
| 4. Excise. | 14'39 | More receipts under duty on liquor and licence fees and also under Petroleum and sale of poisonous drugs. |
| 5. Opium. | 1'42 | Due to increased consumption. |

**DIAGRAM SHOWING THE PROPORTION
OF
EXPENDITURE ON VARIOUS HEADS.**



6. Customs.	—15.93	Due to non-adjustment of the amount payable to British Government last year.
7. Stamps.	0.88	Due to larger receipts from court-fee and documentary stamps.
8. Revenue under Motor Vehicles Act.	0.83	Non-adjustment of receipts received from districts last year.
9. Tributes.	—2.60	Due to attachment of Gujarat States to Baroda.
10. Village Panchayats.	1.09	Higher receipts on account of cutting of fire wood etc.
11. Interest.	1.80	Due to new investments.
12. Port.	—0.67	Fall in export and import at Okha.
13. Commerce and Industries.	0.86	Due to increase in income of Industries department and licence fees on sale of cotton cloth.
14. P. W. department.	—3.95	Due to recoveries made last year from Visnagar Municipality for drainage works.
15. Miscellaneous.	—5.88	Due to amounts of donations for buildings for schools and hospitals, finally credited to this head last year.
16. Profits.	—13.46	Due to sale of Gold and Silver last year.

Variations in expenditure

140. REASONS FOR VARIATIONS IN EXPENDITURE — The reasons for the more important variations in expenditure as compared with those of preceding year are shown below :—

(Figures in lakhs)

1. Contribution to Land Revenue equalisation Fund,	—3.14	Due to less recovery of land revenue.
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2. Village Panchayats.	0.55	Due to increase in income to be given to Village Panchayats.
3. Interest.	1.85	Due to increase in interest on savings bank deposits and on Reserve and Depreciation Funds.
4. Central Administration.	3.22	Increased expenditure under Political and Attached Areas.
5. Police.	—0.51	Due to additional police force engaged last year.
6. Payment in lieu of contingent.	—1.00	Due to non-adjustment of police subsidy on account of Sabarkantha Agency.
7. Medical.	1.63	Increased cost of medicines and instruments.
8. Education.	0.84	Increase in grants to English schools and contributions to libraries and dead stock of Commerce College.
9. Agriculture.	1.53	Due to more expenditure under temporary head.
10. P. W. Department	0.89	Due to increased cost of materials.
11. Miscellaneous.	24.02	Setting apart separate amounts for Compassionate fund and Post War Reconstruction fund and Okha Depreciation fund and also for Secondary Schools Laboratory Equipment fund.
12. Subsidy to Local Boards.	—5.27	Donations announced by His Highness for village works were adjusted to this head last year.
13. Famine Relief.	4.56	Increase in the rate of dearness allowance to Government servants.

141. **TRIBUTE** — The following table shows the demand, collections and arrears of tribute:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Sr. No.	Name of Agency	Demand			Collection	Arrears
		Past Arrears	Demand for the current year	Total		
1	Gujarat ...	0·30	0·76	1·06	0·15	0·91
2	Western India States ...	3·71	3·84	7·55	3·26	4·29
3	Rajputana ...	0·40	0·41	0·81	0·38	0·43
4	Miscellaneous ...	...	0·11	0·11	0·11	...
	Total ...	4·41	5·12	9·53	3·90	5·63

142. **LAND REVENUE EQUALISATION FUND** — Land Revenue forms a main source of income to the State and seasonal vicissitudes have their repercussions on the State income. To offset the effects of these on the budget estimates, a Land Revenue equalisation fund was created in 1939-40 by the transfer of Rs. 50 lakhs from past balances. This year Rs. 8·10 lakhs have been credited to this fund and the fund now stands at Rs. 82·61 lakhs.

Assets and Liabilities

143. **ASSETS AND LIABILITIES** — The assets and liabilities at the end of the year as compared with the previous year were as follows:—

Particulars			1943-44	1942-43
Cash Balances:—			Rs. 3,99,81,868	Rs. 2,91,43,452
	1943-44	1942-43		
	Rs.	Rs.		
In current accounts with Banks.	88,96,683	55,05,346		
In Treasuries	25,01,240	13,08,661		
Fixed Deposits	2,85,83,945	2,23,29,445		
	3,99,81,868	2,91,43,452		
Loans and Advances			1,48,52,457	1,08,32,893
Capital accounts				
1. Investments (Permanent capital works)			7,19,33,373	7,01,15,289
2. Securities			7,16,42,356	6,06,39,075
Total Assets			19,84,10,054	17,07,30,709
Less Liabilities			7,41,55,356	5,12,58,707
Net Assets			12,42,54,698	11,94,72,002
Net increase			47,82,696	

The net assets of the State at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 12.42 crores. Of these Rs. 5.86 crores represent capital invested in railways, Rs. 42 lakhs in electric works, Rs. 50 lakhs in Okha and other ports and Rs. 40 lakhs in other concerns. The liquid assets now amount to Rs. 7.16 crores. Of these Rs. 350 lakhs are set apart for the Reserve Fund and Rs. 82.61 lakhs for the Land Revenue equalisation fund. Interest earned on the Reserve Fund is utilised for providing capital expenditure.

CHAPTER XI

ADMINISTRATION OF LAND AND REVENUE

(i) General condition

144. SEASON — The following table shows the figures of rainfall during the year with those of the preceding year and the decennial average:—

District			Decennial average	1943-44	1942-43
Baroda	...	...	37'69	35'15	52'94
Mehsana	...	...	25'90	34'60	30'90
Navsari	...	...	56'10	49'37	52'51
Amreli	...	...	19'46	21'39	21'28
Okhamandal	...	...	13'99	22'42	08'80

The rainfall during the year was favourable in all the districts except Okhamandal where there was an unprecedented rainfall of 22.42 inches. During the whole season the rains were steady and on the whole evenly spread.

145. YIELD OF CROPS — The following table shows the estimated yield of staple crops in annas, sixteen annas being taken as the standard:—

District			Rice		Bajri		Juvar		Cotton	
			1943-44	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43
Baroda	...	...	10	9	9	9	10	10	10	11
Mehsana	...	...	8	9	9	10	6	7	8	9
Navsari	...	...	10	12	8	7	9	9	11	9
Amreli	...	...	11	11	10	11	8	9	10	9
Okhamandal	...	...	...	...	10	4	10	3	...	...

The season had a satisfactory effect on the economic condition of the agriculturists, inasmuch as the yield was more than 50 per cent.

146. **PRICES OF FOOD STUFFS** — The following table shows the prices of chief articles of agricultural produce during the year (the figures represent the number of seers sold per rupee : one seer being equal to 40 tolas):—

District	Rice		Bajri		Juar		Pulse		Wheat	
	1943-44	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43
Baroda ...	4	7	6	8	7	8	6	7	4	5
Mehsana ...	4	7	9	9	10	10	5	7	7	7
Navsari ...	5	8	10	10	6	8	5	8	4	6
Amreli ...	4	4	11	13	13	15	9	7	5	7
Okhamandal ...	4	3	11	10	13	11	5	5	7	7

Owing to abnormal conditions, the prices of all the products reached to an unprecedented height during the year. Although the producers were unwilling to bring out their produce, the deficit in a particular commodity could not be made good so easily due to transport difficulties. This gave rise to black marketing; the Government controlled the increasing prices by the Price Control Act and checked profiteering by supplying food grains through the Government purchasing agencies.

(ii) Land Administration

147. **AREA** — The following table shows the area of land in the five districts:—

District	Area in bighas	
	1943-44	1942-43
Baroda ...	21,02,738	21,02,736
Mehsana ...	34,50,178	33,42,333
Navsari ...	19,72,154	19,72,153
Amreli ...	11,67,240	11,67,240
Okhamandal ...	3,06,023	3,06,023
Total ...	89,98,333	88,90,485

The increase in area is chiefly due to the amalgamation of the villages of Bavishi, Vatrakkantha and Gadhawada thanas forming the present Dabhoda mahal and Nirmali peta-mahal, with the State.

148. CULTIVABLE AREA — The following table shows the total cultivable area in the five districts during the year:—

District	Cultivable area in bighas	Area occupied in bighas	Unoccupied cultivable area in bighas
Baroda	17,67,829	17,51,200	16,629
Mehsana	30,07,195	28,29,630	1,77,565
Navsari	11,52,888	11,40,940	11,948
Amreli	9,64,744	8,91,143	73,601
Okhamandal	2,39,733	1,66,067	73,666
Total 1943-44 ...	71,32,389	67,78,980	3,53,409
„ 1942-43 ...	70,45,392	66,87,731	3,57,661

The area of the unoccupied cultivable land decreased. The extensive programme of the "Grow More Food" campaign has resulted in bringing more padtar land under plough, as shown in the following table:—

District	Area of padtar land in bighas		Difference
	1943-44	1942-43	
Baroda	16,629	16,761	— 132
Mehsana	1,77,565	1,80,666	— 3101
Navsari	11,948	11,572	+ 376
Amreli	73,601	74,328	— 727
Okhamandal	73,666	74,334	— 668
Total	3,53,409	3,57,661	— 4252

149. TRANSFER OF LAND — The following table gives the figures of land transfers:—

Transferred on account of	1943-44		1942-43	
	Persons	Area in bighas	Persons	Area in bighas
1. Inheritance ...	11,156	1,58,372	10,708	1,60,617
2. Partition ...	362	3,159	163	1,829
3. Gift or exchange ...	384	3,689	367	3,510
4. Sale... ..	18,079	1,40,660	13,769	1,14,138
5. Other causes ...	1,566	11,615	1,823	16,786
Total ...	31,547	3,17,495	26,830	2,96,880

The number of persons who transferred their lands by sale increased by 4,310 while the area transferred also increased by 26,522 bighas. The increase is mainly due to high prices secured for land.

150. THE RESULTS OF TRANSFERS — The following table gives particulars about land which passed into the hands of non-agriculturists and vice versa:—

Nature of transfer	1943-44		1942-43	
	Persons	Area in bighas	Persons	Area in bighas
1. From agriculturists to agriculturists.	12,148	88,023	10,468	88,625
2. From agriculturists to non-agriculturists.	2,496	22,501	2,129	19,581
3. From non-agriculturists to agriculturists.	3,334	24,091	1,538	14,865
4. From non-agriculturists to non-agriculturists.	2,107	22,536	1,944	23,036
Total ...	20,085	1,57,151	16,079	1,46,107

A study of the above figures results in favour of the agriculturists. The item No. 2 shows an increase of 2,920 bighas while the item No. 3 shows an increase of 9,226 bighas. The number of persons who effected the transfers also increased. The agriculturists have thus gained 6,306 bighas on the whole. The non-agriculturists sold their land to reap greater profits owing to high prices and the

agriculturists availing themselves of the circumstance of war-time prosperity purchased lands as a safe course of investment.

(iii) Collection of Revenues

151. LAND REVENUE — The following table gives the figures of demand and realisation of land revenue proper during the year:—

(The figures are in lakhs of rupees)

District	1943-44			1942-43		
	Demand	Realisation	Percentage	Demand	Realisation	Percentage
Baroda ...	38·62	37·95	98·3	38·65	38·20	98·9
Mehsana ...	31·76	30·99	97·6	31·22	30·63	98·1
Navsari ...	16·70	16·56	99·2	16·53	16·41	99·3
Amreli ...	10·08	9·45	93·7	8·04	7·86	97·8
Okhamandal ...	0·65	0·44	68·3	0·62	0·59	95·2
Total ...	97·81	95·39	97·5	95·06	93·69	98·6

The figures show an increase of 2·75 lakhs in demand and of 1·70 lakhs in realisation when compared with those of the preceding year. The satisfactory realisations were due generally to better yield of crops coupled with high prices.

152. LOCAL CESS — The demand and realisation of local cess during the year were as follows:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

District	1943-44			1942-43		
	Demand Rs.	Realisation Rs.	Percentage	Demand Rs.	Realisation Rs.	Percentage
Baroda ...	2·89	2·83	98·0	2·85	2·82	98·7
Mehsana ...	2·43	2·37	97·4	2·26	2·21	98·1
Navsari ...	2·53	2·53	99·8	1·81	1·80	99·6
Amreli ...	0·69	0·68	98·0	0·66	0·65	99·0
Okhamandal ...	0·04	0·03	79·9	0·03	0·03	93·1
Total ...	8·58	8·44	98·3	7·61	7·51	98·8

153. MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE — The following table shows the demand and realisation of miscellaneous revenue other than land revenue:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

District	1943-44		1942-43	
	Demand Rs.	Realisation Rs.	Demand Rs.	Realisation Rs.
Baroda	2.11	2.02	1.55	1.53
Mehsana	1.60	1.56	1.46	1.40
Navsari	0.72	0.71	0.61	0.60
Amreli	0.58	0.57	0.48	0.47
Okhamandal	0.04	0.04	0.03	0.03
Total	5.05	4.90	4.13	4.03

154. ARREARS — The following table gives figures of past arrears, recoveries and sums written off during the year:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

District	Total arrears at the beginning of 1943-44	Recovered or written off during 1943-44	Balance at the end of 1943-44
Baroda	4.39	3.16	1.23
Mehsana	16.86	6.06	10.80
Navsari	0.35	0.23	0.12
Amreli	1.54	1.03	0.51
Okhamandal	1.08	0.14	0.94
Total	24.22	10.62	13.60

155. TAGAVI — The following table gives the comparative figures of demand and realisation of the instalments of tagavi loans advanced by Government:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

District	1943-44		1942-43	
	Demand	Realisation	Demand	Realisation
Baroda	0.46	0.39	0.25	0.16
Mehsana	2.34	1.87	3.01	2.43
Navsari	0.44	0.44	0.53	0.43
Amreli	0.81	0.80	1.32	1.30
Okhamandal	0.41	0.11	0.48	0.05
Total	4.46	3.61	5.59	4.37

156. PURPOSE OF TAGAVI LOANS — The following table shows the purpose and amount of tagavi loans advanced during the year:—

District	Purpose of tagavi loans		
	Improvement of land	Maintenance of kheduts and their cattle	Total
Baroda	500	3,795	4,295
Mehsana	7,451	3,845	11,296
Navsari	8,000	5,975	13,975
Amreli	1,525	5,400	6,925
Okhamandal ... ..	...	50	50
Total	17,476	19,065	36,541

157. COERCIVE MEASURES — The following table shows the number of coercive measures taken during the year:—

Nature of the measures					1943-44	1942-43
1. Notices ... ..	...	...	...	...	957	1,025
2. Attachment of sarkari land ... ..	...	...	...	...	1,578	2,344
3. Attachment of barkhali land ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	2
4. Sale of land ... ..	...	...	...	...	251	310
5. Cases in which land was declared padtar for want of bidders.					...	5
6. Land made khalsa:—						
(i) sarkari ... ..	...	...	...	...	23	40
(ii) barkhali ... ..	...	...	...	...	...	...
7. Sale of immovable property other than land ... ..	...	...	...	...	34	43
8. Sale of movable property ... ..	...	...	...	...	3	7
9. Arrest warrants issued ... ..	...	...	...	...	147	333
10. Fines ... ..	...	...	...	...	95	225
Total					3,088	4,334

The number of coercive measures shows an appreciable decrease. The rise in prices of the agricultural produce enabled the khatedars to pay up their land revenue dues in time, obviating at the same time to some extent need for adopting coercive measures.

158. GENERAL CONDITIONS — The general condition of the people during the year was satisfactory. The rainfall was sufficient. The agriculturists reaped a good harvest. The good yield of crops and the high prices of the agricultural produce promoted prosperity of the agriculturists. The large profits helped the big khatedars to pay off their old debts; the gains of the smaller khatedars were, however, counterbalanced by the rise in prices of other necessities of life, such as sugar, kerosene, cloth, etc., and the wages of labour for agricultural purposes.

Labour classes benefited the most particularly owing to heavy demand for all sorts of manufactured goods. They got high wages coupled with appreciative bonuses and dearness allowances. Persons with fixed incomes found it difficult to maintain themselves within the small amounts they got.

Fully aware of the situation, the Government continued the concessions they had granted in the preceding years. Two additional food grain officers were appointed for the Navsari and Mehsana districts to help the Subas in the work of obtaining and distributing food grains from the surplus areas to the deficit areas. The central stores opened at Baroda continued to work satisfactorily.

With a view to relieve the distress of the poor and to help the middle class people of the Raj, His Highness the Maharaja Saheb donated a sum of Rs. 10½ lakhs. This gracious munificence substantially accelerated the opening of more cheap grain and fair price shops all over the State.

••• The grant shown above was distributed to afford different kinds of relief as shown below :—

Amount Rs.	Purpose
2,00,000	For opening 200 more shops and to provide for their equipment and the running expenses.
3,60,000	Cost of 10% rebate to Government servants, purchasing their requirements from the cheap grain shops.
2,00,000	For providing labour to the necessitous areas, i. e., those areas which are occupied by the backward classes, Raniparaj and the Thakardas, etc.

Amount Rs.	Purpose
2,00,000	For the relief of the non-Government lower middle class people, by way of grants-in-aid or subsidies to individuals, associations and organisations who gave relief to the persons with fixed incomes below Rs. 50 a month.
50,000	Gratuitous relief to the old and infirm people who had no natural relations to support them.
10,000	To help the workers of different public institutions such as Maternity and Child Welfare League, Women's Industrial Home, etc.
30,000	Expenditure for organising and supervising staff.
10,50,000	

To further relieve hardships of Government servants the benefit of the cheap grain shops was allowed to those servants who drew a salary of Rs. 100 a month and below. The system of granting rebate of 10% over the purchases made from the cheap grain shops to Government servants of the Baroda city, was extended to all the servants of the Raj. Dearness allowance was increased from Rs. 3 to Rs. 5 a month. However, finding in the latter part of the year that the prices of the commodities had soared up to further heights, His Highness the Maharaja Sahab graciously appreciated the situation and increased it to Rs. 9 a month, extending its benefit to servants drawing a salary up to Rs. 100 a month.

Price Control Act remained in operation during the year. Sufficient rainfall necessitated no relief measures.

159. EXTENSION OF VILLAGE SITE TO REMOVE CONGESTION — It has been laid down under the rules relating to the extension of the gamthan land that where the gamthan falls short of 30 bighas for a population of 700 or 43 bighas for 1,000, it should be held to be insufficient. In such villages suitable areas for expansion should be selected and divided into convenient plots. No site rent should be charged for the first three years; half the rent should be charged for the next five years, and full rent should be charged after eight years.

Under the scheme as it stands 10 villages are selected for gamthan extension every year. Five villages in the Baroda district were selected for the extension of village sites; however, only 3 villages took advantage of the scheme and their gamthans were extended during the year.

160. IRRIGATION FACILITIES — Special measures have been adopted by the Government for encouraging the agriculturist to sink

wells. Under the scheme the khatedar is allowed to sink wells in his lands at Government expense. He is required to pay a water rate of Re. 1 per bigha for the land irrigated by such wells. The cost of the unsuccessful wells is borne by the Government. Another scheme conferring ownership over such wells is in operation in the five selected villages of the Mehsana district. The khatedar concerned obtains the ownership by paying the amount of the cost in 10 instalments.

Fourteen wells were under construction at the end of the previous year. Construction of 13 new wells was undertaken during the year. Of these the construction of 15 wells was completed at a cost of Rs. 0.18 lakh. Twelve wells were under construction at the end of the year.

Since the inauguration of the scheme, 84 wells have been constructed at a total cost of Rs. 1.24 lakhs, irrigating nearly 852 bighas of land.

161. HEALTH EXHIBITION AND BABY SHOWS — Health exhibition and baby show were held at Vankal Rural Reconstruction Centre. A baby show was also held at the Varvala village in the Okhamandal taluka

A sanitation week was observed in the Baroda and Okhamandal districts. A silver challenge shield was awarded to the village Tajpura in Padra taluka for the best sanitation of the village.

162. ESTATES UNDER MANAGEMENT — The number of estates under attachment was 382 as against 367 in the previous year. Of these, 85 were under Guardian and Wards Act, 9 to secure Government loans, 13 for arrears of land revenue, 13 on account of disputes among holders, 172 owing to mismanagement of temples, 8 pending mutation of names, 7 to protect Government shares and 75 for other miscellaneous reasons.

Of these, 39 estates have been under attachment for less than one year, 110 for 1 to 4 years, 107 for more than five years, 63 for more than ten years and 63 for more than fifteen years.

The total demand of these estates was Rs. 8.52 lakhs including past arrears of 3.1 lakhs and the surplus of Rs. 0.025 lakh. The collections amounted to Rs. 5.51 lakhs and the arrears at the end of the year were 3.01 lakhs.

Taxes

163. INCOME TAX — In 1939, the revised Income Tax Act came into operation. Under it, the taxable minimum was raised from Rs. 750 to Rs. 2,000 and a graduated scale of tax was introduced.

During the year under report, notices calling for returns were issued in 26,650 cases. Of these, 22,580 cases were disposed of and in 4,070 cases inquiries were not completed. 690 returns were accepted as correct. Accounts were called for in 21,890 cases; the number of cases in which the accounts were produced was 20,514. The total number of persons assessed to tax was 11,658 including 300 companies and 192 registered firms as against 10,257 including 185 companies and 87 registered firms in the preceding year.

The net demand of income-tax was Rs. 44.56 lakhs as against Rs. 21.19 lakhs in the preceding year. Of this, Rs. 43.22 lakhs were realised. The demand of super-tax at a flat rate of one anna in a rupee on the income exceeding rupees one lakh, amounted to Rs. 15.41 lakhs as against Rs. 4.16 lakhs in the preceding year. Of this, Rs. 15.22 lakhs were realised during the year.

The demand of income-tax and super-tax for the year 1943-44 thus amounted to Rs. 59.98 lakhs. The amount of arrears at the end of the year 1942-43 was Rs. 4.28 lakhs. The total demand including these arrears, therefore amounted to Rs. 64.26 lakhs, out of which Rs. 58.43 lakhs were realised during the year leaving a balance of Rs. 5.83 lakhs at the end of the year.

Excess profits deposits

164. EXCESS PROFITS DEPOSITS — The State "Excess Profits Ordinance" (No. 7 of 15-7-43) was promulgated (in the State) with effect from 1-8-43. The first assessment year under the ordinance was the income-tax assessment year of 1943-44. Under the ordinance, the Government charge 66 $\frac{2}{3}$ % of the excess profits. The nature of this charge is that of a deposit fully refundable within two years of the date on which the deposit is made or one year after the cessation of the present hostilities, whichever is later.

Excise

165. SOURCES OF REVENUE — The principal sources of the excise revenue are :—

- (1) manufacture and sale of country liquor,
- (2) sale of foreign liquor, spirits, spirituous preparations, toddy and intoxicating and poisonous drugs.

Licence fee, duty and tree tax are the main items of the revenue from these sources.

166. DISTILLING CONTRACTS — The system for the manufacture and supply of country liquor continued to be the same as in the

previous year. The contract for the Baroda district was, however, split up with a view to enable the contractors to meet the increasing demand of liquor. The period of the contract for liquor supply in Dabhoda and Nirmali mahals having expired, the contract was renewed till the end of March 1946, when the period of all other existing contracts expires.

167. RETAIL SALE OF COUNTRY LIQUOR IN THE BARODA, MEHSANA AND NAVSARI DISTRICTS — As the leases of the individual country liquor shops in the Baroda, Mehsana and Navsari districts expired by the end of March 1944, the shops in these districts were auctioned for a period of one year from the 1st April 1944. Thirty-three shops on the mewasi border and ten shops on the Panch Mahal border in the Baroda district and thirteen shops on the Bansda border in the Navsari district were leased without auction, with fixed selling prices. In the fourteen kasba shops of the Mehsana district the sale of liquor at fixed prices in sealed bottles was continued. There was no restriction on selling prices except that shop-keepers were not allowed to sell liquor below the fixed minimum made up of duty and cost price. All the border shops stated above, which were leased without auction, were given on commission basis with fixed selling prices. The duty rates of country liquor at the shops of the three districts were raised during the year as shown below :—

Shops	Increase in the duty rates	
	Rs.	
1. The Baroda city shops.	3- 0-0	per gallon of 25° U. P.
2. Shops on the Panch Mahal border.	3-12-0	per gallon of 40° U. P.
3. Shops on the Bansda border.	2- 4-0	per gallon of 25° and 30° U. P.
4. Other shops in the three districts.	1- 8-0	per gallon of 25° and 30° U. P.

The total number of shops of the country liquor was 617 as against 594 in the previous year. Two shops in the Baroda district and five shops in the Navsari district were closed during the year while 23 shops were newly added owing to the addition of the Dabhoda and Nirmali mahals to the State. Rationing of liquor was introduced and fixed at 50% of the last year's sale of each shop from 5-4-1944; it was increased to 75% from 1-6-1944.

168. CO-OPERATION WITH THE BOMBAY GOVERNMENT — To co-operate with the Bombay Government in their scheme of

prohibition and dry areas, the Government continued the following measures adopted in previous years :—

- (i) in the Baroda district, rationing of ten shops within three miles of the Jambushar-Waghra dry area;
- (ii) in the Mehsana district, rationing of 28 shops including the Kalol and Dehgam kasba shops;
- (iii) in the Navsari district, rationing of six shops situated on Vansda-Andhatri border and fifty shops on the borders of Bardoli, Valod, Broach and Ankleshwar, besides providing a shop-free belt.

169. **EXCISE REVENUE** — The excise revenue amounted to Rs. 56.04 lakhs as against Rs. 41.94 lakhs in the previous year. Of this, Rs. 46.81 lakhs were from country liquor, Rs. 2.19 lakhs from foreign liquor, Rs. 6.26 lakhs from toddy, Rs. 0.62 lakh from intoxicating and poisonous drugs and Rs. 0.16 lakh from miscellaneous receipts. The Navsari district yielded Rs. 24.71 lakhs, the Baroda district Rs. 24.17 lakhs, the Mehsana district Rs. 6.83 lakhs, the Amreli and Okhamandal Rs. 0.33 lakh. The increase is due to larger consumption, enhanced rates of duty and keen competition at the auctions of the country liquor shops and to larger number of toddy trees tapped in the Navsari district.

170. **OFFENCES** — The number of offences detected, increased from 309 to 437. This increase is due to the partial re-transfer of the excise staff from the Police department.

Opium

171. **SOURCES OF REVENUE** — The State has a monopoly for the manufacture of opium on the "Bengal System." The issue rate of opium at the Government depots continued to be Rs. 37-8-0 per seer of 40 tolas up to 31-3-1944; it was raised to Rs. 45 from 1-4-1944. Besides this, a licence fee is charged on a scale graduated according to sales increasing from Rs. 7 to Rs. 10 per seer. The profit on opium issued to the licensed vendors and the licence fee form the main sources of the opium revenue.

172. **POPPY CULTIVATION** — Poppy was allowed to be cultivated in Sidhpur, Visnagar, Kheralu, Vijapur and Patan talukas of the Mehsana district. Applications for the permission to cultivate poppy were received from 22 villages of Sidhpur, Visnagar and Kheralu talukas only. The permits to cultivate poppy were issued for 1,022 bighas as against 733 bighas in the last year. The juice, tendered by the cultivators, was 161 maunds, 30 seers and 20 tolas as against 91 maunds, 34 seers and 30 tolas in the preceding year. The cultivators

were required to sell the whole of the produce to the Government. They were paid Rs. 10 per seer for the best quality of juice.

173. **ISSUE FROM THE FACTORY AND REVENUE** — During the year 13,090 seers of opium were sent to the depots from the opium factory as against 7,490 seers in the preceding year.

The profit to the State from the sale of opium was Rs. 3.51 lakhs as against Rs. 2.41 lakhs in the preceding year. The total amount of sale price and licence fee was Rs. 4.34 lakhs and the cost of production was Rs. 0.83 lakh.

Customs and Port Dues

174. **SOURCES OF REVENUE** — The following table shows the revenue obtained from

- (a) sea customs and port dues in the Amreli and Okhamandal districts,
- (b) protective customs in the Mehsana, Amreli and Okhamandal districts,
- (c) the customs duties at Chandod and
- (d) 'Armar Cess' in the Navsari district.

District	Year	
	1943-44	1942-43
Baroda	1,566	1,359
Mehsana	951	5,109
Navsari	5,824	5,251
Amreli	28,168	24,420
Okhamandal Port dues ...	3,54,491	4,75,904
„ Customs	33,92,957	38,59,960
Total	37,83,957	43,72,003

The decrease of Rs. 5.88 lakhs is partly due to the less amount to be retained by the Baroda Government according to the customs agreement and partly due to the less realisation in the port dues.

The Government of India have agreed to refund to the State the customs duty realised at the ports of Billimora and Navsari, after deducting the cost of collection. During the year under report as the

amount of customs at our Kathiawar ports exceeded the amount to be realised at the prescribed ratio, no amount became due from the British Government.

The income from the protective duties was Rs. 951 in the Mehsana district and Rs. 5,013 in the Amreli district; the expenditure on collection was Rs. 6,049 and Rs. 13,180 respectively.

175. SYSTEM OF PROTECTIVE CUSTOMS DISCONTINUED — The system of protective customs was discontinued in the Mehsana and Okhamandal districts from 11-9-1943.

Excise Duty on Matches

176. DEMAND, COLLECTION AND ARREARS — The following table shows the demand, collection and arrears of the excise revenue on matches :—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Year			Demand including past arrears	Collection	Arrears
1943-44	...	...	7.27	7.27	...
1942-43	...	...	6.29	5.82	0.47

The Baroda Government received Rs. 2,56,281 as their share from the common pool of the match excise duty for the year 1942-43. The allocation for the year 1943-44 had not been received from the Government of India by the end of the year.

Excise Duty on Sugar

177. EXCISE DUTY ON SUGAR — The Gandevi Sugar Works and Distillery Co., Ltd., Gandevi, is the only sugar factory in the State. It manufactured 17,256 Cwts. and 34 $\frac{2}{7}$ lbs. of sugar.

The State levied an excise duty on sugar at the rate of Rs. 3 per Cwt. The duty levied amounted to Rs. 50,557 as against Rs. 40,421 in the preceding year.

As per the Sugar (Temporary Excise Duty) Ordinance No. XII of 1943, an excise duty at the rate of thirteen annas per standard maund was levied on the stock owned or possessed by the wholesale dealers on 18-11-1943; the total duty thus collected was Rs. 47,769.

Petroleum

178. LICENCES ISSUED FOR THE IMPORT, ETC., OF PETROLEUM — Under the Petroleum Act, 156 licences for the import, transport and storage of petroleum were issued during the year and Rs. 3,739 were realised as licence fee.

179. PERMITS GIVEN FOR STORAGE OF CARBIDE — Under the Carbide of Calcium Rules, 7 permits for the storage of Carbide were given during the year and Rs. 37 were realised as licence fee.

Salt

180. SALT ARRANGEMENTS — The salt arrangements for Baroda, Mehsana and Navsari districts continued to be the same as in the previous years. In the Kodinar taluka, the salt monopoly given for three years from 1-8-1941 for the annual amount of Rs. 1,732, continued. Out of 29,500 maunds of salt (including the balance of 6,120 maunds of last year) collected during the year from natural deposits, 14,709 maunds were consumed during the year, leaving a balance of 14,791 maunds.

In the Okhamandal, the right to collect salt in 12 beds, continued with the Tata Chemical Co., Ltd., Mithapur. The company exported 11,39,712 maunds to Bengal as against 24,26,872 maunds in the preceding year.

181. SHARE OF BARODA GOVERNMENT IN THE DUTY OF SALT — The Baroda Government received from the Government of India Rs. 5.68 lakhs for 1943-44 on account of duty on salt consumed in the Gujarat possessions of the State.

182. SUPPLY OF DENATURED SALT FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES — Denatured salt was supplied for agricultural purposes in the Navsari district. Two permits were issued to import 66 Bengal maunds of denatured salt.

183. OPERATION OF THE COTTON TRANSPORT ACT — To prevent the entry of inferior cotton from the neighbouring territories into the State, the Cotton Transport Act has been applied to the Baroda, Mehsana and Navsari districts. Two check-stations were maintained on the Surat border of the Mangrol and Kamrej talukas in the Navsari district. No check-stations were considered necessary in other districts.

Tobacco

184. CONTINUATION OF THE TOBACCO EXCISE DUTY — The operation of the Indian Tobacco Excise Duty Act and Rules as

applied to the Baroda State from the 1st April 1943, was continued during the year. The establishment worked as a separate branch under the Excise Commissioner. The rates of duty on tobacco were enhanced from 1st March 1944. They now vary from one anna per lb to Rs. 3-8-0 per lb on unmanufactured tobacco according to the various uses the tobacco is put to and classification of tobacco is accordingly changed from 1st March 1944. Tobacco is now divided into three classes, viz. (1) Flue cured, (2) Air cured and (3) Stalks, stems and other refuse.

185. LICENCES FOR DEALING IN TOBACCO — According to the Tobacco Excise Duty Act, 1943, all persons dealing in tobacco have to take out licences. They fall under the following five categories :—

- (1) Licence for curing tobacco.
- (2) Licence for the wholesale trade.
- (3) Licence to work as a broker or a commission agent.
- (4) Licence to manufacture tobacco.
- (5) Licence for private bonded warehouses.

The scale of licence fee varies from one rupee to a hundred rupees and is collected in the form of court fee stamps.

186. LICENCE FEE REVENUE — The following table shows the number of different kinds of licences issued and licence fee realised thereon in the form of court fee stamps during the year ended July 1944:—

Kind of licence				No. of licences issued	Licence fee realised Rs.
Curers' licences	...	...	...	217	1,015
Wholesale trade licences	...	...	...	4,964	36,953
Licences for brokers or commission agents	...	...	...	207	738
Manufacturer's licences	...	...	...	2,365	147
Licences for bonded warehouses	...	...	...	1,910	5,684
Total 1943-44				9,663	43,837
" 1942-43				3,653	20,279

187. DUTY REVENUE — The following table shows the amount of tobacco issued for consumption in the State and that exported on payment of duty during the period ended July 1944:—

Kind of tobacco	Quantities in Bengal mds.			'Amount of duty' realised on tobacco Rs.		
	Issued for consumption in the State	Exported out-side the State	Total	Issued for consumption in the State	Exported out-side the State	Total
Virginia tobacco ...	...	476	476	...	33,376	33,376
Country tobacco for manufacture into						
(i) biris ...	17,384	1,21,158	1,38,542	6,23,760	47,42,526	53,66,286
(ii) snuff ...	2,699	2,889	5,588	91,065	95,419	1,86,484
(iii) hookah tobacco ...	6,758	6,995	13,753	67,367	77,885	1,45,252
(iv) chewing tobacco ...	5,320	73,911	79,231	46,532	6,64,845	7,11,377
(v) chilim tobacco ...	4,587	24,040	28,627	30,370	2,74,231	3,04,601
Stalks, stems and other refuse of tobacco.	3,481	36,768	40,249	15,794	1,91,011	2,06,805
Total 1943-44 ...	40,229	2,66,237	3,06,466	8,74,888	60,79,293	69,54,181
.. 1942-43 ...	10,848	16,602	27,450	2,32,259	2,25,276	4,57,535*

* (For four months of April, May, June and July 1943).

Stamps

188. REVENUE — The following table shows the revenue derived from the sale of stamps:—

Sources of income	1943-44 Rs.	1942-43 Rs.
Sale of court fee Stamps ...	5,87,809	5,46,177
Sale of non-judicial stamps ...	12,89,799	12,47,776
Special levies ...	6,341	2,936
Miscellaneous receipts ...	15,638	14,557
	18,99,587	18,11,446
Less sum refunded ...	1,01,743	1,00,932
Net total income ...	17,97,844	17,10,514

189. EXPENDITURE — The following statement shows the expenditure incurred under the head of Stamps :—

Years	Rupees
1943-44	47,103
1942-43	57,069

190. CAUSES OF VARIATION — The net total income under this head shows an increase of Rs. 87,330. The sale of judicial and non-judicial stamps has increased by Rs. 41,632 and Rs. 42,023 respectively and that of special levies by Rs. 3,405. The increase is mainly due to the increased number of documents registered during the year. The expenditure under this head has decreased by Rs. 9,966 which is due to less number of stamps being printed during the year.

CHAPTER XII

ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF THE WAR AND CIVIL SUPPLIES

In the Administration report for the year 1941-42, the effects of the war on the economic life of the State were described and the conclusions drawn were (i) that agriculturists in the State have largely benefited by the high prices and (ii) that it pays them to cultivate food grains and only the higher grade cotton. These conclusions still hold good.

Agriculture

191. COTTON — In the Navsari district, the growing of 1027 A. L. F. has proved distinctly advantageous to agriculturists. The demand for staple cotton secured premium of nearly Rs. 400 over Broach. The position is illustrated by the following figures :—

Prices secured for 1027 A. L. F.

Year	Prices in rupees
1938	... 190 to 210 per khandi.
1939	... 185 to 200 "
1940	... 290 to 310 "
1941	... 330 to 340 "
1942	... 295 to 340 "
1943	... 754 to 881 "
1944	... 500 to 600 "

Prices secured for Broach (A fair staple)

Year	Prices in rupees
1938	... 150 per khandi.
1939	... 150 "
1940	... 200 "
1941	... 235 "
1942	... 190 "
1943	... 400 "
1944	... 215 "

In the Baroda district, Kanvi Broach has been replaced by B. D. 8 and B. D. 9. By the growth of these cottons, the cultivators gained Rs. 68 lakhs to Rs. 80 lakhs.

192. TOBACCO — Country tobacco is a specialised crop of Petlad and Bhadrans areas. The crop, which was hit by the war in 1942, has shown appreciable recovery, the selling price being as high as Rs. 25 a maund.

193. OIL SEEDS — The prices of oil seeds, as recorded by the Marketing Officer, are as below :—

	1938	1939	1940	1941	1942	1943	1944
Groundnut	1- 8- 0	1- 6- 0	1- 4- 0	1- 6- 0	2- 0- 0	5-12- 0	5- 2- 0
Castor	1-12- 0	4- 0- 0	2- 4- 0	2- 8- 0	3- 2- 0	6- 4- 0	5-10- 0

194. SUGARCANE CROP AND SUGAR AND GUL — The prices of gul went up from Rs. 5-14-0 in 1938 and Rs. 18 in 1943 to Rs. 22. Sugar prices are strictly controlled though the cultivators who grew cane at Gandevi got Re. 0-12-0 a maund as against Re. 0-10-0 in 1943 and Re. 0-4-9 in 1938. There is no prospect of a decline in sugar prices and hence of gul.

195. CEREALS — The shortage of these is well known and is reflected in prices as shown below :—

	1938	1942	1943	1944	Percentage on 1938	Increase or decrease on 1943
Rice	5- 9- 0	9- 4- 0	18- 0- 0	24- 8- 0	340%	36%
Wheat	4- 7- 0	8- 1- 0	15- 0- 0	15-12- 0	255%	8%
Juwar	3- 4- 0	4- 7- 0	8- 0- 0	8- 6- 0	158%	4%
Bajra	4- 0- 0	4-15- 0	8-12- 0	8- 7- 0	112%	-3%
Gram	3-15- 0	6- 8- 0	13- 0- 0	13- 0- 0	230%	...
Tur (dal)	6- 8- 0	10-11- 0	17- 0- 0	14- 8- 0	121%	-15%

To sum up the prosperity of the agriculturists increased. The additional income derived was used in meeting the increased cost of living, paying Government dues including arrears, repayment of debts, purchase of additional lands and investment in savings banks, defence bonds etc.

The Government are most anxious that the profits due to the high prices which the agriculturists now receive should be saved to meet their needs in the difficult years that will come after the war. The Government have passed, therefore, special order to stimulate

savings by increasing the number of saving banks and thrift societies. The Government increased the number of saving banks from 9 in 1937-38 to 39 and the deposits have arisen from Rs. 5.73 lakhs to Rs. 46.22 lakhs. This however is only a fraction of what ought to come to the banks.

Industries

196. GENERAL — Industries are working to full capacity first to meet the war time demands of defence services and of the civilian population and to fill the gaps created by the difficulty and interruption of imports. Existing industries have expanded and new ones have arisen.

197. INDUSTRIES IN WAR TIME — The textile industry occupies the first rank among the industries of the State. Its growth in recent years is seen from the following figures :—

Year	Capital employed (Approx.) lakhs	Looms	Spindles	Persons employed	Yarn produced Lbs. lakhs
1927-28	123	2,505	1,77,084	6,250	153
1936-37	290	6,205	2,97,704	15,298	288
1937-38	304	6,671	3,24,000	18,600	358
1938-39	320	6,914	3,34,500	19,000	344
1939-40	327	7,110	3,32,197	20,199	332
1940-41	384	6,874	3,25,732	22,726	398
1941-42	380	6,932	3,28,232	24,713	431
1942-43	504	6,927	3,32,208	23,982	342
1943-44	654	6,956	3,35,726	23,482	415

All the cotton mills in the State are engaged on Government orders and have benefited by the war although the prices of fuel, accessories, chemicals and wages have gone up. In 1943-44 about 60% of the production was earmarked for Government orders. The Dinesh Mills Ltd., the only woollen mill in the State, is entirely working for the Supply department of the Government of India. The dye works manufactured sulphuric acid in fair quantities. The Cement factory at Dwarka has expanded its production from 8,000 tons in 1938 to about 2 lakhs tons in 1944. Chemical industry has received impetus on account of war and new chemical factories are either on progress or are under negotiations. The Alembic Chemical Works are manufacturing drugs and medicines for which there are orders

from Government of India also. They have also started manufacture of glass bottles for their own needs. They are also putting up a plant for oil products such as vegetable ghee, soap powder, refined oil. The Tata Chemicals at Mithapur produce bleaching powder, liquid chlorine, potassium bromide, caustic soda etc. During the year the process house for the manufacture of soda ash came into operation and soda ash of standard specifications has been produced and well received in the market. Large and small bobbin factories have cropped as their import has become difficult. A dry cell factory has also been established in Baroda. Messrs. Gor and Co., Bombay, have put up a glass factory at Baroda. Messrs. Das and Co., and Powells Ltd., Bombay, have acquired lands at Billimora for putting up a textile mill and a surgical factory respectively.

198. THE SMALLER INDUSTRIES IN THE STATE — These are also making their contribution to war effort and benefiting by war orders.

199. COMMERCE — The war and the Import and Export restrictions have adversely affected the shipping and trade at Port Okha. There has been comparative fall in export of cement and salt on account of shipping difficulties. There has however been marked improvement in the imports of oil.

The number of import licences was 80 and the value of goods to be imported was Rs. 7,17,503.

200. "GROW MORE FOOD" CAMPAIGN — The Baroda State is a deficit area in respect of food grains. In order to induce the agriculturists to grow more food the Government continued the concessions they had granted in the previous year. They were as shown below.

With a view to reduce the area under non-food crops, along with cotton as stated above, Government took several measures, some obligatory and others concessional.

- (a) *Obligatory* — As a compulsory measure, the area planted under food crops (i. e., Juvar, Millets, Paddy and Pulses) in any individual holding was fixed at not less than 40% to 70% in the various talukas of the Baroda district and from 50% to 80% in the talukas of the Navsari district, according to the nature of the local soil, the type of the crops to be grown and other relevant conditions. In Amreli and Mehsana districts it was laid down that the area under non-food crops in any holding should on no account be larger than that recorded in the previous year.

The penalty provided for infringement of the scheme was fine up to ten times the assessment of the area of the holding which fell short of the prescribed minimum for growing food grains applicable to the mahals concerned.

- (b) *Concessional - Padtar land* — Permission was given to cultivate any land classed as padtar for a period of three years with a concession, that for the first year no land revenue assessment is to be charged and only half the assessment to be charged for the subsequent period. If a person produced food crops on padtar land in the first year of his occupation a reward of Re. 1 per bigha was to be given to him. Tagavi at the rate of Rs. 10 per bigha was to be given to a person who cultivated an area of five or more bighas of land that he reclaimed and sowed.

Permission was given to cultivate land classed as kharaba for a period of five years. No assessment was to be charged during the first two years while half the assessment was to be levied during the remaining period. A reward of Rs. 2 per bigha was to be given to any person who succeeded in growing food crops in the kharaba land reclaimed by him. Tagavi at the rate of Rs. 25 per bigha was granted to a person for reclaiming kharaba land not less than five bighas.

Free irrigation — Irrigation from all Government wells and non-himayat tanks was allowed free of charge to grow food crops.

The Government also placed a sum of Rs. 1,10,000 at the disposal of the Agriculture department for the purchase and preparation of cake manure for growing wheat in Mehsana and Amreli districts, at a concession rate of two-thirds of its price. Rs. 10,000 were placed with the Agriculture department to be expended on propaganda, supply of seeds, etc., at concession rates.

The net result of these concessions was that in 16,029 bighas of Government padtar and kharaba lands, food crops were grown; 219 persons took advantage of the irrigation facilities and irrigated 802 bighas of land. More lands were brought under cultivation than the prescribed minimum, made applicable to any particular mahal.

As a result of the concession of four annas in a rupee for shift over from the non-food crop area to the food crop area, 2,54,361 bighas of land were brought under food crops. A remission of 1,15,425 rupees was granted on that account.

CIVIL SUPPLIES

Food position in the State

201. GENERAL — The State is a deficit area with regard to food grains, except pulses. There was a great scarcity of rice. Some quantity however was obtained from the Gujarat States exchanging millet for rice.

Within the State itself, the surplus of wheat, bajri and juvar available in Mehsana and Amreli districts was taken to Baroda, Navsari and Okhamandal districts; quantity so transported amounted to 3,92,768 Bengal maunds of wheat, 5,39,043 Bengal maunds of bajri and 3,14,017 Bengal maunds of juvar. Rice was in deficit in all the districts of the Raj except Navsari, which had a small surplus of 41,531 Bengal maunds. This surplus was distributed among the other districts according to their need.

Civil Supply and Savings Committees were formed in all talukas and districts during the year. They were all placed under a Central Civil Supply and Savings Committee representing traders, agriculturists and consumers on questions of food policy. Price Control Sub Committees continued to function under the Civil Supply Committees.

202. BASIC PLAN — Under the Basic Plan adopted by the State in co-operation with the Government of India, 4,333 tons of millets were despatched to different provinces and States. The State got 1,718 tons of gram and gram 'dal' from Bikaner.

Pulses, viz. Mung, Urd and Tur and their 'dals' were taken under the scheme to Bombay and Madras in April 1944.

Food grain shops

203. BARODA CITY — Baroda city is dealt with as a special area for the supply of food grains. The important measure of relief is the scheme of the cheap grain and fair price shops. Cheap grain shops have been chiefly opened for the benefit of Government servants drawing a salary up to Rs. 100 a month. Fair price shops are opened to prevent retail sellers from charging exorbitant prices and the emergence of black markets. The following table shows the number of such shops and the persons served by them:—

Kind of the shop	Number of the shops	Number of card-holders	Number including families of the card-holders	Grain sold and price	
				Bengal mds.	Price Rs.
Cheap grain shops	28	19,660	78,241	1,23,900	15,17,433
Fair price shops	23	23,379	1,15,565	98,468	14,91,144
Total	51	43,039	1,93,806	2,22,368	30,08,577

A central store has been started under the Suba, Baroda, with a view to ensure continuity of supplies to these shops.

Besides the shops run by the Government, five shops were organised by the Baroda municipality and seven shops by private individuals.

204. H. H.'s DONATION — To ease the food situation in the State, H. H. the Maharaja Saheb donated a sum of Rs. 10,50,000 to be spent on measures of relief as shown below :—

Rs.

- (i) 2,00,000 to start 200 more cheap grain shops in the districts.
- (ii) 3,60,000 for 10% rebate to Government servants purchasing from the cheap grain shops.
- (iii) 2,00,000 to give relief to the labourers in the necessitous areas.
- (iv) 2,00,000 for the relief of the lower middle classes.
- (v) 50,000 relief to the old, infirm and incapacables.
- (vi) 10,000 to public institutions like maternity and child welfare league, etc.

205. OUTSIDE AREAS — Prompt measures were taken to open more cheap grain shops in the districts. The following table shows the work done in this respect :—

District	Number of shops	Number of persons served	Grains sold and price	
			Bengal maunds	Price Rs.
Baroda ...	63	1,18,741	24,187	2,69,416
Mehsana ...	71	2,00,054	89,608	8,24,594
Navsari ...	36	70,200	50,287	8,40,875
Amreli ...	22	39,476	14,588	99,914
Okha ...	12	29,576	10,968	53,390
Total ...	204	4,58,047	1,89,638	20,88,189

The shops which were in existence before the scheme shown above was put into operation were run undisturbed. There were 33 Government shops and 41 private shops serving respectively 3,18,704 and 1,02,921 members of the families and the card-holders.

206. EMPLOYERS' SHOPS — Under the Grain shops Order 1943 the employers of every factory are required to open a grain shop at the place of employment for the supply of food stuffs to the employees

and their dependents. The number of such shops was 40. The purchases, sales etc., in these shops were as shown below :—

(Figures in Bengal maunds)

Item	Rice	Bajri	Dal	Wheat	Juvar	Kathol
Stock in the beginning of the year.	9,496	18,628	3,187	13,576	640	461
Purchases.	12,977	45,723	3,533	22,428	13,070	1,807
Sales.	16,898	60,274	4,608	29,704	11,572	932
Stock in balance at the end of the year.	5,575	4,077	2,112	6,300	2,138	1,336

Food grains in these shops are supplied at the controlled prices. Nearly 1,27,187 labourers and their dependents took advantage of these shops.

Other relief

207. NECESSITOUS AREAS — In Baroda district, road repair and building works were started to give relief to the poor and backward areas. Labourers employed on the work were given grains at prices reduced by a rupee per kacha maund. In Amreli district, labourers were employed on road repair works. They were paid their wages according to current rates.

208. RELIEF TO LOWER MIDDLE CLASS PEOPLE — Lower middle class people having an income of Rs. 50 a month and below were given food grains at prices lower than the cost price. The number of persons that took advantage of this benefit was 23,671 and the relief obtained by them amounted to Rs. 3,743.

209. GRATUITOUS RELIEF — Gratuitous relief in kind was given to the old and infirm people in all the districts. Food grains worth about Rs. 8,475 were distributed among 3,960 persons.

210. RELIEF TO PEOPLE OF PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS — Relief was given to women and children who came to the institutions such as Anath Ashrams, industrial or maternity homes, etc. The number of persons who obtained such relief was 136 and the amount of relief obtained by them was Rs. 724.

211. SUGAR RATIONING — The quota of sugar allotted by the Sugar Controller of India was raised to 15,000 tons for the year commencing from 1-12-1943. An additional quantity of 1,000 tons was also made available during the year.

The quantity of sugar allotted to the State was requisitioned from factories assigned by the Sugar Controller of India, and supplied to the districts for distribution under the scheme of rationing adopted from February 1943.

The rates at which sugar was supplied to the wholesale dealers and retailers were fixed according to the standard laid down by the Sugar Controller of India. The Baroda Government levied a temporary excise duty of Re. 0-13-0 per standard maund, on sugar on the same lines as in British India from 16-11-43. Prices of sugar were raised by the same amount. The rates for the wholesale dealers varied from Rs. 16-5-0 to Rs. 17-13-0 per standard maund and those for the retailers remained between Rs. 16-13-0 and Rs. 18-5-0 per standard maund. The highest rate was Re. 0-3-9 per lb.

212. GUL CONTROL — Gul control order was promulgated on 7-12-43. The order banned all imports of gul into Baroda State from the Karnatic district and all the Deccan States except Kolhapur.

The Gul Controller for India allotted a quota of 14,000 tons to be imported from United Provinces and the Kolhapur State. Most of the quota was obtained and sold at controlled rates.

213. STANDARD CLOTH — The Baroda Government continued to participate in the standard cloth scheme introduced by the Government of India. The State Advisory Committee constituted for supervision over the distribution arrangements continued to function during the year. 21,80,468 yards of cloth were received of which 15,84,701 yards were sold.

214. DIESEL OIL — Diesel oil is supplied on the basis of 1941 supplies less 25% to all consumers except priority customers for whom special quotas were fixed by the Controller of Supplies, Bombay. The total quantity of oil received was 1,46,142 units, of which 1,15,733 units were supplied to the industrial works, 24,081 units to agriculturists and 6,328 units to other institutions.

215. KEROSENE OIL — Kerosene oil is supplied on the basis of 1941 supplies less the percentage cut prescribed by the Government of India. The total quantity of kerosene oil received in the State was 7,15,115 gallons out of which 3,63,685 gallons were distributed in towns and 3,51,430 gallons in villages.

CHAPTER XIII

COMMEMORATION FUNDS

Diamond Jubilee Trust Fund

216. **OBJECT** — The main object of the Diamond Jubilee Commemoration Fund, which represents the interest on rupees one crore endowed by His Highness the late Maharaja Sir Sayajirao III is to assist in the improvement of village life in all its aspects — economic, social and cultural.

217. **TRUST BOARD** — To administer the Trust, a board of 19 members is constituted. Of these, 11 are ex-officio members, 4 represent the district local boards, 2 represent the Dharasabha and 2 are nominated from the backward classes and areas. The Dewan presides over the board and a Member of the Government works as Secretary.

218. **PROGRAMME OF WORKS** — A long term programme has been adopted and grouped under three heads :—

- (a) works of public utility in individual villages,
- (b) schemes for backward areas and classes, and
- (c) head-quarter schemes, benefiting large areas or sections of the rural population.

For village works, a ten year programme (beginning from 1937-38 to 1946-47) was sanctioned in 1938-39 after a careful survey. Every village has been allotted a grant for the works it needed most, determined in consultation with the village panchayat. Such works absorb Rs. 2.40 lakhs every year. The special works sanctioned for the backward classes and areas and the head-quarter schemes absorb half a lakh of rupees each.

219. **RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE** — The receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 17.63 lakhs. The expenditure on village works was Rs. 2.89 lakhs, on schemes for backward areas and classes Rs. 0.55 lakh, and on head-quarter schemes Rs. 0.38 lakh. Rs. 0.18 lakh were spent on miscellaneous items and establishment etc. Rs. 0.50 lakh were handed over to the Special Officer for the benefit of the Attached Areas, as per message of His Highness the Maharaja Sahib.

An amount of Rs. 10.50 lakhs was invested in Government Securities.

The total expenditure including deposits and advances amounted to Rs. 15.35 lakhs. The balance at the end of the year was Rs. 2.28 lakhs.

220. VILLAGE WORKS — Out of 859 works which were to be executed according to the programme, 227 works were completed during the year as against 167 in the preceding year. 270 works were in progress and 362 could not be taken up. That less number of works were completed, was due to war conditions.

221. SCHEMES FOR BACKWARD CLASSES AND AREAS — During the year Rs. 0.55 lakh were spent on schemes for the development of the backward classes and areas. Prominent among the schemes were the following :—

- (1) The D. J. Thakarda boarding school at Deodarda in Patan taluka.
- (2) The D. J. school for backward classes at Dabhoi.
- (3) The D. J. Antyaja boarding house, Vyara.
- (4) Kosamba Village Reconstruction Centre — The Centre works under a Central Advisory Board in 35 villages round about Kosamba. The main activities of the Centre are agriculture, horticulture, cottage industries, cooperation and rural health.
- (5) Supply of seeds and implements at concession rates to farmers of backward classes and areas.

Grants were given to institutions of backward classes. Eleven new libraries were opened in backward villages.

222. HEAD-QUARTER SCHEMES — Some of the important schemes are :—

- (1) Health unit scheme.
- (2) Literacy Campaign.
- (3) Soil Conservation.
- (+) Classes of leather-works, wood engraving, calico printing and lacquer works conducted by the Diamond Jubilee Cottage Industries Institute, Baroda.

Among other schemes financed from the Trust Fund were poultry industries, pest control, film publicity and Shree Sayaji Gram Vikas Mala.

Shree Sayajirao III Memorial Trust Fund

223. **ORIGIN AND OBJECT** — To perpetuate the revered memory of His Highness the late Maharaja Sir Sayajirao III, a sum of rupees one crore was endowed by His Highness the Maharaja on the occasion of his accession to the throne in February 1939. The fund is intended to finance schemes benefiting all sections of the population without any distinction of caste or creed.

224. **RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE** — The balance at the end of the last year was Rs. 0.17 lakh. Rs. 3.50 lakhs were received during the year as income of this fund. Rs. 0.46 lakh were received as interest on Government Securities etc. making the total receipts Rs. 4.13 lakhs. During the year the total expenditure was Rs. 0.46 lakh and Rs. 3.37 lakhs were invested in Government Securities of the face value of Rs. 3.42 lakhs. The balance at the end of the year was Rs. 0.30 lakh.

225. **SANCTIONED SCHEMES** — The utilization of this fund awaits the cessation of hostilities. Four schemes, however, have been sanctioned so far. A short account of these schemes is given below:—

- (i) An annual endowment of Rs. 21,000 was made to the Benares Hindu University for establishing a chair to be called "The Sayajirao Chair of Indian Culture and Civilization." The purpose of the donation is defined as follows:—

"The donor believes, with his illustrious predecessor, that there is a distinct type of thought and life in India which has been enduring through the centuries and which is India's greatest contribution to the world; in it, the Hindus and the Moslem, the Christian and the Parsee find common ground. It will be the main function of the Professor and the fellows to promote the cultural unity of India, by means of scholarly publications and lectures. Such publications shall be included in the Sayajirao Gaekwad Series to be inaugurated as a part of this foundation."

Dr. Sir Radhakrishnan works as Sir Sayajirao Professor of Indian Culture and Civilization. Messrs. Kamlesh Ghosh, Arwind U. Vasavada and P. Nagarajarao — the three fellows of the previous year — continued research work on different subjects. Sir Radhakrishnan delivered lectures at Benares, Baroda, Calcutta and Hyderabad on matters relating to Indian Culture and Civilization. He also gave a series of lectures at important Universities and academic centres of China, which will be published under the title 'India and China.'

- (ii) To supplement the efforts made from "Shree Maharani Shantadevi Trust Fund" for medical aid to the women and children of the State, a grant of Rs. 10,000 a year is sanctioned from the Memorial Fund. This amount was paid during the year.
- (iii) An amount of Rs. 15,000 (to be raised upto Rs. 30,000 if required) is earmarked for the award of Sir Sayajirao Memorial Scholarships to the sons of Sardars, assamdars, etc. In all 64 scholarships amounting to Rs. 13,705 were awarded during the year. Out of these, 22 were for higher education, 38 for secondary education and 4 for education at the Raj Kumar College, Rajkot.
- (iv) Besides the above, every year one student obtaining his B. Sc. degree from the Baroda College, is awarded a scholarship of Rs. 30 per month for study of Chemical Engineering and Textile Chemistry. One more scholarship was sanctioned by Government during this year. Rs. 720 were spent for these scholarships during the year.

226. FUTURE PROGRAMME — Funds are being accumulated from this Trust for an Engineering College — in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering — to be opened after the war and for an institute for training in B. Sc. (Tech.) in Weaving Technology.

Diamond Jubilee People's Village Uplift Fund

227. DIAMOND JUBILEE PEOPLE'S VILLAGE UPLIFT FUND — The people of the State collected this fund to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of His Highness the late Maharaja Sir Sayajirao III. The total fund amounts to Rs. 7.59 lakhs. The yearly income of interest on this fund is Rs. 26,875.

The income is utilized for awarding scholarships to bonafide agriculturists for obtaining practical instruction in agriculture, horticulture and subsidiary occupations like leather tanning, paper making, tailoring, etc. Substantial amount is also spent each year for encouraging khaddar industry in the State.

During the year scholarships amounting to Rs. 2,723 were awarded to 72 candidates for training in agriculture. 345 persons were taken on a visit to places of agriculture interest. For training in cottage industries scholarships worth Rs. 1,940 were awarded to 59 candidates.

To encourage the weaving industry, 20 institutions which produced khadi, were given grants of Rs. 9,452 and Rs. 91 were spent in giving instruments for spinning etc. at concession rates.

Selected young women from rural areas are trained in the Maharani Chinnabai Industrial Home for Women in cottage industries and in rural problems. During the year 19 young women were admitted in this class, out of which 5 women left the class and the remaining 14 women passed the test at the end of the training. These women are given scholarships to meet their expenses. A boarding house is maintained for their benefit under the supervision of a matron. The expenditure on this scheme was Rs. 5,275.

The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 19,481 and Rs. 13,227 were in balance at the end of the year.

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

District Local Boards

228. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE — The income of local boards increased from Rs. 8.57 lakhs to Rs. 9.01 lakhs. The expenditure decreased from Rs. 8.43 lakhs to Rs. 7.95 lakhs.

229. GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTION TO VILLAGE PANCHAYATS — To encourage village panchayats to undertake works of public utility of a permanent nature, the Government and the prant panchayats contribute half the cost and the other half is borne by the village panchayats.

230. IMPORTANT ACTIVITIES — In addition to providing water supply and means of communication, the prant panchayats have done various other works of public utility of which the following deserve mention :—

- (i) *Anti-malarial measures* — Anti-malarial campaigns were carried on by Navsari, Mehsana, Baroda and Amreli prant panchayats. On account of paucity and dearth of quinine, Ayurvedic fever tablets were distributed in villages. Potassium Permanganate was also distributed in the district for purification of drinking water.
- (ii) *Guinea worm* — Sankheda taluka in Baroda district was selected for intensive work for eradication of guinea worm. Schemes were also in operation in Patan, Chanasma and Harij talukas.
- (iii) *Tree plantation* — The Mehsana and Amreli boards attended specially to tree planting.

Exemption from contributions for primary education and veterinary hospitals

231. EXEMPTION FROM CONTRIBUTIONS — Local cess of one anna in a rupee of land revenue is the main source of income of the panchayats. Out of this, the prant panchayats were required to contribute 4 pies towards primary education and one pie towards

veterinary hospitals. His Highness the Maharaja Saheb was graciously pleased, during the year under report, to grant exemption to prant panchayats from the payment of above levies. This will now result in augmenting the resources of these bodies by nearly three lakhs of rupees.

Baroda City Municipality

232. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE — The income of the municipality was Rs. 12·87 lakhs as against Rs. 11·97 lakhs in the preceding year and the expenditure Rs. 13·91 lakhs as against Rs. 11·21 lakhs in the previous year.

The incidence of taxation per head rose from Rs. 6-3-3 to Rs. 6-8-6.

233. HEALTH — The general health of the city was good. There was no epidemic of any kind. The anti-malarial campaign was usefully continued as usual.

234. WORKS OF PUBLIC UTILITY — Among the important works undertaken during the year, the following deserve mention:—

- (i) The municipality provided Rs. 3,50,000 for opening cheap grain shops for the poor, in the Baroda city. Five such shops were opened during the year. The municipality also continued to conduct two cheap grain shops for municipal employees and another for municipal Harijan servants.
- (ii) Propaganda for popularising vaccination against small-pox and inoculation against typhoid was conducted. Booklets on the prevention of tuberculosis were distributed. Anti-typhoid (T. A. B.) vaccines were supplied free of charge to doctors. Disinfectants such as phynile, etc., are supplied freely to patients' houses.

'A' Class Municipalities

235. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE — The total income of these municipalities was Rs. 7·59 lakhs as against Rs. 8·35 lakhs in the preceding year. The expenditure increased from Rs. 7·39 lakhs in the preceding year to Rs. 10·4 lakhs, mainly due to increased expenditure under various items such as drainage, water supply and dearness allowance to the staff.

236. INCIDENCE OF TAXATION — The incidence of taxation per head of the population was highest at Navsari being Rs. 4-8-11 and lowest at Sidhpur being Rs. 1-10-1.

237. **ANTI-MALARIAL CAMPAIGN** -- The Navsari, Gandevi, Billimora municipalities continued their anti-malarial programme with good results. Billimora and Gandevi municipalities continued rat destruction campaign also.

238. **GENERAL** — Under the supervision of the Agriculture department two special training classes at Baroda and Patan were conducted for about two months by the State Bio-Chemist, to train the sanitary inspectors of municipalities in the method of composting town refuse into manure.

'B' Class Municipalities

239. **INCOME AND EXPENDITURE** — The total income of the 'B' class municipalities increased from Rs. 3.72 lakhs to 5.40 lakhs which is partly due to increased taxation and contribution grant. The expenditure was Rs. 5.79 lakhs as against 4.02 lakhs in the preceding year.

240. **INCIDENCE OF TAXATION** — The incidence of taxation per head of the population was Rs. 1-2-1 in the Baroda district, Rs. 1-10-8 in the Mehsana district, Rs. 1-5-7 in the Navsari district, Rs. 1-3-11 in the Amreli district and Rs. 1-1-9 in the Okhamandal district.

241. **ANTI-MALARIAL CAMPAIGN** — The Vyara, Songadh and Kathore municipalities in the Navsari district and the Kodinar municipality in the Amreli district continued the anti-malarial campaign.

CHAPTER XV

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LEGISLATION

The working of social Legislation

(1) Child Marriage Prevention Act

2+2. LEGISLATION — This legislation was first enacted in 1904. Persons responsible for the marriage of a boy under 16 or of a girl under 12 years were made liable to punishment of fine only. In the beginning this law was administered leniently but its working was gradually stiffened. In spite of occasional set-backs the law was exercising steady pressure and educating public opinion. In 1926, the Government reviewed the working of the legislation and came to the conclusion that public opinion had advanced enough to support an extension of the scope of the Act. The upward limit of fine was considerably raised, the marriage of a child under eight years was declared void and rendered liable to punishment with imprisonment. Even the priest officiating at child marriages was brought within the scope of the penal provisions. As a result of this amendment marriages of children under eight years fell from .12 per cent. in 1929-30 to .02 in 1936-37. This percentage has remained steady till now. In 1932, the marriageable age for boys was raised to 18 and for girls to 14.

The number of child marriages during the last ten years is given below :—

Year	Number of cases of child marriages (with arrears)
1943-44	3,120
1942-43	3,038
1941-42	3,952
1940-41	4,301
1939-40	3,545
1938-39	2,054
1937-38	3,306
1936-37	4,637
1935-36	4,624
1934-35	3,436

The increase in the number of child marriages from the years 1934-35 may be attributed to the amendment of 1932 by which the

marriageable age was raised to 18 for boys and 14 for girls. This number had, however gone down during 1937-38. On the recommendation of the State Legislative Assembly, the punishment for all child marriages was enhanced, in December 1937, to simple imprisonment up to one month or fine up to Rs. 1,000 or both. There was a slight increase in the number of child marriages during the year under report.

243. STATISTICS OF WORKING OF THE ACT — The following tables give the statistics of the working of the Act during the year:—

I. Applications for exemption and offences against the Act

Year	Applications for exemptions		Offences against the Act				Percentage of fines of more than Rs. 10
	Number of applications	Percentage of applications rejected	Number of cases filed with arrears	Number of cases disposed of	Number of persons convicted	Percentage of convictions	
1943-44 ...	24	12·5	3,120	2,968	5,464	84·7	65·6
1942-43 ...	24	20·8	3,038	2,851	4,881	68·9	59·3

II. Percentage of persons granted exemptions according to castes

Year	Brahmins	Kshatriyas	Banias	Rabaris	Artisans	Kolis	Kunbis	Mahomedans	Others
1943-44 ...	14·3	0	14·3	0	4·8	14·3	28·5	4·8	19·0
1942-43 ...	10·5	0	15·8	0	15·8	15·8	15·8	0	26·3

III. Percentage of convictions according to castes

Year	Brahmins	Kshatriyas	Banias	Artisans	Kolis	Kunbis	Dheds and Bhangs	Purohits	Others
1943-44 ...	2·6	2·0	0·6	2·6	17·8	19·8	18·5	24·1	12·0
1942-43 ...	3·5	1·8	0·3	2·4	13·9	18·3	18·0	20·9	20·9

IV. Child marriages allowed or penalised by courts and other marriages

Year	Child marriages		Other marriages	Total number of marriages	Percentage of child marriages to the total number
	Allowed by Courts	Penalised by Courts			
1943-44 ...	21	2,504	21,823	24,348	12.3
1942-43 ...	19	2,346	20,819	23,184	12.2

V. The following table shows the castes and communities in which child marriages took place during the year and the previous year

Serial No.	Name of caste	Number of persons convicted	
		1943-44	1942-43
1	Brahmin ...	144	175
2	Rajput ...	107	92
3	Bania ...	32	16
4	Kunbi ...	1,079	894
5	Soni, Suthar, Luhar ...	143	119
6	Musalman ...	87	57
7	Koli, Thakarda, Baria and Anjana ...	973	680
8	Rabari, Bharvad ...	77	248
9	Machhi ...	10	9
10	Bhil ...	92	56
11	Kaliparaj ...	9	13
12	Bava, Beragi, etc. ...	14	33
13	Vagri ...	77	78
14	Dbad and Bhangri ...	1,012	821
15	Others ...	294	569
Total ...		4,150	3,860

Note:—1,314 Purohits or priests officiating at marriages were fined as abettors as against 1,021 during the previous year.

VI. The following table shows the proportion of marriages of children below 8 years to the total number

Number of cases of child marriages below 8 years	Total number of cases of child marriages disposed of	Proportion of cases of child marriages below 8 years to the total number of cases of child marriages
16	2,968	1 in 187

VII. The following table shows the number of cases of child marriages in different districts during the year under report

Name of the District	Number of cases of child marriages	
	1943-44 (with arrears)	1942-43 (with arrears)
Baroda District ...	1,011	709
Mehsana District ...	1,809	2,157
Navsari District ...	54	52
Amreli District ...	246	120
Total ...	3,120	3,038

VIII. The following table shows the nature of punishment awarded to persons under the Child Marriage Prevention Act and the total amount of fine imposed

Number of persons sentenced only to imprisonment	Number of persons sentenced to imprisonment and fine	Number of persons sentenced to fine only	Total amount of fines imposed
12	32	5,420	89,270- 0- 0

244. OBSERVATIONS — The Act has been in force for the last 40 years. Although the evil has not been completely eradicated, public opinion against it has grown steadily. The harmful custom persists because certain economic and social factors provide congenial conditions. Some of these are:—

- (i) Marriage expenditure is reduced if two or three boys or girls of the same family are married at one time.
- (ii) The division into castes and sub-castes and “Gols” in most communities reduced the number of eligible parties and an opportunity to get a desirable party is not missed even though the provisions of the Act may have to be contravened.

However, spread of education and social progress coupled with the strict enforcement of the law by the courts will assist in the achievement of the object of the legislation. The average age of marriage has both in the case of boys and girls risen by about 5 years since 1904.

(2) Hindu Divorce Law

245. HINDU DIVORCE LAW — Hindu Law does not allow divorce except in certain communities where it is permitted by custom. To remove the disability in this respect of the remaining castes, the Hindu Divorce Act was passed in 1931. Provision has been made in the law for

- (i) divorce,
- (ii) judicial separation,
- (iii) separate residence,
- (iv) nullity of marriage, and
- (v) restitution of conjugal rights.

The grounds on which relief can be sought are cruelty, desertion, adultery, drunkenness, impotency and incompatibility of temperament. Relief on these grounds is available to all Hindus.

The following figures show the extent to which advantage was taken of this law :—

Year	Suits for					Suits by persons in whose caste divorce is not allowed by custom
	Divorce	Judicial separation	Separate residence	Nullity of marriage	Restitution of conjugal rights	
1943-44	65	3	3	...	...	7
1942-43	40	2	1	...	...	...
1941-42	37	2	2	1	...	3
1940-41	32	1	1	3	...	6
1939-40	44	3	...	1	2	6
1938-39	38	3	1	...	...	6
1937-38	45	1	2	...	3	5
1936-37	44	4	...	...	3	4
1935-36	30	5	...	...	4	
1934-35	45	...	...	...	6	1
1933-34	58	1	1	...	4	1
1932-33	29	3	...	...	8	1
1931-32	35	4	...	...	8	1

The number of suits by persons belonging to castes in which custom does not allow divorce was seven this year as against three in the last year.

246. NATURE OF SUITS FILED — The following table shows the grounds on which relief was claimed and the relief sought in suits filed under the law during the year under report:—

Relief sought	No. of suits	Grounds
Divorce	1	Cruelty by husband.
	25	Cruelty and desertion by husband.
	10	Cruelty, desertion and habitual drunkenness of husband.
		Cruelty, desertion and husband taking another wife.
	2	Cruelty and false charge of unchastity.
	4	Desertion by husband.
	4	Impotency of husband.
	1	Cruelty and desertion by wife.
	1	Misbehaviour and desertion by wife.
	3	Unchastity of and unnecessary harassment by wife.
	6	Desertion by wife.
	<hr/> 65	
Judicial separation..	0	Cruelty and desertion by husband.
	3	Desertion and husband taking another wife.
Separate residence..		Cruelty and desertion by husband.
		Cruelty, desertion and the husband taking another wife.
Nullity of marriage.		Concealing the fact of having a former wife at the time of marriage.
Grand Total ..	71	

Note:—The main grounds on which divorce is sought are cruelty and desertion.

247. DETAILS OF SUITS BY PERSONS OF HIGHER CASTES — Of the suits filed under the law during the year, in seven cases the parties belonged to castes in which custom does not allow a divorce. In three of them, Bania women sued their husbands for separate residence on grounds of cruelty and desertion and on the basis that the husband took another wife, in two of them Brahmins sued their wives for divorce on the ground of desertion; and in the remaining two, suits were filed by Bania males for divorce on the ground of desertion. Out of these 7, three cases were disposed of. In one, the decree for divorce was passed and in the other two, parties came to amicable settlements.

(3) Legislation regarding the rights of Hindu women

248. HINDU LAW AMENDED IN 1933-34 — In November 1933, the Code of Hindu Law was amended so as to widen the rights of Hindu women in matters of inheritance and rights to property.

Under the amended Law,

- (a) the widow of a co-parcener takes the place of her husband as a co-parcener in the joint family i. e. she becomes a joint owner of the family property with a right to ask for partition;
- (b) she becomes an absolute owner of property, which she acquires either by partition or inheritance, to the extent of property worth Rs. 12,000 and retains her limited interest in the surplus if there be any;
- (c) a widow can inherit her husband's exclusive property along with her sons obtaining a share equal to that of a son;
- (d) where a widow acquires limited interest in property, that interest has been liberalised by allowing her to alienate the property for endowing educational institutions and charitable purposes and by restricting the right to challenge her alienations to a specified number of reversioners;
- (e) an unmarried daughter can claim a share in the family property equal to $\frac{1}{4}$ of a son's share and can have it separated;
- (f) a married but widowed daughter can claim maintenance from her father's family property under certain circumstances;
- (g) a widowed daughter-in-law has been given a place in the list of heirs after the mother of the deceased father-in-law;
- (h) sons of a predeceased daughter can claim inheritance with living daughters.

249. POSITION OF HINDU WOMEN IMPROVED — These reforms have considerably improved the status and material position of women in Hindu families. Suits by widow co-parceners are being instituted for partition of their share in the joint property. In suits by reversioners to challenge alienations by widows the defence is freely set up of possession of absolute interest in the property alienated. The right to challenge such alienation being now given only to a restricted

class of reversioners, such suits are bound to decrease. It is doubtful if women in all strata of Hindu society are as yet conscious of their new rights under the reformed law. The knowledge is sure to spread as years go by and, whether women in all cases insist on these rights or not, the knowledge that they possess such rights will greatly improve their position *vis a vis* the male members of their families.

250. SUITS INVOLVING RIGHTS OF HINDU WOMEN — Four suits were filed during the year under report, to enforce rights conferred on Hindu women by the amended law. In all suits the plaintiffs, as Hindu widows, claimed shares in the joint family property as co-parceners. Of these, one ended in compromise and the remaining three are pending.

251. BIGAMY BY HINDU HUSBAND — In April 1942, Section 116 of the Code of Hindu Law was amended to the effect that the re-marriage of a husband during the life time of his first wife was illegal. No complaint was filed during the year under report.

(4) Special Marriage Act

252. SPECIAL MARRIAGE ACT — The Special Marriage Act came into force in the State in 1908. In British India the parties to an inter-marriage between persons of different communities had to declare that they did not belong to the Christian, Jewish, Hindu, Mahomedan, Parsi, Buddhist, Sikh or Jain religion. It was not necessary under the Baroda Act to make any such declaration. British Indian enactment was brought into line with the Baroda Act in 1923. Nine marriages under the Act were registered during the year. In all marriages both the parties were Hindus. Not less than 80 marriages took place under the Act since it came into force. Love often disregards the barriers set up by religion or social custom and the Act is intended to help persons who intend to marry in defiance of these barriers and yet retain their religion.

(5) The Caste Tyranny Removal Act

253. THE CASTE TYRANNY REMOVAL ACT — In Gujarat numerous customs restrictive of individual liberty persist. There are still customs which penalise foreign travel, restrict marriage in certain castes to "Gols" which are small groups within the caste or even sub-caste, which force people to incur heavy expenditure on occasions like marriage, death etc. Enlightened persons have long felt the tyranny of such customs but were helpless. The Caste Tyranny Removal Act was passed in 1933 to meet this evil. It empowers the Courts to punish persons who penalise those who defy these tyrannous customs.

254. CASES UNDER THE ACT — The number of complaints filed since the passing of the Act are given below:—

1943-44	3
1942-43	6
1941-42	4
1940-41	9
1939-40	7
1938-39	5
1937-38	8
1936-37	12
1935-36	10
1934-35	11

Three cases were filed before the Courts during the year. Out of these, one resulted in discharge as the allegations about excommunication were not proved.

255. OBSERVATIONS — People are generally reluctant to seek help of this Act as such a step embitters their relations with the leaders of the caste. Apart from the result of cases filed in the courts, the existence of the Act and the fact that leaders of castes are liable to be hauled up before a court have proved a salutary check on the arbitrary exercise of the power of excommunication. The people of the caste are unwilling to depose against the caste leaders, and complainants find it very difficult to prove even the fact of excommunication.

(6) Agriculturists' Debt Regulation Act

256. AGRICULTURISTS' DEBT REGULATION ACT — The Agriculturists' Debt Regulation Act came into force on 26th December 1935. This Act is intended to give relief to agriculturists involved in debts with due regard to the interests of creditors. It enables courts,

- (a) to examine the history of the whole debt, re-open transactions and to fix the amount due on equitable considerations; and
- (b) to decree repayment in convenient instalments.

257. OBJECT — The legislation was enacted to give protection to the smaller agriculturists as, owing to the fall in prices, the real burden on them had nearly doubled. Relief is to be given only to agriculturists whose income from lands is Rs. 750 a year or below. Where an agriculturist derives income from sources other than agriculture, such income should not exceed one-third of his total income and the total income itself from all sources should be Rs. 750 or below a year.

258. SUITS DISPOSED OF DURING THE YEAR — 3,641 suits under the Act were disposed of during the year. 1,468 of them were

compromised. The Courts reduced the principal amount claimed in 275 suits and the amount of interest in 216 suits. Instalments were decreed in 364 suits. Court-fees amounting to Rs. 64,309-6-0 were refunded to the parties. About 4,472 agriculturists obtained relief under the Act during the year. The following table shows the number of agriculturists of different communities who were benefited by the provisions of the Act.

Community	Number of persons receiving relief	Community	Number of persons receiving relief
Patidar ...	1,155	Brahmin ...	63
Koli ...	162	Bania ...	32
Thakarda ...	265	Barot ...	66
Baria ...	484	Kumbhar ...	47
Mahomedan ...	153	Waghri ...	12
Rajput ...	285	Gosai, Bava ...	10
Dhed ...	123	Others ...	1,615

Total 4,472

The following table will show the file, disposal and arrears of suits under the Act during the year under report

Arrears	File	Total	Disposal	Pending
1,188	3,880	5,068	3,641	1,427

The following table shows the modes of disposal :—

Year	No. of suits in which reduction was made in the capital	No. of suits in which reduction was made in interest	No. of suits in which instalments were allowed	No. of suits disposed of by Raji-nama and compromise	No. of suits disposed of otherwise	Amount of reduction in debt Rs.
1943-44	275	216	364	1,468	1,318	18,711- 3-1
1942-43	376	233	483	1,544	1,569	24,221-15-0

Year	Amount of reduction made in interest Rs.	Total amount claimed in suits disposed of Rs.	Amount of court-fees refunded Rs.
1943-44	8,745- 6-2	15,99,654- 3-2	64,309- 6- 0
1942-43	11,795-15-2	12,05,240-10-5	73,680-10-11

(7) Sanyas Diksha Restraint Act

259. **SANYAS DIKSHA RESTRAINT ACT** — The Sanyas Diksha Restraint Act which came into force on 9th November 1933, prohibits the initiation of minors into Hindu and Jain orders of asceticism. The Act was mainly intended to remedy the grievance of Jains that such initiation of children (Diksha) was detrimental to their interests as well as to the institution of Sanyas. The Act declares such initiation void and of no effect on legal rights and liabilities and makes it punishable with imprisonment up to one year and fine up to Rs. 500. The preventive value of the Act is evidenced by the fact that no complaint has been filed for its breach since the passing of the Act.

Economic Legislation

260. **ECONOMIC LEGISLATION** — The economic legislation in the State falls under (1) tenancy, (2) debt and (3) protection of backward classes and comprises the following Acts:—

- (1) The Rent Regulation Act, 1934.
- (2) The Ankadia Villages Tenants Act, 1934.
- (3) The Debt Conciliation Act, 1936.
- (4) The Backward Classes Land Protection Act, 1938.

The working of these Acts is described below:—

(i) The Rent Regulation Act

261. **THE RENT REGULATION ACT** — The Act is applied to Raniparaj people of Sankheda mahal and 30 villages of Tilakwada peta-mahal in the Baroda district, and Mahuva, Vyara, Songadh and Mangrol talukas of the Navsari district, where backward Raniparaj people predominate as cultivators. Cases under the Act are conducted by the Vibhag Naib Subas.

The following table shows the cases filed and disposed of during the year:—

Type of cases	1943-44					1942-43				
	Arrears	Cases recd.	Total	Disposal	Arrears	Arrears	Cases recd.	Total	Disposal	Arrears
BY TENANTS										
1. Ejectment of tenants ...	2	91	93	92	1	...	121	121	119	2
2. Modification of rent ...	43	84	127	120	7	14	244	258	215	43
3. Fixing of rent ...	...	436	436	427	9	5	89	94	94	...
Total ...	45	611	656	639	17	19	454	473	428	45
BY LAND HOLDERS										
4. Restoration of possession of land.	23	237	260	235	25	3	96	99	76	23
5. Suits for recovery of arrears of rent.	26	120	146	128	18	31	301	332	306	26
Total ...	49	357	406	363	43	34	397	431	382	49

(ii) The Ankadia Villages' Tenants' Act

262. THE ANKADIA VILLAGES' TENANTS' ACT — To safeguard the interests of tenants in the Thakarati Ankadia villages and to regulate the relations between the Ankadedars of such villages and their tenants, the Ankadia Villages' Tenants' Act was brought into force in 1934. This Act is applicable to 33 villages of Baroda, Mehsana and Amreli districts. Cases under this Act are conducted by the Naib Subas. The Sar Suba is the appellate authority. No cases were filed in Mehsana and Amreli districts, while 22 cases were received in the Baroda district. Out of these 22 cases, 9 cases were filed for the recovery of arrears and restoration of possession and 13 cases for realisation of rent by Ankadedars.

(iii) The Debt Conciliation Act

263. THE DEBT CONCILIATION ACT — The primary object of this legislation is to reduce agricultural indebtedness through conciliation. The following table shows the number of talukas in each district to which the Act has been applied together with the number of Debt Conciliation Boards :—

District	Name of the board	Talukas under the boards
Baroda ...	Baroda Vibhag	Karjan, Padra and Sinor.
	Dabhoi Vibhag	Dabhoi, Sankheda, Waghodia and Tilakwada.
Mehsana ...	Patan Vibhag	Patan, Harij and Chanasma.
Navsari ...	Navsari Vibhag	Navsari, Gandevi.
	Vyara Vibhag	Vyara, Songadh, Mahuva.
	Kamrej Vibhag	Kamrej, Palsana, Mangrol.
Amreli ...	Amreli Vibhag	Amreli.
	Kodinar Vibhag	Kodinar, Khambha and Dhari.

The boards are presided over by the Naib Suba except in the case of the Dhari taluka, where a retired State officer is appointed by Government to work as president. The president is assisted by three to nine members nominated from the public of the respective taluka. Where there is a Land Mortgage Bank, one of the directors of the Bank serves on the board.

This Act is applicable to agriculturists whose income does not exceed Rs. 1,500 and whose income from agriculture is not less than two-thirds of their total income. The debt for which conciliation is sought should be not less than Rs. 100 and not more than Rs. 25,000.

During the year under report the conciliation boards dealt with 173 cases with the aggregate claims for Rs. 2,28,488. Conciliation in 33 cases with the claim for Rs. 68,718 was effected for Rs. 42,909 or 63% of the claim.

(iv) The Backward Classes Land Protection Act

264. THE BACKWARD CLASSES LAND PROTECTION ACT — The Raniparaj and other backward classes, owing to their poverty and ignorance, easily fall into debt and are steadily ousted from their lands by money-lenders. In order to prevent this, the Act has been applied to Sankheda, Tilakwada, Dabhoi and Waghodia talukas of the Baroda district and Songadh, Vyara, Mahuva and Mangrol talukas of the Navsari district. The Act prohibits alienation of lands of the backward classes, except for one year's lease, without the permission of Vibhag Naib Suba. Land alienated without such a permission is restored to the backward class alienor by the Naib Suba. The following table shows the work done under this Act:—

District	Arrears at the end of 1942-43	New cases received during 1943-44	Total	Disposal			Arrears
				Allowed	Dis- allowed	Total	
Baroda ...	1	89	90	90	...	90	...
Navsari ...	...	62	62	22	39	61	1
Total ...	1	151	152	112	39	151	1

CHAPTER XVI

AGRICULTURE

265. ACTIVITIES OF THE DEPARTMENT — The activities of the department consist of

A. Research :—

- (a) Plant breeding, Plant pathology and Entomology.
- (b) Agricultural Chemistry.

B. Agriculture :—

- (a) Farms and experiments.
 - (b) Propaganda and Extension.
 - (c) Schemes.
 - (d) Seed supply organisation.
- C. Soil Conservation.**
- D. Animal, husbandry veterinary relief**
- E. Poultry development.**
- F. Horticulture.**
- G. Agricultural engineering.**
- H. Marketing.**

A. Research

266. COTTON ROOT ROT — Karkhadi bulks and fresh selections were tried in special lay outs to test their resistance to this disease and promising progenies were selected for further trials. Field experiments to study the effects of different rotations on the root rot of cotton were continued. Selection work on Til, Bajra, Navsari Bunch of ground-nuts was also continued.

267. PATHOLOGICAL RESEARCH ON OTHER CROPS — Experiments on soft rot of ginger were continued. Ammonium sulphate gives definite increase in yields. Rotational experiments in black and besser soils show significant advantages in following paddy of a bare fallow and green manuring in previous year with and without bone meal in black soil. Providing equal quantity of nitrogen in the application of ground-nut cake and castor cake, the latter is superior to the former in increasing grain, straw and money value.

Various types of pulses and millets were grown for preliminary study.

268. ENTOMOLOGY — Agricultural pests such as semi-loopers on cotton, spotted boll worm, field rats were controlled on a large scale. Study for preservation of grains by indigenous and preservative method is carried out.

269. AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY — The grading of ghee was continued by this section and during the year 2,072 samples were analysed. The following are some of the important investigations taken up during the year :—

- (i) A study of the soluble salt content in the soil of Harij dry farm.
- (ii) Vitamin C content of fruit and vegetables. Experiments carried out to see if vitamin C content of vegetables is affected by fertilizers, show that Potash has no appreciable effect, while phosphate tends to increase and nitrogen decrease the C vitamin content.

270. CROP RESEARCH — Crop research was conducted at seven main stations: Baroda, Dabhoi, Jagudan, Vyara, Vesma and Deodarda. The work on cotton at the farms was concerned with the selection or evolution of a type best suited to the soil and climate of the area. Besides this, experiments with bajra, wheat and ground-nuts were continued and several promising types isolated.

B. Agriculture

271. EXPERIMENTAL FARMS — Separate farms have been established for each of the distinctive agricultural tracts of the State, to experiment with crops and process of agriculture and discover those best suited to the soil, the climate and condition of the area and to help to provide the need for pedigree seeds; modern implements and manure. There are nine such farms in the State.

Baroda farm : The Central farm is at Baroda. It has an area of 163 bighas of sandy loam known as gorat. Cultural varietal and manurial experiments were carried out with crops of the district. In the variety trial of Bajri, Nadiad 207-8 has scored high against Baroda Farm Bajri though the margin between them is not much. In variety trials of cotton B. 9 led while Vijaya lagged. Yet the ginning percentage of the latter was higher than that of the former. In wheat, Cawnpure 13 is proved to be the best. Interlining of cotton with food crops showed that economically Bajri-cotton was the first, followed by Bawta-cotton and Kodra-cotton. In fodder crops, Giant star grass is a successful addition giving high yields. Cigarette tobacco received slight set back due to transport and fuel difficulties. The farm supplied 11,805 lbs. of wheat seeds and 4,340 of B. 9 cotton seeds.

Dabhoi farm : It has an area of 118 bighas of medium black, black cotton, gorat and Kyari lands. In cotton trials, B. D. 8 led with 404 lbs. of kapas per bigha while Vijaya yielded 369 lbs. On lint yield, however, with its higher ginning percentage Vijaya gave 150 lbs. as against 132-5 lbs. of B. D. 8. 8,540 lbs. of Vijaya seeds and 1,600 lbs. of B. D. 8 seeds were issued for distribution. In the mixed farming complement five buffaloes gave 25,507 lbs. of milk during the lactation showing an average of 15 lbs. per day.

Vyara farm : The area of this farm is about 47 bighas of black kyari soil. Investigation in the final trial series gave C. O. 453 the first place with 86,180 lbs. of cane and 10,280 lbs. of gul per acre. Amongst paddy T. 21 stands the best. Manurial experiment showed that with 60 lbs. of nitrogen per acre as castor cake in addition to 30 lbs. of nitrogen as compost K 226 yielded 2,616 lbs. per acre which is both high and economic yield. The farm supplied 22,782 lbs. of paddy and 33,279 canes.

Vesma farm : The area of the farm is 106 bighas representing the black cotton soil of the Navsari district. In the cotton variety test, Suyog (8-1) has confirmed its superiority over 1027 A. L. F. The ground-nut spacing cum varietal test was in favour of closer spacing in the erect types. In the erect types, Valencia and in trailing, A. K. 17 were foremost. The farm supplied 2,593 lbs. of 1027, 9,071 lbs. of Suyog cotton seed, 7,140 lbs. of Ground-nut and 3,019 lbs. of Budh perie juar.

Jagudan farm : The area of the farm is 88 bighas representing the sandy alluvial soil of the tract. Pulses and millets improvement work is associated with this farm. In variety trials of cotton, Wagotar (seg. 4-1) was the outstanding cotton of the closed boll forms in the final trial series. Use of castor cake for crops has given good results. The wheat, Cawnpure 13, gave the best results. The farm supplied 27,956 lbs. of Wagotar seeds.

Amreli farm : S. 31 selection to be known as "Pratap" will replace C. 520 cotton. In groundnuts, A. H. 32 is the earliest and high yielding. The farm selected earlier juvar and bajra showed much promise. In wheat I. P. 4, inspite of high rust attack, has stood highest in yield. In canes, P. O. J. 2878 is being replaced by C. O. 421 and C. O. 527 Prosopsis Juviflora as hedge plant is a quick grower and provides a very effective field boundary.

Harij farm : The area of the farm is 612 bighas of salt crusted soil. Reduction in salt concentration is noted. The farm is associated in its vicinity with one of the experiments being conducted under the Grass Improvement Scheme.

Kalyanpura farm : It has begun functioning this year starting with kharif crops.

Deodarda farm : The farm features especially for the trial of drought resistant strains. In cotton, 60 A2 was highest while in Bajri, all varieties yielded equally. Sisal plantation yielded 80 lbs. of fibres.

These farms are fulfilling their functions in their respective areas.

272. PROPAGANDA — The crux of the problem in agriculture is to link the work of the experimental farms with the villages, to induce the agriculturist to adopt varieties of crops, methods of farming and collection of manure etc. which the farms after numerous experiments and field trials have found to be the best suited to the tract. A solution of this problem is attempted on a comprehensive plan which includes (i) intensive work units, (ii) agricultural education, (iii) tours and exhibitions and (iv) rural reconstruction centres.

- (i) *Intensive units* : There were 24 intensive units in the four districts serving 487 villages. Besides these, five units are opened under Vijaya Cotton Extension Scheme. The following figures indicate the work these units did during the year:—

(i) Crop trials on agricultural farms	1,377
(ii) Urine earth and compost collected (in cart loads)	28,173

As a result of propaganda through these intensive units, 1,46,180 lbs. of improved seeds, and 527 implements were sold through the departmental depots.

In the areas outside the intensive zones, graduate assistants tour with itinerant carts, showing the cultivators improved seeds and implements, teaching them the best methods of collecting and preserving manure and distributing seeds and implements at concession rates. They also give illustrated lectures and show educative films. The four district carts made 31 circuits touching 251 villages. Orders were registered for the supply of 1,46,180 lbs. of improved seeds, and 281 implements.

- (ii) *Agricultural education* : Courses in agriculture are given at the farms at Baroda, Jagudan and Amreli. 221 students took advantage of these classes and were trained in agriculture, horticulture, tobacco curing, poultry keeping and fruit preservation.

Besides, there are three agricultural bias schools working at Deodarda, Dabhoi and Kuvarda. The first two had 37 and 48 students respectively. At the last place, the work of planning flower and vegetable plots is in progress.

273. **RURAL RECONSTRUCTION CENTRES** — A rural reconstruction centre is an efficient agency for spreading agricultural knowledge, and its aim is to develop a will to live better and to bring about improvement in all aspects of rural life. There are three such centres. (A) Kosamba, (B) Karjan and (C) Vankal.

(A) *Kosamba Centre* : It is now ripe for being taken over by some semi-official agency.

The activities of the centre are two fold:—

- (a) work at the centre.
- (b) work in the selected villages.

The summary given below indicates the many sidedness of the work done by the centre:—

- (i) **Agriculture** : Nine cotton sale societies grew 35,605 bighas under 1027 A. L. F. cotton of various grades. Cultivation loan of Rs. 38,295 was given. Large amount of paddy, groundnut seed, juar and B. P. 53 seed were issued for growing. 10,886 lbs. of Ratanpore wheat were given on Sawai system and 13,063 lbs. were received back and stored for next season.
- (ii) **Kitchen garden** : Plots of different sizes with improved vegetables were maintained. 23 exhibitions were held and prizes amounting to Rs. 133 were given.
- (iii) **Manures** : Supply to the extent of 81,980 lbs. consisting of Groundnut cake, castor cake and San hemp has been made. Results of agricultural activities in testing various items showed that Suyog is better than 1027 A. L. F.
- (iv) **Horticulture** : Propaganda resulted in 709 new fruit plants being planted.
- (v) **Live stock** : Stud bull at Panestha covered 75 cows during the year and is in good condition.
- (vi) **Cottage industry** : Carding, spinning and weaving are maintained for extra income to the cultivators. Weavers wove 2,163 yds. of khadi and 14,600 ft. were prepared by tape makers. In tailoring, 95 women and girls took advantage.
- (vii) **Cooperation** : Mangrol taluka development Association is intended to carry out the village uplift work. The membership is largely increased. Vegetable seeds, Barium carbonate for rats and Sulphur against smut were given.

(B) *Karjan Centre*: There were 15 villages attached to the Centre. The Agricultural work showed Vijaya to be superior to B. D. 8. Interlining cotton with alternate rows of paddy resulted in increasing supplies of paddy. In other crops, Bhatpur juar, Ratanpur wheat stood up. Vegetable cultivation was fostered by supplying seeds and seedlings. 1,208 cart loads of urine earth was produced. The centre bull and buffalo continue to render useful service. Poultry is flourishing. Interest in weaving gave 90 yds. of khadi, 273 ft. of tape and 32 women and girls took advantage of tailoring class.

(C) *Vankal Centre*: This new centre started from 1-8-1943, has made a good beginning in establishing contact with the villages.

274. DEODARDA THAKARDA SCHOOL AND DABHOI BACKWARD AGRICULTURAL SCHOOL — Similar in aims to these reconstruction centres are the Thakarda Boarding School at Deodarda and the Agricultural bias school at Dabhoi, both financed from the Diamond Jubilee Trust.

275. EFFECTS OF PROPAGANDA — As a result of all this propaganda, the use of pedigree seeds, fertilisers and modern implements has very much increased and cultivators are making urine earth and compost manure on a very large scale.

Schemes

276. ASSOCIATED SCHEMES — The following schemes were worked in cooperation with the Indian Central Cotton Committee:—

(i) *Vijaya extension scheme*: B. D. 8 extension scheme terminated on 31st March 1944 and is replaced by Vijaya extension scheme from 1-4-1944. The work has been spread in 3 zones of Dabhoi, Karjan and Padra of Baroda district with five cotton units for the purpose of seed production.

The organisation associated with this development will, however operate in B. D. 8 till the seed organisation now being built by them, is big enough to replace in one season all the commercial crop area now under B. D. 8. All the Vijaya will be ginned, baled and marketed under departmental supervision.

The seed stock of B. D. 8 and Vijaya of all grades of seed organisation amounted to 37,18,360 lbs. Out of this, 26,25,823 lbs. were issued.

(ii) *B. 9 extension scheme*: It is in the second year and operates in Savli and Waghodia areas. The seed area was 3501 A grade and 23197 B grade. The certified crops produced 5,214 bhars of a total crop of 40,000 bales. Total seed issued from the depots amounted 7,21,219 lbs.

(iii) *1027 A. L. F. extension scheme* : The seed area controlled by the department covered 32,000 bighas. The area certified as acceptable for seed produced 5,562 bhars of 1027 A. L. F. and 1,828 bhars of Suyog.

(iv) *Wagad 8 extension scheme* : It is a two year scheme to establish large enough permanent B grade area so as to be able to provide enough pure seed. 3,70,800 lbs. of Wagad 8 have been issued for B grade seed areas and general commercial sowings and will cover about 21,859 acres.

There were three schemes conducted with the financial aid of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

(i) *Paddy Research scheme* : This was the fourth year of its working. A large number of bulk samples from the main open cultivated types was collected and single plant selections made from the samples sown.

(ii) *Vyara cane investigation scheme* : It terminated on 31-3-1944 and will be continued by the Baroda State. Work brought C. O. 419 and C. O. 421 canes to the fore.

(iii) *Pulse and millets scheme* : It came in operation from April 1943. All available types of pulses and millets were grown for preliminary study.

Besides these, schemes for improvement of grass lands, turning town refuse into compost manure, feeding oil cakes to milch cattle, improvement of Deshi fowls and investigation into poultry disease have been sanctioned by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

277. STATE SCHEMES — The following schemes were undertaken by the State :—

(i) *The Virginia tobacco extension scheme* : This was the fifth year of the operation of the scheme. The curing was carried out at Bajwa and Bandhani. 45,547 lbs. of green leaf was produced in the former place and 19,510 lbs. in the latter place, giving 5,034 lbs. and 2,386 lbs. of stripped leaf.

(ii) *The Gandevi sugar cane scheme* : It was in the fifth year of its working. Total crushing reached 2,66,838 standard maunds with 8.83% recovery of sugar. C. O. 419 and C. O. 421 did better than the local. The distribution of better canes came to 1,43,429 canes and 978 bags of departmental fertilizer.

278. SEED ORGANISATION — Such organisations have been built up for cotton 1027 A. L. F. in Navsari; B. D. 8, Vijaya and B. 9 in Baroda; Wagad 8 in Mehsana; C. 520 in Amreli; I. P. 4 and I. P. 52 for wheat; A. H. 32 and A. H. 25 groundnuts; P. O. J. 2878 and C. O. 419 sugar cane; Jagudan bajri; paddy types T. 1 and T. 21, Kolam 79 and Kolam 226.

C. Soil Conservation

279. PREVENTION OF SOIL EROSION — To carry on experiments on a large scale for working out the best methods of approach to different types of soil erosion, two district centres have been established, one at Dhari in Amreli district dealing with the more common type of soil erosion as the outcome of deforestation, uncontrolled grazing and general wearing away of the cultivated lands of sloping character and the other at Hirapura in Mehsana district where soil erosion is mainly due to gullies or kotars which are eating away into formerly cultivated tracts along the banks of large rivers.

280. DHARI CENTRE — At Dhari, the scheme was working in its fourth year and the results obtained were encouraging. The summary given below of the work done in the experimental blocks and outside indicates the steps to check soil erosion :—

- (i) 600 bighas were bunded. Steps to acquire the lands of people spoiling the work done are taken and ordinance to that effect issued.
- (ii) 800 new trenches were made bringing the total to 2,900 trenches.
- (iii) 1,100 new stone bunds and 14 brush wood dams were put up.
- (iv) Improvement of grass vegetation, small contour bunds and stirring of the soil in between the two bunds has definitely proved to be the best method for improving the deteriorated gouchars.
- (v) 18,000 plants of different types are now standing. 650 lbs. of seed of 30 different types are put in this year.
- (vi) Nearly 6,000 bighas of land were contour bunded by mechanical tractors.

281. HIRAPURA CENTRE — At Hirapura work is divided into two (i) Mechanical and (ii) biological.

(i) *Mechanical* : Vat bunding is most effective. Work has been in progress in creating different types of waste weirs.

(ii) *Biological* : Reafforestation by seed sowing; transplanting is being pressed. The whole area is closed to grazing and the influence is vividly marked.

D. Veterinary

282. VETERINARY RELIEF — 29 dispensaries worked during the year. The number of cases treated was 64,301 as against 67,947 in the previous year. The daily average attendance per dispensary increased from 17.5 to 18.6 and the expenditure per case from 10.7 to 11.2 as. The number of reported cases of outbreaks of contagious

diseases decreased from 269 in the previous year to 240. These were immediately attended to by the veterinary surgeons and preventive inoculations and vaccinations were given to 80,470 animals. During the year, 3,954 animals were castrated as against 4,224 in the previous year.

283. **VETERINARY RESEARCH** — The laboratories for veterinary and poultry disease investigations and goat virus continued to work. The officer in charge examined 872 specimen of pathological material.

In the goat virus laboratory, 38,140 blood virus and 22,000 tissue virus doses were produced and issued to the veterinary surgeons.

5 biological tests for Ranikhet and 5 cultural for fowl typhoid were carried out.

The laboratory for wool analysis examined 160 wool samples.

284. **LIVE-STOCK IMPROVEMENT** — During the year there were 21 settlements as against 19 in the previous year. The total area covered by these colonies was 12,717 bighas of which about 5,414 were allowed to be cropped and the rest remained as grazing land. The total number of families settled on these colonies increased from 312 to 358. The average yearly income of a family from all sources increased from Rs. 260 to Rs. 436.

Premium Bull Scheme — At the close of the year there were 122 bulls of different breeds in all the districts of the State. The number of services recorded was 1,779.

285. **CATTLE SHOWS** — Five village cattle shows and one district cattle show at Mehsana were held during the year. The Mehsana Cattle Show was arranged in cooperation with the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

286. **MAKARPURA DAIRY** — The strength of the herd decreased from 175 to 123. The decrease is on account of the transfer of dry animals to the Bakrol Farm. 96,382 lbs. of milk were supplied.

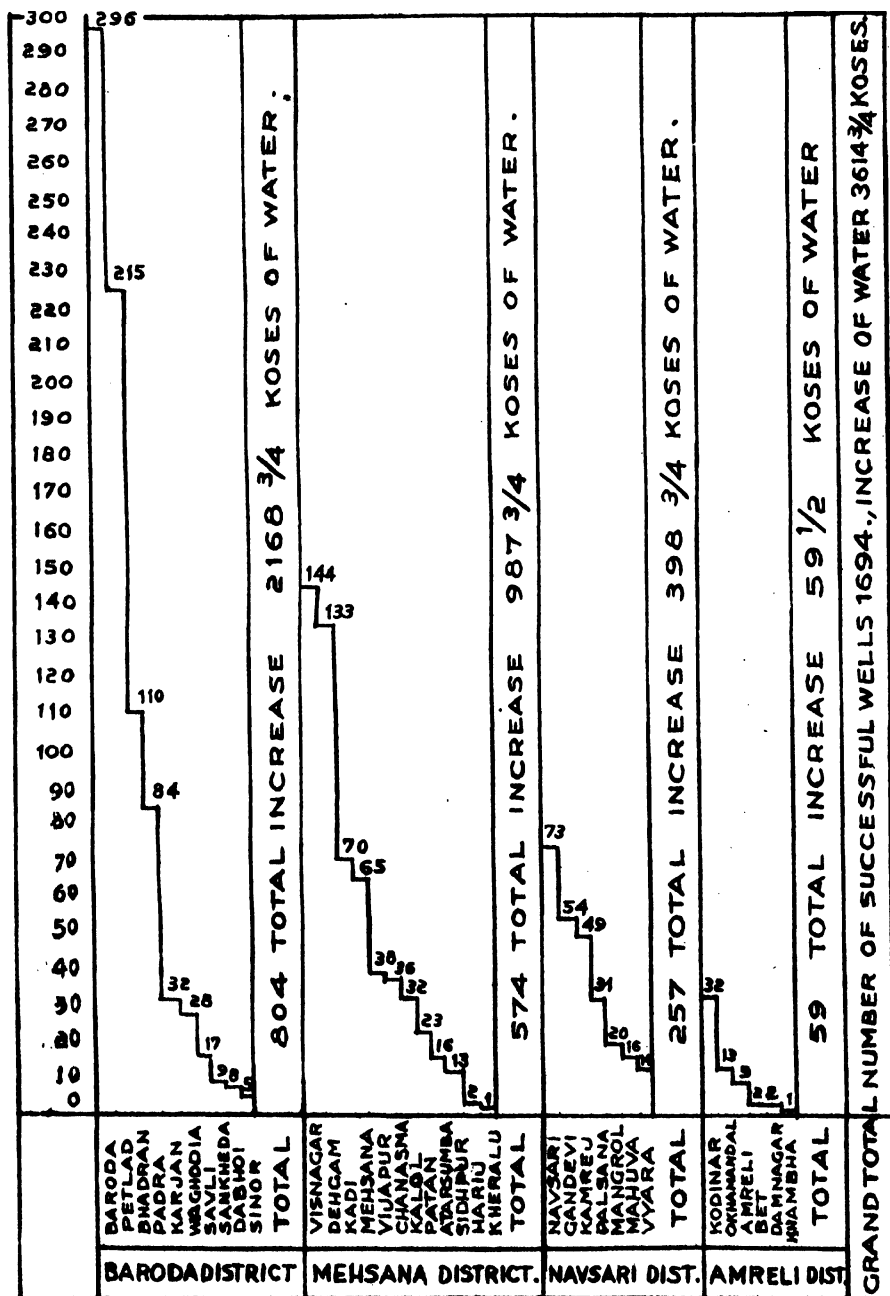
E. Poultry

287. **POULTRY DEVELOPMENT** — The poultry improvement scheme is in the eighth year of its working. It has been extended for another period of five years from 1-8-1943. There were 19 chicken farms actively engaged in poultry improvement work. They gave 2,500 eggs for hatching. Five grading centres graded 3,75,275 eggs during the year.

F. Horticulture

288. **DEVELOPMENT** — The demand for nursery grafts was brisk and their prices rose very high. Extension of plantation was particularly from Baroda, Dhari and Kodinar.

TOTAL NUMBER OF SUCCESSFUL WELLS BORED IN EACH TALUKA FROM 1911 TO 1943-44.



289. **NURSERIES** — Manures and seeds were supplied to growers. Dhari and Kodinar nurseries continued to show good progress. They sold 14,637 fruit plants. They also supplied vegetable seedlings. The Dhari fruit growers' association showed a good progress and its membership rose from 200 to 300.

290. **ORCHARD EXPANSION** — The grape vines, grape fruits, Tenjilo and Italian lemons on Baroda farm did extremely well bearing a very good crop. The Kew pineapple crop in Gandevi was very good.

291. **FRUIT PRESERVATION** — The fruit preservation laboratory sold fruit products worth Rs. 2,002. The laboratory has been registered for military fruit supplies to the Government of India.

292. **TRAINING** — Horticultural training was given to the students at the Agricultural Institute. Two fruit preservation classes were held during the year and 3 students were trained.

293. **GROW MORE VEGETABLE CAMPAIGN** — Active propaganda was carried out. Funds were placed with the department to secure improved stock of seeds and cake for manure. Oil cakes were provided for irrigated wheat and paddy at 25% reduced cost. Encouragement was given for more compost making by giving a subsidy of Re. 1 for every 300 cubic feet of effective manure. Arrangements to give out wheat seed at harvest cost were made. Permanent improvement concessions were given for construction of pucca wells. Encouragement was given to open waste and fallow land for cultivation.

G. Agricultural Engineering

294. **ACTIVITIES** — The main activities of the section were as follows:—

- (i) *Wells scheme* : It works under grow more food campaign. Construction of 314 wells was completed and of 151 is in progress.
- (ii) *Well blasting* : 237 wells were blasted.
- (iii) *Boring* : Out of 41 wells 30 were successful giving an increase of 42 koses of water.
- (iv) *Tractor ploughing* : The scheme of contract ploughing has been made permanent. Under it ploughing is done by tractors at concession rates. During the year 1,627 bighas were ploughed at concession rates.
- (v) *Soil Conservation Scheme* : Three tractors ditcher units worked and bunds, protecting 600 bighas were laid out.
- (vi) *Tree pulling* : 120 bighas of land was cleared for grass improvement scheme.
- (vii) *Pumping sets* : 20 sets repaired 15 wells sunk with the help of engine pumps.

- (viii) *Implements* : 592 A. G. hoes and 155 sets of extra triangular blades were supplied.
- (ix) *Crushing* : The cane crushers worked in 11 villages. 4,375 mds. of gul was from 56 bighas.
- (x) *Education* : 8 students attended oil engine and tractor classes. In all 656 students took advantage.
- (xi) *Tagavi loans* : Tagavi loans worth Rs. 27,500 were given to five cultivators.
- (xii) *Miscellaneous* : Repairs of boring tools, tractor ploughs, farm implements and tobacco barn flues were carried out. Survey and plotting was done at Harij and Bakrol for grass scheme.

H. Marketing

295. **SURVEYS** — Surveys of millets, castors, chillies, onions, garlies and poultry continued. The main activity of the section is marketing of 1027 A. L. F. cotton. 4,558 bales were graded and marked. The average premium received for certified bales was Rs. 15 per candy.

296. **GRADING OF EGGS** — 323431 eggs were graded at five centres.

297. **CONTROL OF BUFFALO EXPORT** — Due to ever growing export of good buffaloes from the Mehsana District an export ban was applied pending arrangements to control export.

298. **EXPENDITURE** — The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 9.35 lakhs as against Rs. 7.86 lakhs in the previous year. Besides this, the Diamond Jubilee Fund contributed Rs. 73,697 and the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research Rs. 10,784.

299. **ACTS AND RULES** — The Soil Conservation Ordinance was promulgated to provide for the execution of a scheme for soil conservation by the construction of counter-bunds on a large scale and **the improved methods of tillage**, with a view to securing the maximum benefit of limited rainfall to the agriculturists.

300. **CONCLUSION** — The department of Agriculture was re-organised in 1936 under a technical expert of great experience. A measure of the development is the increase in its expenditure from Rs. 1.8 lakhs to Rs. 9.35 lakhs in the year under report. It is estimated that the department by the various services it renders adds Rs. 50 lakhs to the income of the agriculturists.

CHAPTER XVII

CO-OPERATION

301. **MAIN FEATURES**—The department continued to follow the policy of consolidation and also undertook the work of expansion particularly in regard to the Consumers' movement. The main features of development are :—

- (i) *Reconditioning of weak societies* : The policy of rectification and consolidation of weak and dormant societies was continued.
- (ii) *Introduction of the controlled credit system* : Under this, loans are advanced for agricultural purposes and regulated according to the area under cultivation and the kind of crops. Members are required to sell their produce jointly or through a sale society, so that recoveries might be facilitated.
- (iii) *Insistence on the quality of the movement in respect of future extension* : New rural credit societies are registered only when the need is clearly established and they have succeeded in enlisting of co-operation of dis-interested workers. Exceptions are made, however, in case of backward classes and areas, where credit and thrift societies are encouraged. In order to inculcate the spirit of saving against hard times, special steps were taken to organise and develop the thrift and credit societies in the mills and factories.
- (iv) *Organisation of multi-purpose societies* : The department devoted attention to develop non-credit work with a view to emphasise the primary idea of co-operation namely, thrift and make the co-operative society the centre of village life embracing all its activities. The expansion of co-operative sale of cotton is a notable feature of development.
- (v) *Expansion of consumers' movement* : In order to get over the difficulties of procuring supplies of food-grains and household requirements owing to the conditions created by the war, and to help the Civil Supply work, expansion of the Co-operative Consumers' movement was actively undertaken. A number of co-operative stores were organised and the banks and societies also were induced to undertake this work.

- (vi) *Execution of decrees* : Steps were taken to avoid delay in recoveries and special recovery officers continued to be engaged for the Baroda and Mehsana districts.

302. GENERAL SURVEY — The total number of societies increased from 1,303 to 1,359. Of these, 188 societies were under liquidation. There were 1,171 societies actually working at the end of the year as against 1,087 in the preceding year. Of these, 884 were agricultural, 274 non-agricultural, 9 Central Banks, 2 Land Mortgage Banks and 2 supervising unions. Of the Agricultural societies, 660 were primary credit, 100 thrift, 27 supply, 35 cotton sale and the rest 62 other types of societies. Of the non-agricultural societies, 164 were credit, 31 supply, 35 housing, 22 thrift and the rest 22 other types.

Of the 660 agricultural primary credit societies working during the year, 658 were classified and 192 were placed in class A (thoroughly good), 199 in class B (having defaulters and mistakes in accounts), 168 in class C (not falling under class A, B and D), and 99 in class D (bad and liable to be closed if they fail to come under class C in 2 years). The percentage of D class societies declined from 17.1 to 15 at the end of the year while that of A class rose from 19.2 to 29.1. B and C class societies improved their working and rose to higher classes and therefore, they register a drop of 3 per cent in B and of 6 per cent in C class societies. 2 societies were not classified being newly registered.

The total membership increased from 75,825 to 1,15,172, which registers an increase of 51.8 per cent. This increase is mainly due to the organisation of supply societies and mill workers' societies. The average membership per society was 84.7 as against 58.2 in the preceding year. It is estimated that the movement directly affects 18.1 per cent of the population, the agricultural societies about 8.6 per cent of the village population and the non-agricultural about 43.5 per cent of the town population.

The financial position showed a marked improvement. The working capital increased from Rs. 137.98 lakhs to Rs. 160.09 lakhs. The share capital went up from Rs. 17.27 lakhs to Rs. 23.65 lakhs, the deposits from members from Rs. 45.21 lakhs to Rs. 60.03 lakhs, loans and deposits from non-members from Rs. 27.82 lakhs to Rs. 28.62 lakhs, while the loans from Banks, societies and Government decreased from Rs. 21.18 lakhs to Rs. 17.87 lakhs. The reserve and other funds increased from Rs. 21.51 lakhs to Rs. 23.88 lakhs. Owned capital formed 30 per cent of the working capital, loans and deposits 66.3 per cent and debentures 3.7 per cent as against 28.1, 68.3 and 3.6 per cent respectively in the preceding year.

The loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 88.62 lakhs as against Rs. 52.72 lakhs in the preceding year. The repayments

improved from Rs. 46.76 lakhs to Rs. 92.46 lakhs. The outstanding loans at the end of the year decreased from Rs. 73.04 lakhs to Rs. 69.89 lakhs while the overdues fell from Rs. 10.9 lakhs to Rs. 7.89 lakhs. The decrease in overdues is accounted for by the high prices of agricultural produce and land which enabled the debtors to realise better prices, thus helping them to liquidate their debts.

303. CO-OPERATION AND CIVIL SUPPLIES — The co-operative movement has played an important role in the Civil Supply work. The co-operative societies distributed food-grains, sugar, kerosine and other necessities of life not only to the members but also to other people in the rural areas. It is estimated that 885 villages with a population of about 11.64 lakhs were served by them. 5 Central Banks, 4 Agricultural pedhis, 48 stores and 173 societies together supplied goods worth Rs. 54.34 lakhs including sugar worth Rs. 16.11 lakhs, food grains worth Rs. 29.36 lakhs and standard cloth worth Rs. 0.56 lakh.

304. LAND MORTGAGE BANKS — There were two Land Mortgage Banks in the State.

The Baroda Land Mortgage Bank continued its operations in the Baroda district except in Petlad and Bhadran mahals. Its share capital amounting to Rs. 1.75 lakhs remained stable at the end of the year. Its reserve and other funds increased from Rs. 0.61 lakh to Rs. 0.71 lakh, while the working capital decreased from Rs. 7.63 lakhs to 7.61 lakhs.

The Bank advanced fresh loans amounting to Rs. 0.19 lakh to 12 persons against Rs. 0.17 lakh to 10 persons in the preceding year. There is a general decrease in demand for fresh loans owing to rise in prices of agricultural produce, particularly cotton, which helped the cultivators to pay off their debts. Moreover as a result of large increase in land values, the debtors were inclined to part with portions of their landed properties and pay off debts rather than borrow from the Bank. The total amount of loans advanced since the beginning of the bank, 10 years ago, came to Rs. 9.21 lakhs for liquidation of debts amounting to Rs. 10.90 lakhs, the debts having been scaled down through conciliation by Rs. 1.68 lakhs. All instalments were repaid, the total recoveries during the year being 0.72 lakh. The outstanding loans fell from Rs. 5.52 lakhs to Rs. 4.98 lakhs. The bank's rate on interest of loans continued to be 6%. The net profit of the bank was Rs. 15,259 as against Rs. 19,099 in 1942-43. The bank bought over during the year debentures worth Rs. 1,37,500 held by the Government.

The Navsari Land Mortgage Bank continued operations in all the talukas of the district. The share capital increased from Rs. 41,275 to Rs. 43,925. The Government have made available to the Bank a

special loan of Rs. one lakh for advancing loans to the Raniparaj societies to enable their members to liquidate their old debts. The working capital of the bank increased from Rs. 1.78 lakhs to Rs. 1.98 lakhs. Loans amounting to Rs. 0.29 lakh were advanced to 22 persons as against Rs. 0.28 lakh to 29 persons in the preceding year. The total amount of loans advanced since the beginning of the bank 5 years ago came to Rs. 2.23 lakhs for liquidation of old debts amounting to Rs. 2.58 lakhs, the debts amounting to Rs. 0.35 lakh having been written off through conciliation. All borrowers repaid their instalments during the year. The reserve and other funds amounted to Rs. 5,175 at the end of the year. The Government gave a grant of Rs. 783, equal to half the cost of management during the year in addition to the services of a land valuation officer.

The Government gave the following concessions to these banks:—

- (1) The repayment of the principal and interest of debentures is guaranteed.
- (2) Land valuation officers are lent to the banks free of charge in the initial stages, and a grant is given towards the expenses of management.

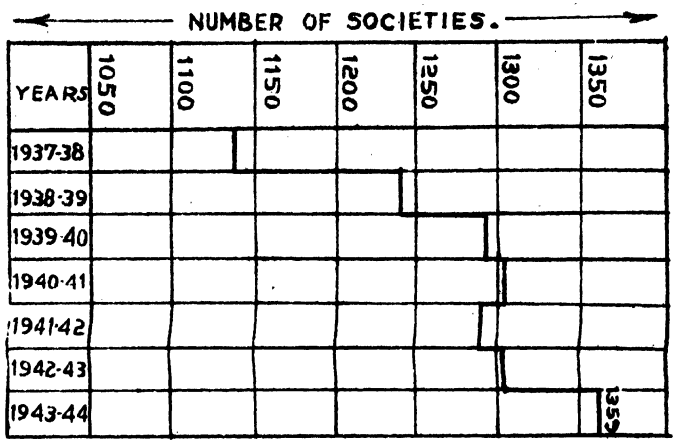
305. CENTRAL BANKS—The number of Central banks, including banking unions in the State continued to be ten. Of these, one had not started work and one was under liquidation and as such the number of banks actually working was eight. These banks had a total membership of 2,113 consisting of 1,286 individuals and 827 societies as against 1,918 consisting of 1,080 individuals and 828 societies in the preceding year. These banks usually finance only the affiliated societies, but with a view that the Baroda, Petlad and Mehsana banks may be able to utilise their surplus funds in a more profitable way, they were allowed to grant loans to individuals also. These three banks together advanced loans to 60 individuals to the extent of Rs. 62,604 during the year.

The working capital of these institutions increased from Rs. 20.36 lakhs to Rs. 21.64 lakhs. The paid up share capital and the reserve and other funds however record a satisfactory progress in as much as they rose from Rs. 3.61 lakhs to Rs. 3.79 lakhs and from Rs. 3.10 lakhs to Rs. 3.29 lakhs respectively. The deposits from members and non-members together increased from Rs. 7.16 lakhs to Rs. 7.39 lakhs, while loans and deposits from societies register an increase from Rs. 6.48 lakhs to Rs. 7.17 lakhs. Six of these banks were allowed an aggregate cash credit of Rs. 4 lakhs by the Government. The Government have also sanctioned in 1939-40 a deposit of Rs. 40,000 for five years to the Kodinar Banking Union.

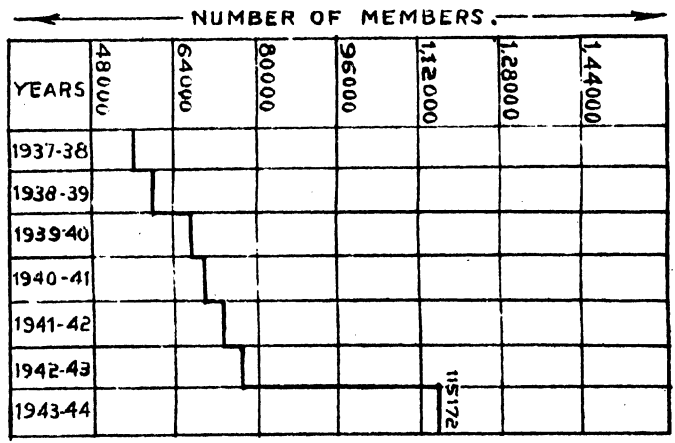
CHART SHOWING THE PROGRESS OF THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN THE BARODA STATE.

1937-38 TO 1943-44.

1 NUMBER OF SOCIETIES.



2 MEMBERSHIP.



3 AVERAGE MEMBERSHIP PER SOCIETY.

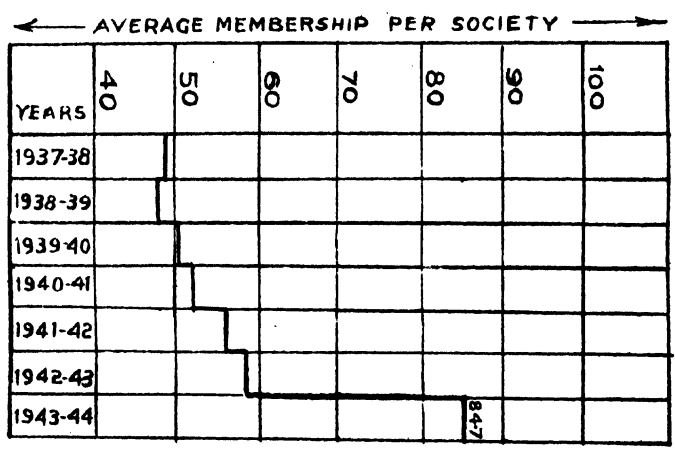
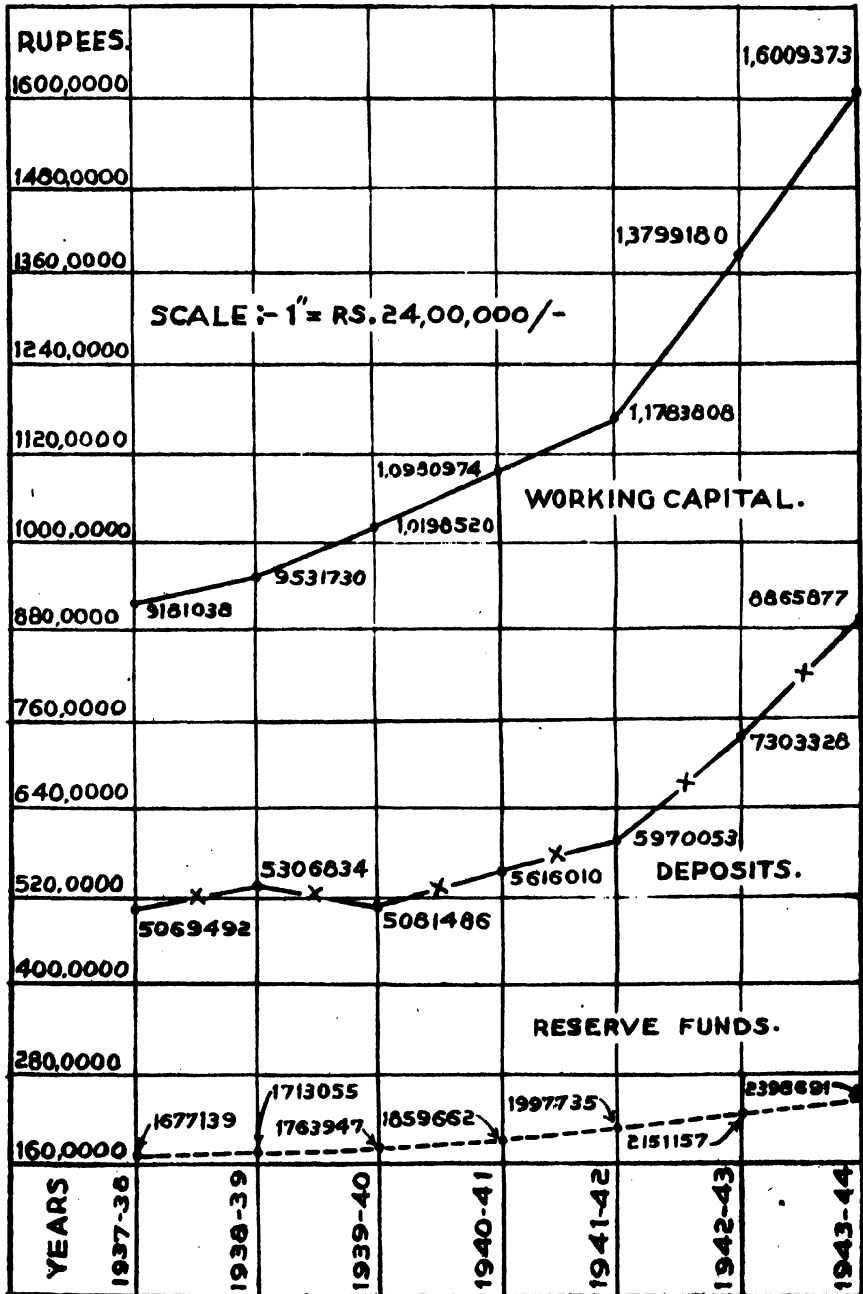


CHART SHOWING THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN THE BARODA STATE 1937-38 TO 1943-44.



Fresh loans advanced decreased from Rs. 9.21 lakhs to Rs. 8.12 lakhs, but the recoveries registered an appreciable increase from Rs. 8.28 lakhs to Rs. 12.16 lakhs. This has resulted in a fall of loans due by members and societies from Rs. 12.53 lakhs to Rs. 8.49 lakhs. The overdues show an increase from 13.8 per cent to 16.5 per cent on account of the fall in total loans due at the end of the year by about 50 per cent. The overdues at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 1.40 lakhs as against Rs. 1.71 lakhs in the preceding year.

The Banks made a profit of Rs. 40,240 during the year as against Rs. 42,550 in the previous year. The dividend paid varied from 3½ per cent to 5 per cent.

306. NON-CREDIT WORK OF CENTRAL BANKS — Of the 9 Central banks working at the end of the year, 5 viz Mehsana, Damnagar, Petlad, Kodinar and Karjan did non-credit work mainly of procuring and distributing food grains, sugar, jaggery etc., to the village and urban population through societies, panchayats etc. They purchased goods worth Rs. 15.06 lakhs and distributed the same worth Rs. 12.19 lakhs. The Mehsana bank alone procured and supplied 22,038 maunds of sugar worth Rs. 1.91 lakhs, 19,112 maunds of jaggery worth Rs. 1.58 lakhs and 47,314 maunds of rice worth Rs. 5.35 lakhs throughout the district. The Kodinar Banking Union did valuable work of buying 22,800 maunds of Bajra from the villages and supplying the same to the Central Store in Baroda and to other places in the State. It also did the work of supplying 9,644 maunds of sugar worth Rs. 0.85 lakh and 3,462 maunds of rice worth Rs. 0.37 lakh (through co-operative societies and panchayats). It also supplied pure seed of cotton, ground nut and wheat to 15, 18 and 25 societies and 626 maunds of Ammonium Sulphate to 13 societies and 10 cultivators. The Petlad Bank distributed food grains worth Rs. 7,562 while the Karjan Banking Union supplied soap worth Rs. 388.

307. AGRICULTURAL BANKS — There are four agricultural banks in the State, at Bhadrar, Amreli, Vyara and Songadh. They are governed by a special Act and advanced loans to individuals as well as to societies. They had a total membership of 1,438 comprising of 1,291 individuals and 147 societies as against 1,424 consisting of 1,270 individuals and 154 societies in the preceding year. Their total working capital amounted to Rs. 10.41 lakhs as against Rs. 9.21 lakhs in the previous year. The share capital increased from Rs. 1.79 lakhs to Rs. 1.89 lakhs, while the reserve and other funds increased from Rs. 1.39 lakhs to Rs. 1.70 lakhs. The deposits from members, non-members and societies together rose from Rs. 6.03 lakhs to Rs. 6.81 lakhs but fresh loans dropped down from Rs. 0.49 lakh to Rs. 0.38 lakh and recoveries also fell from Rs. 1.38 lakhs to Rs. 0.96 lakh. However the outstanding loans at the end of the year decreased from

Rs. 1.54 lakhs to Rs. 0.94 lakh. The rate on interest of the Bhadran bank was 6 per cent while that of the other banks was $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.

All the four banks did non-credit work, mainly of civil supplies. The four banks together purchased and distributed food-grains, sugar, kerosine etc., worth Rs. 12.04 lakhs. The Vyara bank specially rendered valuable services in procuring paddy and distributing rice throughout the State worth Rs. 4.63 lakhs. The Amreli bank supplied 14,822 maunds of food grains including rice etc. worth Rs. 2.11 lakhs throughout the district. The Bhadran bank supplied sugar in Bhadran taluka worth Rs. 1.07 lakhs while Songadh bank distributed mainly standard cloth worth Rs. 6,263.

308. SUPERVISING UNION — The Vyara and the Mangrol Supervising unions continued their activities. The Vyara union had 57 societies affiliated to it, with a membership of 2,250 and a working capital of Rs. 2.53 lakhs. This union looks after and supervises the work of 23 thrift societies with a membership of 573 and savings to the extent of Rs. 11,231. The Mangrol union had 56 societies affiliated to it with a membership of 1,476 and a working capital of Rs. 2.30 lakhs. Each of these unions maintains 3 supervisors. The total expenditure of both the unions was Rs. 2,724. The percentage of expenditure to the total working capital comes to 0.56.

The Vyara union is working in the Raniparaj areas and through the efforts of this union 13 societies did the work of civil supplies, of distributing sugar, kerosine, food grains etc., to the members as well as to other village population.

309. AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES — The total number of agricultural societies increased from 1,027 to 1,042. Of these, 158 were under liquidation. The number of societies actually working at the end of the year was 884 as against 841 at the end of the preceding year. Of these, 760 were primary agricultural credit and thrift societies as against 740 in the preceding year. The non-credit societies increased from 101 to 124.

The membership of agricultural societies rose from 38,100 to 41,058 and the average membership per society worked upto 39.4 as against 37.1 in the preceding year.

The working capital of these societies decreased from Rs. 52.99 lakhs to Rs. 50.44 lakhs. This decrease is due to large repayments resulting in the repayment of loans from banks, societies and Government which fell from Rs. 13.28 lakhs to Rs. 9.61 lakhs. The share capital rose from Rs. 3.56 lakhs to Rs. 4.84 lakhs while deposits from members decreased from Rs. 10.91 lakhs to Rs. 10.25 lakhs and loans and deposits from non-members from Rs. 11.00 lakhs to Rs. 10.49 lakhs.

Loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 57.45 lakhs as against Rs. 28.87 lakhs in the preceding year. This rise is due to a large demand for advances against cotton by the cotton sale and ginning and pressing societies. The repayments were equally large and increased from Rs. 22.95 lakhs to Rs. 61.55 lakhs. The outstanding loans at the end of the year declined from Rs. 35.11 lakhs to Rs. 30.91 lakhs. The overdues decreased from Rs. 6.48 lakhs to Rs. 4.93 lakhs and formed 16 per cent of the outstanding loans as against 18.4 per cent in the previous year.

310. PRIMARY CREDIT SOCIETIES — The number of these societies in the beginning of the year was 799 to which 18 more were added while 10 were cancelled during the year. Of these, 147 societies were under liquidation. Thus the number of societies actually working at the end of the year was 660 as against 643 in the preceding year.

The total membership increased from 22,709 to 23,125. The average membership per society came to 28.6 per cent. The working capital increased from Rs. 33.50 lakhs to Rs. 33.96 lakhs. The share capital however decreased from Rs. 0.50 lakh to Rs. 0.48 lakh, the decrease being due to cancellation of 10 societies. The deposits from members increased from Rs. 6.47 lakhs to Rs. 7.15 lakhs and deposits from non-members from Rs. 5.54 lakhs to Rs. 6.08 lakhs, while loans and deposits from banks, societies and Government together fell from Rs. 8.63 lakhs to Rs. 6.99 lakhs, including the decrease in the bank loan from Rs. 8.27 lakhs to Rs. 6.62 lakhs. The reserve and other funds however marked a satisfactory increase, inasmuch as they rose from Rs. 11.56 lakhs and Rs. 0.78 lakh to Rs. 12.31 lakhs and Rs. 0.94 lakh respectively.

Fresh loans amounted to Rs. 10.10 lakhs as against Rs. 9.91 lakhs in the preceding year. Repayments were Rs. 12.81 lakhs as against Rs. 12.91 lakhs in the previous year. The outstanding loans due by members at the end of the year fell from Rs. 23.73 lakhs to Rs. 20.98 lakhs and formed 23.2 per cent of the outstanding loans as against 27.2 in the preceding year. The general rate of interest on loans was $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent.

311. RECONSTRUCTED SOCIETIES — Since 1938 when the policy of rehabilitation and rectification of dormant and weak societies was adopted, 191 societies in all were reconstructed of which one was reconstructed during the year. As the members completely paid up their total dues, 13 societies were not now under the rectification scheme, while the remaining 178 were under it. Of these, 109 were indebted to the banks while the remaining 69 worked with their own capital. Of the former, 68 fully paid their instalments to the banks, 20 paid partially and 2 could not pay at all, while the remaining completely paid off the banks' dues.

The stipulated instalments due to be recovered from 3,455 members amounted to Rs. 1.93 lakhs of which 90 per cent were

recovered during the year. The total recoveries during the year amounted to Rs. 2.03 lakhs as some of the members paid in excess of the instalments. The total amount, written off since the adoption of rectification scheme, was Rs. 0.83 lakh. The repayments were satisfactory in all the districts. 1,639 members completely paid up their total dues upto now and got out of the rectification scheme.

312. PROVIDENT FUND — The number of societies, which have adopted the Provident Fund scheme, rose from 167 to 177, while the number of members taking advantage of it increased from 2,438 to 2,534. The amount of provident fund deposited by the members was Rs. 0.26 lakh as against Rs. 0.13 lakh in the preceding year. The total funds, after deducting the amount of Rs. 0.17 lakh paid back to the members according to the bye laws, amounted to Rs. 1.39 lakhs as against Rs. 1.30 lakhs in the previous year. Of the 167 societies, 39 have adopted bye-laws permitting the payment of premiums from compulsory savings and the interest of provident fund of their members to enable them to take advantage of the co-operative insurance scheme.

313. NON-CREDIT WORK OF CREDIT SOCIETIES — The Credit societies took a leading part in the civil supply work. 173 societies purchased food grains, sugar, kerosine etc., worth Rs. 15.40 lakhs and supplied these worth Rs. 15.31 lakhs in 537 villages with a population of 5.36 lakhs. Some of the societies continued their efforts to distribute better kinds of seeds etc. They supplied 8,660 lbs. of the new strain of pedigree cotton known as "Vijaya" worth Rs. 1,372 to 144 members, 3,14,052 lbs. of seeds of ground-nut, wheat, gram, cotton etc., and 25,000 sugar-cane plants together worth Rs. 31,198 to 639 members.

314. B. D. 8 COTTON ORGANISATION — Two new societies were organised during the year for the cultivation of B. D. 8 cotton, which with the 15 societies existing at the end of the preceding year, made a total of 17 societies for propaganda and seed organisation purposes. These are situated in the Sankheda, Tilakwada and Dabhoi mahals. Their membership rose from 620 to 741. They distributed 1,879 maunds of B. D. 8 cotton seed to their members as against 1,250 maunds in the previous year. The area under controlled cultivation was 11,284 bighas as against 12,302 bighas in the preceding year. Crop loans at $4\frac{1}{2}$ per cent were advanced to 13 societies by their members on condition that the produce was sold through the societies.

The cotton control act was applied during the year to the whole of the Baroda district and cultivation of B. D. 8 and B. 9 cottons was enforced and the separate scheme for this work was discontinued.

315. THRIFT SOCIETIES — There were 100 thrift societies working at the end of the year as against 97 in the preceding year. Three new societies were registered during the year. Of these, 1 was men's society while the remaining 99 were women's societies.

The membership of these societies increased from 2,011 to 2,137, savings from Rs. 21,961 to Rs. 31,671, reserve fund from Rs. 996 to Rs. 1,042 and the working capital from Rs. 24,576 to Rs. 35,219. The total savings collected during the year amounted to Rs. 13,754, and Rs. 3,249 were repaid to members according to rules during the year.

316. CATTLE BREEDING SOCIETIES — There is only one society for cattle breeding started at Dethli in Sidhpur taluka. The loans advanced were recovered with the result that there are no loans due by members. Four of the members sold six cows for Rs. 300 during the year.

317. PRODUCTION AND SALE SOCIETIES — The number of these societies increased from 50 to 54. Of these, 38 were for sale of cotton, 13 for other agriculture produce and one each for sale of pure milk, sugar-cane and ground-nuts. Of these, 4 were in liquidation including the sugar-cane society. The societies actually working at the end of the year were 50 as against 46 in the preceding year.

318. COTTON SALE SOCIETIES — The Cotton sale societies collected 20,825 bhars of cotton belonging to 3,903 members, as against 11,291 bhars of 3,125 members in the preceding year. Of these, 18,802 bhars were ginned and sold while 2,023 bhars were sold unginned. The total realisations of seed cotton and cotton lint amounted to Rs. 36.92 lakhs. 13 cotton sale societies of the Navsari district were under the Government cotton marketing scheme and sold their cotton through the Government marketing office at Surat. 6 societies did not work during the year. Joint sale resulted in fetching better prices to the cultivators to the extent of Rs. 10 to Rs. 18 per bhar. A cotton union in the Navsari district is also organised to help the societies in the sale of their cotton and to guide and supervise their working. The union did the work of insuring the cotton of the affiliated societies.

319. GROUND-NUT SALE SOCIETY — There is one such co-operative society at Ubhel in the Navsari district. It pooled 7,809 maunds of ground-nut of 59 members and sold 1,693 maunds during the year for Rs. 8,002. The remaining stock could not be sold due to difficulties of transport.

320. CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS — There were 19 such societies of which 14 were cancelled during the year while 2 were under liquidation. The remaining three societies are stagnant.

321. RURAL SUPPLY SOCIETIES — There were 12 supply societies in the beginning of the year to which 17 new were added and one was cancelled during the year. Of these, one pure seed supply society was under liquidation. Of the remaining, 23 with a membership of 3,220 and a share capital of Rs. 1.21 lakhs worked satisfactorily during the year. They purchased wheat, rice, millets, sugar, kerosine etc., worth Rs. 7.63 lakhs and supplied them to the members and non-

members worth Rs. 7.12 lakhs. These societies catered to the needs of 143 villages with a population of 2.13 lakhs.

322. CO-OPERATIVE GINNING AND PRESSING SOCIETIES — There were 4 co-operative ginning and pressing societies with a membership of 1,882 and a paid up share capital of Rs. 2.73 lakhs. Of these, three societies worked during the year and ginned 22,029 bhars of cotton as against 15,088 bhars in the preceding year. The ginning rate was Rs. 7-8-0 at Baben, Rs. 9-8-0 at Kosamba and Rs. 13 at Samlaya, while the pressing rate was Rs. 10 for all of them.

These are situated at Baben and Kosamba in the Navsari district and at Samalaya and Karjan in the Baroda district. The last named society could not start its work during the year.

323. POWER PUMP SOCIETIES — There were 9 power pump societies during the year of which 2 were under liquidation. The remaining 7 societies supplied water to 128 members as against 152 members in the preceding year. The area irrigated however increased from 217 bighas to 354 bighas. The pumps worked for 7,561 hours as against 4,957 hours in the preceding year. Irrigation charges varied from Rs. 1-4-0 to Rs. 2-4-0 per hour and the total working charges came to Rs. 19,972. The reserve funds of these societies amounted to Rs. 20,139.

324. FRUIT GROWERS CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY — There is one fruit growers co-operative society at Dhari in the Amreli district. The society is mainly started to create an interest amongst the cultivators to raise fruit gardens and to help in raising such gardens systematically. It has a membership of 320 and a working capital of Rs. 1,300. The society supplied different kinds of fruit plants and fruit seeds to its members.

325. DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATIONS — There were 26 development associations at the beginning of the year to which 2 more were added during the year. Of these, 3 were cancelled and 2 were under liquidation. The number of such societies actually working at the end of the year was 23 as against 21 in the preceding year. Of these, 6 in the Navsari district and 2 in the Mehsana district did useful work like carding, spinning, weaving and distributing pure seeds. They looked after village sanitation and rendered medical aid in their areas. The Mangrol development association held a Cattle Show, a Baby and Panchayat week and a co-operative conference.

326. PRIMARY EDUCATION SOCIETIES — There are three primary schools organised on co-operative lines in the Raniparaj area of the Mangrol taluka. They impart primary education upto standard V over and above some elementary training in agriculture and spinning. In all 97 students were on the rolls. The schools received Rs. 250 as gifts from the Navsari Agricultural Improvement Committee and spent Rs. 254 on salaries etc. One school was registered under the Education department and got Rs. 120 as Government aid.

327. **NON-AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES** — The number of non-agricultural societies increased from 262 to 303. This increase was largely due to the registration of 21 supply societies (stores), 12 credit and 7 housing societies. Of these, 212 were credit and thrift societies, 31 supply societies, 20 students stores, 35 housing societies, and the rest other types of societies. Of these, 29 or 9.6 per cent were under liquidation as against 11 per cent in the previous year. The number of societies actually working at the end of the year was 274 as against 233 in the previous year.

The membership of these societies rose from 33,421 to 69,608. The average membership per society was 229 as against 127 in the preceding year. This 300 per cent increase in membership was due to the organisation of supply and factory workers' societies. The working capital increased from Rs. 55.24 lakhs to Rs. 78.40 lakhs. The share capital increased from Rs. 7.63 lakhs to Rs. 12.82 lakhs, deposits from members from Rs. 34.30 lakhs to Rs. 49.77 lakhs, deposits from non-members from Rs. 8.39 lakhs to Rs. 10.58 lakhs while loans and deposits from banks, societies and Government decreased from Rs. 1.07 lakhs to Rs. 0.62 lakh. The reserve and other funds also increased from Rs. 3.85 lakhs to Rs. 4.59 lakhs.

Loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 22.56 lakhs as against Rs. 14.19 lakhs in the preceding year. This was due to the threefold increase in membership. Repayments were Rs. 17.86 lakhs as against Rs. 14.47 lakhs in the previous year. The outstanding loans at the end of the year increased from Rs. 18.82 lakhs to Rs. 23.53 lakhs while overdues recorded a fair decrease from 10.1 per cent to 6.6 per cent.

328. **URBAN BANKS AND SOCIETIES** — The urban banks and societies continued to render useful services and are progressing satisfactorily. The following table gives comparative figures for the last 2 years:—

Subject		1943-44	1942-43
1. Number of Banks and Societies	...	52	47
2. Membership	...	39,665	17,883
		Rupees in lakhs	
3. Share capital	...	6.83	4.96
4. Deposits	...	49.55	34.99
5. Reserve and other funds	...	2.93	2.64
6. Total working capital	...	58.52	42.88
7. Loans advanced	...	16.94	11.9
8. Loans repaid	...	12.69	10.99
9. Loans outstanding	...	18.50	14.25

The large increase in the membership is mainly due to the organization of mill and factory workers' societies.

329. **LABOURERS' CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES** — In order to inculcate habit of savings and a spirit of thrift amongst the labouring classes in mills and other factories and to make them save as much as they can out of the handsome dearness and other allowances, paid to them, such societies were organised. Their number at the end of the year was 20 with a membership of 23,027 and a working capital of Rs. 13·80 lakhs. The compulsory and dearness allowance savings amounted to Rs. 12·08 lakhs.

330. **GOVERNMENT SERVANTS' SOCIETIES** — There were 13 societies actually working at the end of the year with a membership of 4,388 and a working capital of Rs. 4·68 lakhs, of which the share capital represented Rs. 0·94 lakh, deposits Rs. 3·25 lakhs and reserve and other funds Rs. 0·24 lakh. They advanced loans of Rs. 2·38 lakhs during the year. Total recoveries amounted to Rs. 2·29 lakhs.

331. **WEAVERS' SOCIETIES** — There were 51 weavers' societies in the beginning of the year to which 2 new were added during the year. They had a membership of 875 and a working capital of Rs. 22,097. Loans to the extent of Rs. 3,041 were advanced. Recoveries were good and amounted to Rs. 8,350. The outstanding loans at the end of the year also decreased from Rs. 23,294 to Rs. 17,985.

332. **TANNERS' SOCIETIES** — There were 28 societies in the beginning of the year to which 2 more were added with a total membership of 443 and a working capital of Rs. 14,147 including the share capital of Rs. 683. Loans amounting to Rs. 6,050 were advanced. Rs. 10,681 were recovered, leaving Rs. 12,300 as outstanding loans at the end of the year.

333. **SWEEPERS' SOCIETIES** — There were 22 societies to which 3 more were added during the year making a total of 25. The main object of these societies is to relieve the sweepers from the hands of the usurious money-lenders and to inculcate thrift. They had a total membership of 1,264. The share capital and the reserve fund amounted to Rs. 0·17 lakh and Rs. 0·14 lakh respectively. The compulsory deposits amounted to Rs. 0·17 lakh. The total loans advanced during the year were Rs. 0·29 lakh. The outstanding loans at the end of the year were Rs. 0·52 lakh.

334. **FLOOD RELIEF SOCIETIES** — The Government had advanced loans amounting to Rs. 5·64 lakhs to 63 flood relief societies specially organised to enable members to rebuild their houses after the flood of 1927. The members belonged to the poorer classes who earned their living by daily labour. The outstanding loans due from 6 societies without interest at the beginning of the year were Rs. 5,751 of which Rs. 909 were recovered during the year, leaving Rs. 4,842 to be realised from the debtor societies which are now 3 in number.

335. **THRIFT SOCIETIES** — The number of thrift societies increased from 20 to 24. Of these, 4 with a membership of 96 were men's societies and the rest 20 with a membership of 696 were women's societies. The savings amounted to Rs. 14,075 which with the previous balance totalled to Rs. 26,365 net at the end of the year. The working capital increased from Rs. 17,532 to Rs. 27,270 and reserve funds from Rs. 478 to Rs. 531.

336. **URBAN STORES** — There were 9 urban stores in the beginning of the year to which 19 new were added during the year. Of these, 25 with a membership of 14,167 and a share capital of Rs. 1.83 lakhs worked well during the year. These stores served a population of 2.44 lakhs.

337. **PUSTAKALAYA MANDAL** — The Pustakalaya Mandal with a membership of 735 and a share capital of Rs. 0.43 lakh sold 40,000 books worth Rs. 1.31 lakhs and made a profit of Rs. 5,224.

338. **MILK DEPOTS** — There are two co-operative milk supply societies in the State, one at Padra and the other in the Baroda City. They supplied 2.20 lakhs lbs. of milk worth Rs. 28,702.

339. **STUDENTS' STORES** — There were 20 students' stores in the State with a membership of 2,027 as against 1,960 in the preceding year. All the stores worked during the year and supplied school-books, stationery etc. worth Rs. 6,535 and made a profit of Rs. 1,022. The reserve fund of these stores amounted to Rs. 3,416 at the end of the year.

340. **STUDENTS' AID SOCIETIES** — There were 84 students' aid co-operative societies. The primary object of these societies is to render monetary help to students in prosecuting their higher studies. They have a membership of 1,030 with a paid up share capital of Rs. 0.68 lakh and the reserve fund and other funds amounting to Rs. 0.17 lakh. The societies advanced loans to 27 students amounting to Rs. 0.10 lakh during the year. Repayments amounted to Rs. 0.10 lakh. The total outstanding loans due by 87 students amounted to Rs. 0.62 lakh at the end of the year.

341. **CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE SOCIETY** — The society accepted 246 life proposals out of 288 during the year, for Rs. 2.08 lakhs. It had in all 926 policies in force for Rs. 5.67 lakhs at the end of the year. It collected in all Rs. 29,226 as premium and paid claims of 3 persons amounting to Rs. 3,000 during the year. The expense ratio decreased from 42 per cent to 41 per cent. 39 primary societies and one mill society have obtained its agency for the benefit of their members.

342. **HOUSING SOCIETIES** — The number of these societies increased from 28 to 35 during the year. Of these, 23 are in the Baroda district,

5 in the Navsari district, 6 in the Mehsana district and 1 in the Amreli district. Four of these societies have completed building houses, and 7 have obtained possession of lands. Acquisition of suitable land for the rest of the societies is undertaken by the Public Works department.

343. **THE CO-OPERATIVE INSTITUTE** — The Institute has a membership of 969 comprising of 565 societies and 404 individuals. It received Rs. 2,789 as fees from the members and obtained a subsidy of Rs. 1,000 from the Baroda district Local Board for extensive propaganda in the district. It has 11 taluka institutes affiliated to it. The institute did useful propaganda work through stalls put up at Jagudan on the "Farmers' Day" and in Mehsana and Vankal on the occasion of the Cattle Show and celebration of Panchayat week respectively. It held a conference of the Co-operative stores' societies of the State at Baroda and discussed the problem of civil supplies and difficulties of procurement etc. It conducted a secretaries' training class at Kosamba and gave training to 17 secretaries. The Institute continued its beneficial activities and edited "Gram Jivan," a monthly magazine, dealing with co-operation, agriculture and topics of rural interest. The Government paid Rs. 3,268 towards the expenses of the Institute during the year.

344. **CONCLUSION** — The following table shows the progress of the Co-operative movement in the State during the last five years :—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Year	Number of societies	Number of members	Share capital	Deposits from members	Loans and deposits from non-members	Loans and deposits from other societies and banks	Loans from Government	Debentures	Reserve and other funds	Total working capital	Fresh loans advanced	Repayments by the members	Loans outstanding at the end of the year
1939-40	1,297	65,920	12.37	30.24	20.57	16.67	1.08	3.42	17.63	101.98	27.25	28.41	66.04
1940-41	1,303	67,953	13.55	34.00	22.15	16.75	0.76	4.00	18.59	109.80	29.62	30.08	65.58
1941-42	1,294	71,532	14.95	37.52	21.78	17.37	0.94	5.00	19.98	117.84	40.77	38.57	65.78
1942-43	1,303	75,825	17.27	45.21	27.82	19.75	1.43	5.00	21.51	137.99	52.72	46.76	73.74
1943-44	1,359	1,15,172	23.65	60.08	28.62	16.62	1.25	6.00	23.88	160.09	88.62	92.46	69.89

CHAPTER XVIII

COMMERCE

Development of Port Okha

345. **REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE** — The following table shows the revenue and expenditure of Port Okha during the year as compared with the preceding year in lakhs of rupees :—

Item	Revenue		Expenditure	
	1943-44	1942-43	1943-44	1942-43
(a) Port ...	3'51	4'34	2'44	2'60
(b) Customs at Okha including sub-ports.	36'03	52'86	0'90	0'92

Cargo, paying duty of Rs. 19.75 lakhs was in bond at the end of the year as against Rs. 21.64 lakhs at the end of the preceding year.

346. **CAPITAL EXPENDITURE** — Capital expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 1,21,896. The total capital expenditure upto the end of the year amounted to Rs. 50.86 lakhs.

347. **SHIPPING AND TRADE** — There was a reduction in the number of steamers that called at Okha. 1,08,575 tons of cement and 20,708 tons of salt were exported as against 1,42,000 tons of cement and 55,000 tons of salt in the previous year. Oils, imported by Messrs. Burmah Shell and Co., registered an increase of about 9,000 tons from 50,804 tons in 1943 to 59,844 tons in 1944, because the installation catered for extended area on metre-gauge railways.

The details of shipping and cargo handled at Port Okha during the year as compared with the previous year are shown below :—

Particulars	Number of vessels	Cargo imported in tons	Cargo exported in tons	Total cargo handled in tons
COUNTRY CRAFT				
1943-44	1,088	2,457	17,751	20,208
1942-43	554	3,333	19,051	22,384
COASTING STEAMERS				
1943-44	2	127	4,180	4,307
1942-43	14	1,434	12,191	13,625
OCEAN-GOING STEAMERS				
1943-44	45	62,511	1,22,236	1,84,747
1942-43	59	56,819	1,81,874	2,38,693
Total 1943-44	1,135	65,095	1,44,167	2,09,262
" 1942-43	627	61,586	2,13,116	2,74,702

Development of Commerce

348. **TAX FREE ZONES** — Areas of factories and mills were excluded from the tax free zones in view of the special concessions given to such industrial concerns.

349. **WEIGHTS AND MEASURES** — The weights and measures inspectors verified and stamped 15,032 beamscales, platform machines, weighing bridges etc. The total income from verification and stamping fees was Rs. 7,538. There were 113 prosecutions, out of which 109 resulted in convictions.

350. **PATENTS AND DESIGNS** — During the year 13 patents were sealed. 17 patents were renewed or extended. The total number of patents in force at the end of the year was 29 as against 25 in the previous year. The patents were mostly for improvements in machinery.

351. **ELECTORAL ROLL** — A fresh electoral roll of the Commerce and Industries constituency was prepared during the year, as required under section 38 of the Dhara Sabha Electoral Rules.

352. **CONTROL ORDERS** — As war measures, Control Orders in respect of alluminium, cotton, iron and steel, newsprints, paper etc., which were promulgated in British India were adopted in the State with suitable changes.

353. **THE STATE ECONOMIC BOARD** — In addition to its function of advising the Government in all questions relating to the economic development of the State, communications and marketing, it is the Board's duty

- (i) to coordinate the activities of the district economic boards, and
- (ii) to assist the development departments in working out important schemes and in making intensive studies of important questions.

In each district there is an economic board constituted on lines similar to the Central Board. These boards held 10 meetings in the year and dealt with 20 questions regarding the construction of roads and bridges etc. The State Economic Board held 3 meetings and considered 12 questions including 4 recommendations made by the district economic boards.

CHAPTER XIX

INDUSTRIES

354. **GOVERNMENT POLICY** — The policy of His Highness' Government is to give assistance for starting new or developing existing industries in the following ways:—

Firstly, surveys and scientific experiments and investigations are carried out and the results made known to interested parties. Liberal grants are also made in aid of surveys, experiments etc., conducted by private persons or institutions.

Secondly, the State participates in the financing of private industries by subscribing a portion of the share capital or by giving loans.

Thirdly, concessions in respect of octroi duties, acquisition of land, etc., are granted.

Fourthly, by maintenance of an efficient system of banking.

Fifthly, propagation by means of industrial exhibitions and fairs.

355. **RESEARCH** — Investigations into Tennin materials in Terminalia chebula and the preparation of calcium gluconate, a very useful medical drug, were carried out.

Experiments on the preparation of white ant credecorator, brush glue, thinner varnishes, easter gum, phosphate from bone ash, gum paper and gum and on activating of Vyara clay were carried out.

About 150 samples of minerals, chemicals etc., were tested and analytical reports supplied to the parties concerned.

The work of supplying writing inks to Government offices and institutions was carried out by the Industrial Chemist's Laboratory. White gloy prepared in the laboratory was approved. Cattle dip was manufactured and supplied to the Government of India.

356. **CONCESSIONS** — The department received 55 applications during the year as against 77 in the previous year for concessions for the development of various industries. Of these, 26 were sanctioned. 32 were for acquisition of land for factories and 7 for starting distilleries.

357. **MINING** — 2 approval certificates were granted and 4 were renewed.

Major Industries

358. **TEXTILE** — The textile industries continued to show progress under the impetus of conditions created by the war.

Cotton Mills : 18 cotton mills were working in the State, of which 7 were in the Baroda district, 8 in the Mehsana and 3 in the Navsari district. Their consumption of cotton increased from 1,08,631 bales to 1,23,665. Of this, 71 per cent was Indian cotton as against 75 per cent in the previous year. The number of looms increased from 6,927 to 6,956 and spindles from 3,32,208 to 3,55,726. The capital invested came to Rs. 654 lakhs. The number of persons employed decreased from 23,982 to 23,482 and the total yarn produced increased from 342 lakhs lbs. to 415 lakhs lbs. The progress of the textile industry during the last seven years can be seen from the following table :—

Year	Number of Mills	Capital in Rs. (lakhs)	Number of looms	Number of spindles	Persons employed	Yarn produced lbs. (lakhs)
1936-37 ...	15	290	6,206	2,78,000	15,300	288
1937-38 ...	16	304	6,771	3,24,000	18,600	358
1938-39 ...	16	320	6,914	3,34,500	19,000	344
1939-40 ...	16	317	7,110	3,32,100	20,200	332
1940-41 ...	16	384	6,874	3,25,732	22,726	398
1941-42 ...	18	380	6,932	3,28,232	24,713	431
1942-43 ...	18	504	6,927	3,32,208	23,982	342
1943-44 ...	18	654	6,956	3,35,726	23,482	415

Woollen Mills : Shree Dinesh Mills Ltd., was engaged in the execution of orders for war supplies and manufactured 5½ lakhs yards of cloth and blankets worth about Rs. 26½ lakhs, which increased by about Rs. 14.5 lakhs as compared to the previous year.

359. **CHEMICAL** — The Tata Chemicals Ltd., started in 1939 with a capital of Rs. 125 lakhs produced 23,205 tons of salt and its bye products. During the year, the process house for the manufacture of soda ash came into operation and soda ash of standard specifications has been produced and put in the market.

The Alembic Chemical Works Co. Ltd., continued to manufacture drugs, fine chemicals etc. There are two other chemical works; the Petlad Chemical works and the Star Chemical works (formerly the

Hira Chemical works). Both manufacture mainly sulphuric acid. A plant for the manufacture of sodium sulphite has been installed by the latter.

The Sarabhai Chemicals Ltd., Baroda have started building operations and hope to start production as early as possible.

360. SUGAR — The Gandevi Sugar works recorded a steady improvement in its working. The factory obtained and crushed 2,65,832 Bengal maunds of sugarcane during the year. The production amounted to 23,488 Bengal maunds of sugar and 10,865 Bengal maunds of molasses. The excise duty realised by the State was Rs. 50,557 as against Rs. 40,421 in the previous year.

361. MATCHES — The Datar match factory at Petlad produced 2,41,319 gross matches during the year as against 1,71,222 in the previous year. The total excise duty collected amounted to Rs. 6.79 lakhs as against Rs. 3.95 lakhs in the previous year.

362. CHINA CLAY — The China clay works at Ransipur refined 440 tons of China clay during the year as against 932 tons in the previous year and paid a royalty of Rs. 2,000 as against Rs. 2,798 in the previous year.

363. SURGICAL INSTRUMENTS FACTORY — Messrs. Powells Ltd., have been given possession of land for starting a surgical instruments factory at Billimora.

364. WAR EFFORTS — The industries of the State are taking their share in supplying articles required for the war to the Government of India. There was a general improvement in the industrial progress of the State.

The intensification of the war effort gave further stimulus to State industries and industrial production and afforded scope for adequate employment on good wages to large number of workers and employees in the textile mills. The production capacity of factories in Baroda State has considerably increased and new factories have been set up. The State has been harnessing all her industrial resources for the successful prosecution of the war.

365. TECHNICAL TRAINING — Arrangement was made for training of war technicians such as mechanics, fitters, turners, electricians, mill-wrights at the Kala-Bhavan technical institute and the G. B. S. railway workshop at Baroda and the Tata industrial school at Navsari. Out of 387 candidates, who were admitted for training in the above centres, 175 trainees were sent to the army training centres before deputing them for active service.

366. **RECRUITMENT** — Government granted permission for recruitment on voluntary basis of technical and clerical personnel by the Government of India from amongst the subjects of the State including Government servants. About 40 such applications were forwarded to the provincial recruiting officers.

Cottage industries

367. **COTTAGE INDUSTRIES** — For the development of cottage industries in the State, the Government maintain the Diamond Jubilee Cottage Industries Institute in Baroda, and a large number of training classes in the villages, where scholarships are given to students. The Government also gave grants-in-aid to private institutions, which promote the development of cottage industries and loans for starting them.

368. **DIAMOND JUBILEE COTTAGE INDUSTRIES INSTITUTE** — During the year there were 46 students in the institute, 8 learning calico printing, 5 block engraving, 2 lacquer work, 15 in metal classes and 8 in the brass stool and wood carving classes. They prepared articles worth Rs. 4,921. The total value of their sales amounted to Rs. 5,123.

Calico printing class for women : The assistance of a demonstrator was continued to Shree Chimmabai Stree Udyogalaya for training middle and backward class women in dyeing and calico printing. Scholarships amounting to Rs. 476 were awarded to students under training and an amount of Rs. 200 was sanctioned by the Government for purchasing printing blocks. 19 women received training during the year. Out of them, 8 were in the 1st year, 1 in the second year and 10 students of villages received elementary training in dyeing and printing.

Scholarships : The Government sanctioned following scholarships for a period of 3 years :—

- (i) 8 scholarships of Rs. 5 each for the 1st year students,
- (ii) 8 scholarships of Rs. 5 each for the second year students, and
- (iii) 2 scholarships of Rs. 10 each for advance training of the best 2 students who completed the regular 2 years course.

An equipment grant of Rs. 1,900 was also sanctioned.

Sales depot : The sales depot besides stocking and selling articles prepared in the classes of the Institute and the demonstration classes of the department in the State working outside Baroda, exhibited curios and other articles prepared by the artisans of the State and sold some of them without charging any fees.

Articles of wood carving, metal work, calico printing, leather work and lacquer work of various shapes, sizes and designs were exhibited and prepared on orders. The total value of the sales was Rs. 7,357 as against Rs. 7,071 in the previous year.

The system of advancing 60% of the price on finished articles exhibited for sale in the sales depot was continued.

369. DEMONSTRATIONS IN VILLAGES -- Demonstration classes in handloom weaving were held at Ranuj, Balisana, Bahucharaji, Unjah, Deoli (Kathiawar) and Kodinar. The total number of students trained was 205 as against 191 in the previous year. They were taught improved methods in sizing, weaving and new designs were introduced.

Demonstration classes in carding and spinning were held at Zarola, Tarva, Sadhali, and Deoli. About 56 persons took advantage of the classes. 1,409 families from 28 villages in Kodinar taluka spun 800 mds. of yarn and prepared 2,237 pieces of cloth each 24 yards long, worth Rs. 24,754.

The calico printing class was conducted at Kungher (taluka Patan) till 30-9-43 and then shifted to Petlad where it still continues. The total number of persons trained in improved methods of dyeing and printing was 57 as against 30 in the previous year. The demonstrator also imparted training to girl students of the Kukmibai Girls' High School at Petlad. The weavers, khatries and others of Kungher and Petlad dyed 597 lbs. of yarn and 9,150 yards of cloth and printed 1,808 yards of cloth.

Improved methods of dyeing yarn were demonstrated to the weavers of Patan.

Improved methods in bark tanning were demonstrated to the chamars and village tanners of Pattan, Sundhia, Shahapur, Varvala, Varetha and Kheralu and about 33 persons were trained.

Leather working class which was conducted at Vadnagar in the beginning of the year having finished its mission at that place was shifted to Pansar on 12-2-44 where it still continues. About 15 students were trained and articles worth Rs. 632 were prepared.

The silk demonstration classes at Deoli (Kodinar) and Gadat (Gandevi) were continued. 75 persons were trained at these two centres. 24 broods of eri worms were reared which produced 65,475 cocoons weighing 1,153 tolas. 172 tolas silk yarn was spun. About 30 yards of silk have been prepared from silk produced in these centres.

Different families prepared in all 68 lbs. of cocoons worth about Rs. 170, spun 8 lbs. of silk worth about Rs. 80 and prepared 40 lbs. of silk cloth worth about Rs. 200 as a side industry.

Government aid to cottage industries

370. GRANT-IN-AID — Spinning and weaving implements such as carding machines, spinning wheels, hand looms etc., worth Rs. 1,355 were given to weavers and farmers of the State through institutions at half the cost.

371. LOANS — Loans amounting to Rs. 27,965 were granted to chamars, weavers and other artisans of the State as against Rs. 27,985 in the previous year. These loans are given free of interest and are recovered by small monthly instalments. Instalments amounting to Rs. 19,665 were recovered and instalments amounting to Rs. 45,730 were outstanding at the end of the year.

372. WAR SUPPLY — Inquiries in respect of different materials from the Supply department of the Government of India were attended to.

Order for the supply of 2,500 pairs of sandals was executed during the year.

The work of supplying Dosuti dusters was also accepted and the same is being executed through Shree Sadanand Textile Mills Ltd., Billimora.

Industries Board

373. INDUSTRIES BOARD — To provide technical information regarding the possibility of starting industries in the State, and to assist industrialists with advice on technical matters, the Government have created an Industries Board. It consists of four sections :— mechanical, agricultural, chemical and general.

During the year, experiments sanctioned by the Board for commercialization of fruit products and manufacture of tailor's tap were carried out.

Factories and Labour

374. FACTORY — The number of factories under the Factory Act was 170 as against 163 in the previous year. The following table shows the number of operatives employed in these factories :—

Year	Total number of operatives	Engaged in industries		Men	Women	Children (including youths of admissible age)
		Cotton	Others			
1943-44 ...	41,771	34,223	7,548	34,460	5,912	1,399
1942-43 ...	43,088	34,515	8,573	37,371	5,671	46

375. FACTORY INSPECTION — Out of 80 perennial factories working, 6 were inspected once, 60 twice and 11 more than thrice.

One factory was amalgamated with an existing one, 7 were dismantled and 3 were removed from the register. Out of 103 seasonal factories, 93 worked this season. Out of these, 84 were inspected, while 9 could not be inspected because they worked only for a short time.

376. ACCIDENTS — The total number of accidents during the year was 344 as against 321 in the previous year. Of these, 240 were minor accidents, 100 serious and 4 fatal.

377. NIGHT SHIFT — Out of 80 perennial factories working, 25 worked on night shift almost throughout the year as against 35 in the previous year. Many of the seasonal factories also worked on night shift on some days.

378. SANITATION — The general sanitation of the factories was satisfactory.

379. TRADE UNIONS — The number of registered trade unions in the State was 4. One new trade union viz. Sidhpur Majur Mahajan Sangh was registered during the year. The Baroda Union had 2,932 members, the Petlad Union 2,660, the Kalol Union 1,818, the Kadi Union 1,113 and the Sidhpur Union 1,153. The membership of these unions formed 23.1 per cent of the total labour employed as against 19.6 per cent in the preceding year.

380. LABOUR DISPUTES — There were disputes between the management and the labour of the three mills in Sidhpur and of the Alembic Chemical Works Ltd., for increase in dearness allowance etc. The Law Member was appointed as an arbitrator. The question of the three mills in Sidhpur was amicably settled and it was decided to give dearness allowance from October 1943 at the rate of 55% of the dearness allowance given to the Cotton mill hands in Ahmedabad. The question of the Alembic Chemical Works, Ltd., could not be decided as the labour party did not desire to conduct the arbitration any further.

The Assistant Director of Labour visited 29 factories.

381. ADULT EDUCATION — Only two labour unions conducted adult education classes and trained 85 persons. Most of the adults have taken primary education as it is free and compulsory in the State and hence such classes are not required to be run by the factories.

382. CANTEENS — Fifteen canteens were conducted on non-profitable basis during the year as against six in the previous year. Tea, coffee, food-stuffs, aerated waters, etc., were sold to the labourers at cost price. The labourers were satisfied with the quality of materials supplied to them. Efforts were made by the department to have canteens started in all big factories of the State.

383. GAMES AND LIBRARIES — Seven factories have made arrangements for in-door and out-door games. Two mills maintain small libraries for the use of their employees.

384. **HOUSING SOCIETIES** — A housing society of the workers of Kalol has been registered and the required area has also been acquired for them by the Government. But owing to rise in prices of the building materials, the work of construction was postponed.

385. **CHEAP GRAIN SHOPS** — All the mills and big factories in the State have opened grain shops for their employees.

386. **CRECHES FOR CHILDREN** — Almost all the mills in the State have made arrangements for creches for children. Some mills have engaged nurses to look after the children of the employees.

387. **MEDICAL RELIEF** — About 20 large factories in the State have engaged full time or part time qualified doctors and compounders and free medical aid was provided to labourers. In most of the other factories, First Aid boxes were provided.

388. **CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES** — In order that the increased emoluments received by the labourers in the form of dearness allowance, bonus etc., due to war conditions may not be frittered away special efforts were made to start Co-operative Credit and Thrift Societies of the labourers. The Assistant Director of Labour was appointed as a Special Registrar for these societies. 19 societies were registered with a membership of 23,057. The following statement gives an idea regarding the savings made by them during the year :—

Share capital	Compulsory savings	Dearness allowance savings	Other deposits	Reserve & other funds	Total working capital
Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1,66,737	2,19,769	9,89,224	3,221	1,636	13,80,587

389. **PAYMENT OF WAGES RULES** — 62 complaints were received during the year as against 40 in the previous year.

390. **WORKMEN'S COMPENSATION ACT** — The administration of the Workmen's Compensation Act continued to be in the hands of the Subas of the districts who are ex-officio Commissioners under the Act. Compensation amounting to Rs. 21,007 was paid to workers for accidents in the factories as against Rs. 17,760 in the previous year.

391. **MATERNITY BENEFIT** — The total amount of maternity benefit paid to female operatives in the factories was Rs. 4,431 as against Rs. 4,175 in the previous year.

392. **BOILERS ACT** — The number of boilers on the register was 651 as against 633 in the previous year. Of these, 325 had been removed or scrapped. Three owners were fined during the year for breaches of the Act.

CHAPTER XX

STATISTICS AND INSURANCE

I. Commercial Intelligence and Statistics

393. RETURNS AND STATEMENTS — The following returns and statements were compiled by the department :—

S. No.	Particulars	Period
1	Consumption of cotton bales ...	Monthly
2	Returns of Joint Stock Companies ...	"
3	Returns of Foreign sea-borne trade ...	"
4	Returns of cotton mills ...	Annual
5	Returns of Woollen mills ...	"
6	Returns of Joint Stock Companies ...	"
7	Returns of Foreign Joint Stock Companies ...	"
8	Returns of minerals ...	"
9	Returns of large industrial establishments ...	"
10	Returns of stock of cotton held by the trade centres in the State on the 31st August 1943.	"
11	Statistical Abstract ...	1942-43

II. Joint Stock Companies and Benevolent Societies

394. REGISTERED COMPANIES — Due to control of capital issues in force in the State, only 40 new companies were registered during the year. There were in all 307 companies on the register — 169 public and 138 private companies — at the end of the year. Of these, 24 companies were in liquidation. Of the 307 companies working in the State, 226 were companies incorporated in the State and the remaining 81 were foreign companies. Of the indigenous companies, 27 were cotton mills including 4 in liquidation, 10 were companies for supplying electricity, 19 were for chemical and

other allied trades, 5 were for insurance business, 46 were agency companies and the remaining were other miscellaneous companies. Of the 81 foreign companies, 59 were insurance companies.

395. NEW COMPANIES — The 40 new companies registered during the year may be classified as follows :—

Companies	State	Foreign	Total
I. Banking Loan and Insurance			
Banking and Loan,			
(i) Banking ...	0	1	1
Insurance,			
(ii) Life, Fire and Marine Insurance.	0	8	8
II. Trading and Manufacturing			
Chemicals and Allied trades ...	4	1	5
Iron, Steel and ship building ...	0	2	2
Engineering ...	1	0	1
Tanner and leather trade ...	2	0	2
Agencies ...	5	2	7
Brass and copper ...	0	1	1
Others ...	9	0	9
III. Mills and Presses			
Cotton Mills ...	3	0	3
Cotton gins and presses ...	1	0	1
Total ...	25	15	40

396. CONTROL OF CAPITAL ISSUE — Rule 94-A regarding control of capital issues of the Defence of India Rules was in force in the State. Under the provisions of the said rule permissions were given for issue of capital in the State in 49 cases. Of these, 22 were for first issue of capital, while 27 were for further issue of capital.

397. CAPITAL OF THE COMPANIES.— The paid-up capital of companies in the State increased by Rs. 2.02 lakhs and of the companies other than insurance companies incorporated outside the State by Rs. 2.25 lakhs. This increase was largely due to the registration of

the new companies. The following table shows the authorised, subscribed and paid up capital of the companies incorporated in and outside the State, excluding insurance companies incorporated elsewhere and working in the State :—

Year	Number of companies on the register (excluding insurance companies incorporated elsewhere and working in the State)	Capital in lakhs of rupees				
		Authorised	Subscribed	Paid-up		
				Companies incorporated		
				In the State	Outside the State	Total
1942-43	222	4,755	1,898	3,522	1,445	1,787
		33,612	31,865	6,556	53,661	80,217
1943-44	248	5,216	2,286	5,546	1,459	20,144
		22,712	89,749	1,836	84,276	6,112
Net variation during the year.	+ 26	+ 4,608	+ 38,857	+ 20,235	+ 1,430	+ 2,266
		9,100	884	280	615	5,895

398. BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES — There were 126 societies on the register under the Benevolent Societies Act in the beginning of the year and 53 new societies were registered during the year making a total of 179. Of these, 75 were societies for promoting education, libraries etc., 23 merchants associations, 12 sanitary and medical relief and the remaining for other miscellaneous purposes. Out of the 179 societies, 122 were in the Baroda, 30 in the Mehsana, 19 in the Navsari and 8 in the Amreli districts.

399. PARTNERSHIP FIRMS — The number of partnership firms on the register under the Partnership Act was 794 at the end of the previous year to which 108 new firms were added during the year, making a total of 902. Of these, 8 firms were dissolved during the year, leaving 894 firms on the register at the end of the year.

400. CERTIFIED AUDITORS — There were 51 certified auditors on the register at the beginning of the year and 7 new auditors were enrolled during the year. One auditor died during the year. Thus there were 57 certified auditors on the register at the end of the year.

III. Insurance

401. INSURANCE COMPANIES — There were 64 insurance companies on the register under the Insurance Act, 1938 as applied to the State at the end of the previous year and 10 new insurance companies were registered during the year making a total of 74

insurance companies on the register at the end of the year. Out of 74 insurance companies, 69 were insurance companies incorporated outside the State and the remaining 5 were the companies incorporated in the State. Besides these, there were 3 foreign provident insurance societies working in the State.

402. AMENDMENT OF INSURANCE ACT — Insurance Act, 1938 as applied to the State was amended during the year on the lines of the Indian Insurance (Amendment) Act No. XLI of 1939, No. XX of 1940 and No. XIII of 1941.

403. LICENCES — During the year, under the Insurance Act, 1938 as applied to the State, 1,293 licences for canvassing insurance business were issued as against 810 in the previous year.

Two actuary's certificates were issued during the year as in the previous year.

404. WAR RISK INSURANCE — The War Risks (Factories) Insurance Ordinance was extended for a further period of one year upto 31st March 1945. During the year 17 new factories came under the scheme, making a total of 185 factories at the end of the year.

405. BANKS -- During the year permission was granted to one Banking company for opening branches in the State under Defence of India Rule 94-D. Thus there are three foreign (i. e. incorporated outside the State) Banking Companies working in the State including the two permitted in the previous year.

IV. Insurance of State Servants

406. COMPULSORY INSURANCE FOR GOVERNMENT SERVANTS — The scheme for compulsory insurance of Government servants continued to work well. During the year, 1,285 new proposals were received, 855 accepted, 68 rejected and 31 postponed. The total annual premium received was Rs. 1.22 lakhs. 23 claims amounting to Rs. 10,093 were paid during the year. Surrender value was paid in 15 cases. The total investment of insurance fund amounted to Rs. 2.35 lakhs at the end of the year.

CHAPTER XXI

ELECTRICITY

407. **THE CITY ELECTRIC SUPPLY** — The Baroda Electric Supply and distribution systems were maintained in a satisfactory working condition during the year. The new generating set of 1,206 B. H. P. was received and erected at the Goyagate Power House, and systematic overhaul of the old engines was taken in hand. New connections for lighting purposes were released as far as practicable, but the restriction on power connections had to be continued.

The city electric supply undertaking generated 43,26,554 K. W. (units) as against 40,43,003 K. W. (units) in the previous year. The demand amounted to 36.25 lakhs K. W. as against 31.92 lakhs K. W. in the previous year. Of these, 19.42 lakhs units were used for domestic purposes, 13.64 lakhs for industrial, and 3.19 lakhs for agricultural and other purposes.

The total load on the undertaking was 5,050 K. W. at the end of the year as against 5,004.6 K. W. in the previous year. The number of consumers was 5,137 as against 4,918 in the preceding year. The total number of street lights was 2,147 as against 2,145 in the previous year.

The working expenses of the city supply undertaking amounted to Rs. 3.66 lakhs as against 3.08 lakhs in the preceding year. The cost per unit generated was 1.3 annas and per unit sold was 1.6 annas.

The total revenue amounted to Rs. 7.26 lakhs as against Rs. 6.57 lakhs in the previous year. The surplus over working expenses amounted to Rs. 3.60 lakhs. The surplus, after allowing Rs. 94,481 for depreciation represents a net profit of 9 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 29.17 lakhs. After deducting 1.15 lakhs for the Government first charge, the surplus transferred to the reserve fund amounted to Rs. 1.58 lakhs.

408. **PETLAD ELECTRIC SUPPLY** — The Petlad electric supply undertaking worked satisfactorily. The number of units generated was 2,65,347 as against 2,15,056 in the previous year. Of these, 80,439 units were used for domestic purposes, 84,568 for industrial, 3,127 for agricultural and 16,928 for other purposes. The total load connected was 115 K. W. during the year. The number of consumers increased during the year from 522 to 552. The number of street lights was 400 at the end of the year.

The revenue amounted to Rs. 0.44 lakh and the working expenses to Rs. 0.25 lakh, leaving a gross surplus of Rs. 0.19 lakh over working expenses. After deducting depreciation charge of Rs. 6,357, the net surplus represents a profit of 6.2 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 1.97 lakhs.

409. **GANDEVI ELECTRIC SUPPLY** — The Gandevi electric supply undertaking worked satisfactorily. The number of units generated was 1,20,439 and the number of units sold 1,02,802. The total load connected was 104.75 K. W. The gross revenue was Rs. 20,443 while the expenditure amounted to Rs. 19,863 which includes interest on store balance.

Telephone

410. **TELEPHONE EXCHANGE IN THE STATE** — The demand for new telephone connections continued to grow progressively during the year. However, a few connections only could be given owing to shortage of stores. There are automatic telephone systems at Baroda, Dabhoi, Petlad, Mehsana, Navsari and Billimora. All these have been connected with the trunk telephone systems. New Public call offices were opened at Bhilupur on Baroda-Dabhoi trunk line and at Gandevi. The work for opening a public call office at Unza and an automatic telephone exchange at Sidhpur will be taken on hand as soon as the stores are collected.

411. **FINANCIAL RESULTS** — The telephone systems showed good financial results.

412. **GENERAL** — All licensed electrical undertakings in the Raj including Government works were inspected by the Electrical Inspector. Various types of inspections to be done by the Electrical Inspector have been classified and new scales of fees have been fixed.

CHAPTER XXII

FISHERIES

413. MARINE FISHERIES — Surveys and collection of Biological specimens and statistical data were continued. The skeleton of the Killerwhale was cleaned and the bones etc. were studied for scientific purposes. The fishing season off Kodinar started late in October this year owing to unfavourable weather. The pomfret fishery was quite normal and a regular fresh fish export was carried out throughout the year.

414. PEARL AND CONCH FISHERIES — The windowpane oyster pearl fishery was leased for Rs. 2,725 this year as against Rs. 1,350 in 1942-43 and the conch fishery for Rs. 1,701 as against Rs. 1,100 in the previous year. This year due to the shortage of labour the lessee was not able to work out the fishery in the middle of the season. The total weight of the pearls collected during the season and year was 164½ tolas. Attempts are being made to open a bangle factory at Okha. Arrangements to supply windowpane oyster shells were made during the year and 750 shells were supplied to the Prabhat Tile Works, Navsari. They are broken into pieces required to be set in the top layer of the polished tile.

415. INDUSTRIAL EXPERIMENTS — The manure conservancy experiments at Vanchi-Borsi were of 3 types. 1. Fish-offal, 2. prawn and other crustacean offal and 3. marsh plants the seablite and marsh samphire. From the conserved prawn offal 'prawn meal dust' was prepared and sold. The miniature of the 'drier-cum-merry go round' was prepared and erected at Vanchi-Borsi fishery station and experiments in drying 'bumla' with the help of instrument were conducted throughout the season. The Imperial Council of Agricultural Research scheme of experiments for curing, pickling and smoking of fish was worked at Kotdah. Dead oyster shells were collected at Madhwad and shell grit as poultry food was prepared for sale. Experiments to devise means of prevention of the beetle, damaging stored dried fish, were undertaken as also attempts were made to study the life history of the beetle. Experiments demonstrating fish canning were conducted at Okha for those interested in the industry.

416. SHARK LIVER OIL INDUSTRY — The scheme was continued during the year, the work of extraction of oil being done at Madhwad and the preparation of medicated oil and its sale at Okha. The fishing season starting unusually late this year affected the output of oil which was 725 lbs. as against 1,256 lbs. in the last year. 284 bottles and

2,408 lbs. of oil in bulk and 860 lbs. of Sipa were sold during the year. The quantity of waste liver sold was $11\frac{1}{2}$ maunds. The sale proceeds amounted to Rs. 4,995-15-0.

417. FRESH-WATER FISHERIES — Studies and cultural operations, were continued. This year the river Shingoda in Kodinar district was under survey. Arrangements to open a prawn farm at Nedra were made and lands were obtained from the Revenue department for the purpose of putting up huts for the laboratory etc. A paper on the 'Fresh-water Prawns of Baroda' was read at the Delhi session of Indian Science Congress, and was published. Arrangements were made to import quick-growing food fishes from Madras to work up the scheme with a view to exploring the possibilities of increasing the fish supply by stocking a few selected rivers and irrigation tanks. Laboratory experiments in feeding habits of fish, turtles and prawns were undertaken as also identification of collections.

418. SOCIO-ECONOMIC WORK AMONG FISHERMEN — The Kodinar fishermen's colonisation scheme was worked out at Kotdah. There were five colonists who fished for the department.

CHAPTER XXIII

FORESTS

419. **FORESTS** — The forests of the State, which cover about 712 square miles, may be divided into two groups;

- (i) the mixed deciduous teak forests of the Navsari district situated in a belt of heavy rainfall; these cover 561 square miles or 80 per cent of the forest area;
- (ii) the fuel and grazing forests of the drier districts of Baroda, Mehsana, Amreli and Okhamandal. For purposes of administration the forest area has been divided into nine ranges. Of these, five are in the Navsari district and one in each of the remaining four districts including Okhamandal.

A. Silviculture

420. **SYSTEMS** — The system of selection-cum-improvement with fixed girth limits for the main species has been introduced in the timber forests of the Navsari district. Girth limit for teak in the main felling has been provisionally fixed at 34" as a safe-guard against over felling till definite statistics are available and working plans are ready.

Fuel forests were worked under the simple coppice system. Trees were so cut as to stimulate regeneration in the form of coppice shoots.

421. **REGENERATION** — The rainfall in the forests of the Navsari district was 71 inches. Some species did not seed well. Plant survival from natural seed was good in some places and growth of coppice shoots in the felled coupes was satisfactory.

422. **ARTIFICIAL REGENERATION** — Selected plots in the freshly worked coupes were clear felled and the debris systematically stacked and burnt. 427 rab patches were sown with teak and other seeds. The total area sown was 145 bighas as against 119 in the previous year.

Besides this, 77,132 stump plants of teak and other timber species were planted in the intervening spaces between rabs and in other parts of the forests.

26,480 nursery plants of silver oak, hirda, bawal etc., were transplanted into the forests.

Afforestation work was continued in the forests of Okhamandal, Gir, Attarsumba ranges and khari lands of Navsari and Palsana talukas. Hardy local species were tried in these parts.

13,695 lbs. of seeds of principal species were collected for local use and soil conservation work.

423. **ANTI-EROSION WORKS** — At Hirpura in Vijapur taluka 112 earthen check dams, 20 brush wood check dams, 5 lime stone check dams, 7 boulder dams, 62 sloping of kothar heads and 1 sand bag dam were made. Small continuous earthen ridges totalling 14,340 feet in length were constructed on the top of the ravines. Euphorbia cuttings and seeds of babul, aval, limba, aniar, timru etc., were planted along the bunds and the slopes of the ravines. The gaucher area was treated with grass seeds of good quality. Similar work was done in the Dhari soil conservation area. The total expenditure on soil conservation work at Hirpura amounted to Rs. 6,858.

Cultural operations in the tending of the growing stock were continued in 62 coupes. Congested coppice shoots were cut, leaving only the most vigorous ones. Inferior species, interfering with the principal ones, were cut or girdled. Silvicultural thinnings including teak trees over 40" were done in 57 coupes exploited 25 years back.

Plantations and sowings were successful except in Gir range.

424. **RESEARCH** — To determine the girth and height increments of the principal species, sample plots have been laid out at different places in the forests.

Trials for the cultivation of derris ferruginea and pyrethrum, two insecticide yielding plants were continued. 100 plants of the former were in good condition. Their suckers were found to have 1 to 2 % of rotenone which is an insecticide.

Sandal wood seeds were supplied to Songadh, Sankheda and Gir ranges for plantation. Plants were raised in baskets and transplanted in the rab areas. 289 plants are progressing well. In Attarsumba range natural spreading of sandal wood trees was encouraged.

Seeds of aleurites fordii and aleurites montana (tung oil seeds) were supplied in Vyara and Gir ranges for raising plants.

B. Utilisation

425. **MAJOR FOREST PRODUCE** — There was a marked improvement in the timber market. Income from the sale of timber nearly doubled this year. Details are given in the following table:—

Year	Number of coupes	Total area exploited (in bighas)	Total realisation (in lakhs of rupees)	Average realisation per bigha Rs.	Timber extracted (in cubic feet)	Fuel extracted (in cubic feet)
1942-43 ...	113	19,824	7.88	39-12-2	7,86,257	10,77,320
1943-44 ...	111	19,802	14.67	74-1-11	6,38,450	14,71,820

The increase in revenue was due to abnormal rise in prices and competition amongst auction-bidders.

The increase in the out-turn of firewood was on account of intensive extraction from distant coupes as a result of higher prices. The decrease in the out-turn of timber was due to labour and transport difficulties.

426. MINOR FOREST PRODUCE — The minor forest produce is exploited on a system of farming and license. The total value of minor forest produce sold was Rs. 1.21 lakhs as compared with Rs. 0.94 lakh in the previous year.

The grazing fees amounted to Rs. 30,677, bamboos fetched Rs. 32,405, lac Rs. 500, asintra and timru leaves Rs. 7,199, mahura flowers Rs. 5,691, stone from Songir quarries Rs. 6,039 and miscellaneous revenue Rs. 38,825.

427. FOREST INDUSTRIES — Leases for the development of katha (catechu), lac, and timru leaves industries in the forest areas have been granted. During the year 6,003 maunds of katha were prepared and Rs. 6,003 were paid as royalty to the Government.

428. MISCELLANEOUS — To relieve scarcity of fodder in Okhamandal, the grass storage scheme was continued. 13.14 lakhs pounds of grass were stored during the year in the Gir range in the Amreli district.

People of Navsari forest areas are allowed to take free of cost materials for building huts, from the forests. During the year, materials worth Rs. 46 lakh were taken.

People living in and around forest areas in the Navsari district earned about Rs. 8 lakhs as wages mostly in the slack agricultural season.

Under the scheme of supplementing fuel and charcoal supply to Baroda city, 1.21 lakhs maunds of firewood and 3,445 maunds of charcoal were made available to the public at 10 annas and Rs. 1-12-0 a maund respectively.

220 bighas of land were given to cultivators under the Taungya system. Under this system cultivators are allowed to grow food crops in between the lines of forest plants.

C. Forest Administration

429. FOREST ROADS ETC. — 36.6 miles of fair weather roads were completed and 25.4 miles were in progress. The amount spent from the forest cess on these roads was Rs. 83,172 as against Rs. 50,670 in the previous year. The expenditure on maintenance of roads was Rs. 3,077 and on that of wells and buildings Rs. 2,738.

430. **FOREST OFFENCES** — The number of forest offences was 145 as against 116 in the previous year. Most of them were compounded.

431. **FIRE** -- The area burnt by fire was 30,751 bighas as against 8,970 bighas in the previous year. The expenditure on fire protection was Rs. 4,581 as against Rs. 4,293 in the previous year.

432. **CATTLE AND FOREST CLOSURE** — Felled coupes are thrown open to grazing in the sixth year after felling. The closure is now limited to areas which, after felling have been put under regeneration and to those with young plantations. During the year, 11·6 per cent of the forest areas were closed and 88·4 per cent were open to grazing.

During the year 90,061 animals grazed as against 85,251 in the previous year. The total revenue realised was Rs. 27,216 as against Rs. 25,132 in the previous year. Incidence of grazing in the reserved forests was 7·6 bighas per animal.

Rs. 5,673 were realised from sale of grass as against Rs. 7,545 in the previous year.

433. **DESTRUCTION OF VEGETATION** — During the year climbers were destroyed in 1,10,316 bighas as against 99,201 bighas in the previous year. Besides this, coupe contractors destroyed climbers in their coupes.

434. **REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE** — The total revenue for the year was Rs. 16,32,938 (including Rs. 1,41,841 of forest local cess) as against Rs. 9·52 lakhs in the previous year. The increase of Rs. 6,80,912 was mainly due to higher biddings obtained in coupe auctions. The expenditure was Rs. 1,32,496 as against Rs. 1·23 lakhs in the previous year.

CHAPTER XXIV

PUBLIC WORKS

435. GENERAL — The activities of the Public Works department suffered owing to the war. The shortage of supplies, the difficulties of transport, and rising prices have told on the progress of the works during the year.

436. IRRIGATION — The following irrigation schemes were under execution or investigation:—

- (i) *Vijapur Tubewell Irrigation Scheme in the Mehsana district* : To test the subsoil supply of water, forty tube-wells were sanctioned in 1939-40. During the year under report, contract for six more wells is given and boring in two wells is in progress. The total number of successful wells so far is twenty six. In eighteen of the successful wells, pumping plants were installed and irrigation carried out. The total area irrigated was 1,366 bighas. The scheme is being worked by oil engines and pumps. It is to be ultimately worked by electricity and the machinery for power generating station is awaited. The total cost of the scheme is Rs. 9.63 lakhs and the total expenditure incurred so far is Rs. 9.45 lakhs.
- (ii) *Sabarmati Irrigation Project in the Mehsana district* : The scheme is ready and awaits scrutiny by the Irrigation expert.
- (iii) *Zankhari Irrigation Project in the Navsari district* : The project has been scrutinised by Irrigation experts and the report of the Geological survey is awaited.
- (iv) *Umra Lift Irrigation Scheme* : This is a scheme for improving irrigation facilities in Gandevi taluka. It was put into operation in 1941. During the year under report, the total area irrigated was 477 bighas. Revised estimate of Rs. 4.39 lakhs was sanctioned for the scheme. The expenditure incurred so far is Rs. 3.09 lakhs.
- (v) *The Manekpur Lift Irrigation Scheme* : This is also a scheme to improve the cultivation of sugarcane by lift irrigation system on Ambica river at Manekpur in Gandevi taluka. The total area irrigated was 262-11 bighas.

- (vi) *Baroda Flood Control Scheme* : Investigations and borings for ascertaining foundations were carried out near Vemali.
- (vii) *Okhamandal Contour survey* : A detailed survey of the central portion of Okhamandal was undertaken in January 1943 and completed in May. Expert opinion of Dewan Bahadur Nrasinha Ayengar was obtained and his recommendations to raise by 2 ft. the existing full supply levels of Bhimgaja and Mithikhadi tanks and to construct new tanks at Tober and Charkala are sanctioned.

The existing irrigation works irrigated 12,652 bighas as against 10,814 bighas in the preceding year and the total revenue realised was Rs. 47,516 as against Rs. 37,867 in the previous year. The net return was Rs. 3.75 per bigha as against Rs. 3.49 in the previous year. The Himayat tanks were repaired at Vaso, Deva Talpad and Savli in the Baroda district and at Ponsra, Amli, Padgha, Manekpur, Ajrai and Erthan in the Navsari district. Special repairs to Timbi, Wadhwana and Khorji Nandoda irrigation tanks and Jijwa Orsang main canal were carried out.

437. **FIELD DRAINAGE AND KOTARS** — To prevent water logging of agricultural land in monsoon, new drains are cut every year where needed, and existing drains maintained in good condition.

Drains at Sarang and Kasar villages and from Asoj to Siswa in the Baroda district and a Kans at Vesma in Navsari district were constructed or in progress. The bunding of the Kotars was carried out at Shinor, Valvod, Sitpur, Mujpur and Karali in the Baroda district.

438. **WATER SUPPLY WORKS** — The Baroda City water works and the distribution system within the municipal limits are under the control of the Baroda municipality, but the head works at Ajwa, Asoj and Pratappura, the filter beds at Nimetta and the mains outside the municipal limits are the charge of the department. These works were maintained in working order at a cost of Rs. 45,560 during the year.

The work of protecting Ajwa waste weir from retrogression was carried out at a cost of Rs. 6,352. The work of repairs of old apron flooring of Ajwa waste weir was completed. The work of repairing the breached portion of Pratappura dam was completed and that of lowering south and north waste weirs of this tank was in progress. Besides these, a number of schemes for supplying water to towns were either in progress or under investigation. In all these schemes, the Government gives grants.

- (i) *Navsari* : The work of augmenting the water supply is nearly completed. The scheme is estimated to cost about Rs. 0.94 lakh.

- (ii) *Billimora* : The work of the additional wells is in progress.
- (iii) *Songadh* : The work of augmenting the water supply is completed. The total expenditure on the scheme is Rs. 19,425.
- (iv) *Sankheda* : The work of R. C. C. tank is in progress. The scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 26,814.
- (v) *Amreli* : Inflow in the wells excavated so far was inadequate. A new trial well is being dug at Varoodi.
- (vi) *Beyt* : The first part of the work is completed.

The work of water works at Atladra and Parekha are in progress. Water works schemes for Dwarka, Petlad, Padra, Dabhoi, Gandevi, Kheralu and Kadi are under consideration.

439. DRAINAGE WORKS — Drainage works at the following towns were either in progress or completed during the year:—

- (i) *Bhadran* : The work has been completed except that of broad irrigation channels and about 250 house connections.
- (ii) *Dharmaj* : Work is in progress.
- (iii) *Sejitra* : Work is in progress.
- (iv) *Saukheda* : The work has been completed.
- (v) *Navsari* : The scheme has been completed.

440. CITY IMPROVEMENT WORKS — Besides laying drainage lines in Pratap Ganj in Baroda Camp to join with the proposed Auxiliary pumping station in Navapura and storm water drains in Dandia Bazar, the works of recreation grounds and opening out blind lanes in Baroda city were in progress during the year.

441. TOWN EXTENSION AND RECREATION GROUNDS — The schemes for extension in the following towns were prepared :—

Navsari	Kathor	Songadh	Dhari
Billimora	Variav	Amreli	Dwarka
Gandevi	Vyara	Kodinar	

Schemes for providing recreation grounds for towns having a population of 7,000 or more were under preparation. The work of recreation grounds at Navsari, Billimora, Vyara, Amreli, Kodinar and Dwarka is in progress.

442. **ROADS** — The following roads were under construction during the year :—

- (i) *Bombay Ahmedabad Road* : The work of constructing a portion of Bombay Ahmedabad road from Bhadran to State limits is in progress.
- (ii) *Padra Dabhasa road* : The metalling of this road of 4.6 miles in length in the Baroda district was completed.
- (iii) *Mahuwa Anaval road* : 18 miles in length in the Navsari district. The work is completed.
- (iv) *Masa Kotha road* : The work of this road of 2 miles in length in the Navsari district is in progress.
- (v) *Kamrej via Orna to Nagod Rundhwada road* : 14.75 miles in length in Navsari district is in progress.
- (vi) *Kathora Kim Velachha Mangrol road* : 17 miles in length in the Navsari district. The work has been completed.
- (vii) *Dhargani to Lakhapadar road* : The work of this road of 2 miles in length in the Amreli district was in progress.

443. **BRIDGES** — The works of high level bridge over the Unchha river near Panej, submersible bridge on Unchha river between Sankheda and Handod, and slab drain causeway on Ambica river near Unai were in progress. The work of railing on the Tapti bridge at Kathor was completed.

444. **FOREST ROADS** — Total mileage of forest road programme is 207 miles. Roads of 50 miles were completed last year. During the year under report, roads of 36 miles were completed and 25 miles were in progress. Survey of the remaining roads is completed, and estimates of 31 miles are sanctioned.

445. **POST WAR ROAD SCHEME** — The scheme is estimated to cost about Rs. 7,00,00,000. There are 553 miles of metalled roads and 1,347 miles of fair weather roads at present. Under the proposed scheme, there will be 1,236 miles of metalled roads and 2,631 miles of fair weather roads.

446. **BUILDINGS** — The following public buildings were completed or work on them was in progress during the year :—

- (i) *Hospitals* : Shree Padmavatidevi T. B. Sanatorium, modifications to Shree Sayaji Hospital at Petlad and General Hospital at Dwarka, dispensary at Nar, Maternity wards at Kalol, Vyara, Dabhoi, Karjan and Kodinar, Maternity and dispensary buildings at Dwarka, and Veterinary dispensary at Karjan.

- (ii) *Schools :* Boys' High school at Patan, additions to T. B. High school at Bhadran, school at Gorwa, Mixed school at Chalala, and Boys' Vernacular school at Gozaria.
- (iii) *Other buildings :* Broadcasting studio, Extension of old Body Guard Karkhana, sleeping ward in Central Jail, Rest House at Vyara, and additions to State Press building, police lines at Varnama and district jail and Rest House at Amreli.

447. **IMPORTANT FUNCTIONS** — The opening ceremony of the Vyara Maternity ward constructed from Shree Shantadevi Trust Fund was performed on 30th December 1943 by Her Highness the Maharani Saheb. The unveiling ceremony of the statue of His late Highness at Vyara was performed on 6th April 1944 by Sir V. T. Krishnamachari.

448. **EXPENDITURE** — The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 46.23 lakhs as against Rs. 40.32 lakhs in the previous year.

CHAPTER XXV

STATE RAILWAYS

449. STATE RAILWAYS — The total mileage of the railways owned by the State, including Bodeli-Chhota-Udaipur railway and Broach-Jambusar Railway was 795 miles. Of these 21·42 miles were broad gauge, 345·64 miles metre gauge and 428·11 miles narrow gauge. The Anand-Tarapur line 21·42 miles was worked by the Government of India, the Okha Railway 37·21 miles by the Jamnagar and Dwarka railway and the remaining 736·54 miles by the State.

The mileage worked by the State was as follows :—

	Main lines miles	Sidings miles
(a) Narrow gauge.	428·11	65·52
(b) Metre gauge	308·43	40·39
Gaekwar's Mehsana	255·12	
Khijadia-Dhari	37·46	
Prachi Road-Kodinar	15·85	
Total	736·54	105·91

450. IMPORTANT WORKS — The following works were either completed or in progress at the end of the year :—

- (i) Relaying new 50 lbs. R. B. S. rails 37·3 miles on Mehsana-Viramgam section.
- (ii) Renewal of rails on Mehsana-Patan section 6·58 miles with new 50 lbs. R. B. S. rails.
- (iii) Renewal of rails between Mehsana and Kheralu 25·4 miles of Mehsana-Taranga Hill section with new 50 lbs. R. B. S. rails.
- (iv) Replacing 3 sets of Points Crossings with new 50 lbs. R. B. S. at stations on Gaekwar's Mehsana Railways.
- (v) Providing additional water-ways and deeps on Broach-Jambusar Railway.
- (vi) Constructing new station building with goods shed and platform at Broach City.
- (vii) Providing 2 span 30 ft. and one span 40 ft. girders on Bridge No. 12 on Kosamba-Zankhavav Railway.
- (viii) Providing a shed in the Depot Stores at Goya Gate.
- (ix) Providing Broad Gauge siding for Yamuna Mills at Goya Gate.

451. GROSS EARNINGS — The gross earnings for the year amounted to Rs. 101·55 lakhs. Of these Rs. 89·56 lakhs were receipts from the lines worked by the State while Rs. 11·98 lakhs from State owned lines managed by foreign railways. The gross earnings of the Metre Gauge lines compared to the preceding year decreased from 39·67 lakhs to 39·65 lakhs, while that of Narrow Gauge increased from Rs. 42·48 lakhs to Rs. 49·91 lakhs or by 17·46 per cent.

452. WORKING EXPENSES — Working expenses of the State managed railways excluding depreciation amounted to Rs. 32·60 lakhs as against Rs. 29·72 lakhs in the preceding year. The working expenses of the Anand-Tarapur and Okha Railways were Rs. 5·46 lakhs as against Rs. 4·84 lakhs in the preceding year. The increase is due to higher cost of materials etc.

The percentage of working expenses including contribution to Depreciation Fund to gross Traffic receipts was 42·75 as against 36·77 on Metre Gauge and 44·28 as against 50·57 on Narrow Gauge. Excluding contribution to Depreciation Fund the ratio on Metre Gauge works out to 36·79 as against 30·87, while on the Narrow Gauge 36·08 as against 41·11 per cent in the preceding year. The percentage of working expenses to gross earnings including actual expenditure charged to Depreciation Fund works out to 51·22 as against 36·38 on Metre Gauge and 40·76 on Narrow Gauge against 45·76 of the preceding year.

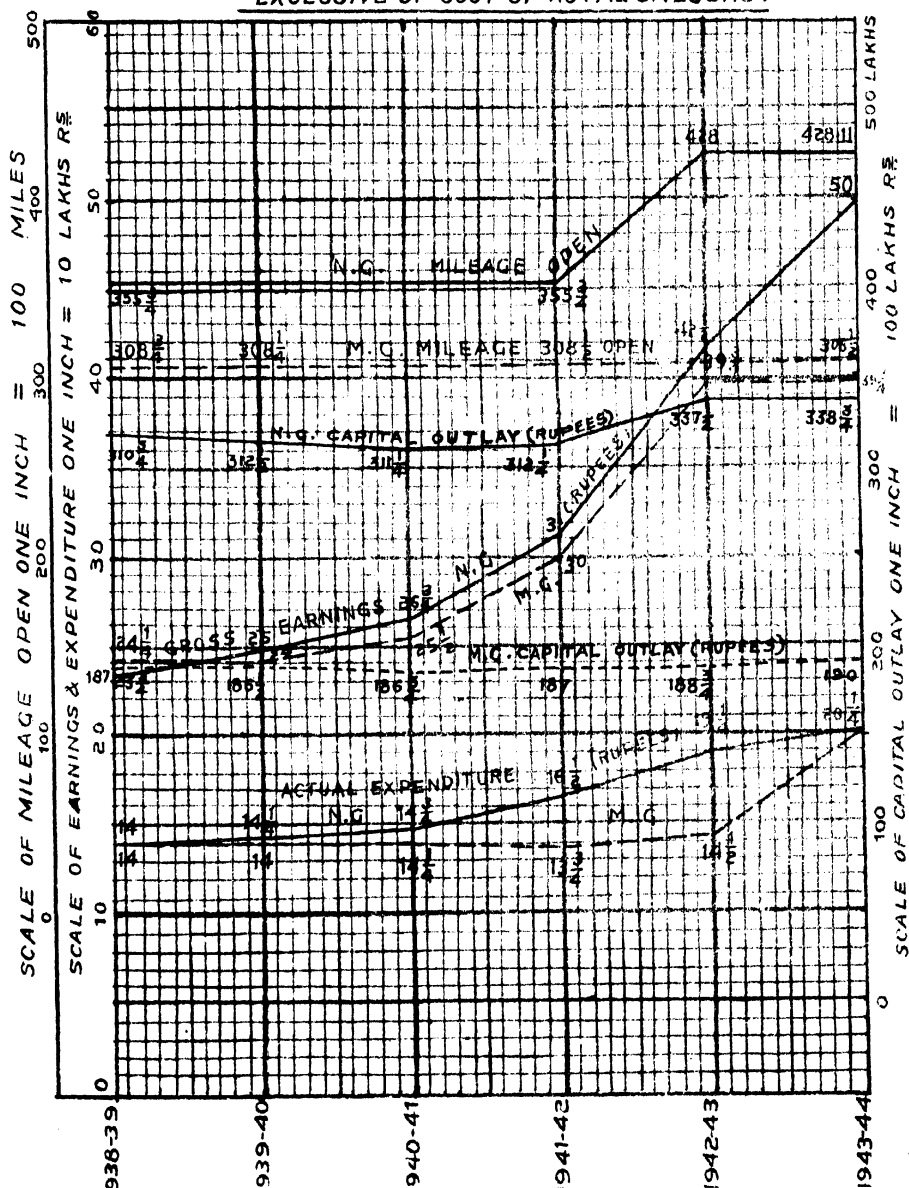
453. NET EARNINGS — The net earnings of the railways amounted to Rs. 57·03 lakhs yielding a return of 9·63% on the capital outlay of Rs. 592·11 lakhs. The statement below shows the details of the financial results of the railway working :—

Name of Railway	Year	Capital invested (Rs. in lakhs)	Gross earnings (Rs. in lakhs)	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)	Net earnings (Rs. in lakhs)	Working per-centage	Percentage of return on capital	Length in miles	Cost per mile (Rs.)	Working expenses per mile (Rs.)
Narrow Gauge	1942	312·28	30·92	18·22	12·70	58·94	4·07	355·73	87,785	5,123
	1943	313·72	38·70	19·51	19·19	50·42	6·12	355·73	88,191	5,485
	1944	314·49	44·00	19·59	24·41	44·53	7·76	355·73	88,408	5,508
Metre Gauge	1942	187·11	29·94	15·48	14·46	51·71	7·73	308·43	60,664	5,020
	1943	188·83	39·67	14·59	25·08	36·77	13·28	308·43	61,223	4,730
	1944	190·09	39·65	16·95	22·70	42·75	11·94	308·43	61,632	5,496
Anand-Tarapur	1942	14·61	5·04	2·18	2·86	43·26	19·60	21·42	68,195	10,190
	1943	14·61	4·58	2·18	2·40	47·66	16·39	21·42	68,195	10,423
	1944	14·61	5·16	2·80	2·36	54·36	16·13	21·42	68,195	13,097
Okha	1942	48·37	5·15	2·03	3·12	39·35	6·46	37·21	1,30,002	5,450
	1943	48·77	6·13	2·66	3·47	43·39	7·11	37·21	1,31,069	7,147
	1944	48·79	6·82	2·66	4·16	38·96	8·54	37·21	1,31,108	7,144
Broach Jambusar Railway	1942	Purchased from 1-10-1942								
	1943	23·90	3·79	1·97	1·82	52·07	9·12	72·38	33,014	2,725
	1944	24·14	5·90	2·50	3·40	42·36	14·10	72·38	33,346	3,455

MILEAGE CAPITAL OUTLAY GROSS EARNINGS & WORKING EXPENDITURE

NOTE:-

- (1) THE EXPENDITURE LINE DOES NOT INCLUDE UNSPENT BALANCE OF DEPRECIATION FUND
- (2) THE CAPITAL OUTLAY FROM 1933-34 IS EXCLUSIVE OF COST OF ROYAL SALOONS.



454. **BROACH-JAMBUSAR RAILWAY** — The accounts of the Broach-Jambusar Railway with branches are kept separate from those of other Narrow Gauge lines. The gross earnings of the line for the year amounted to Rs. 5.90 lakhs and the expenditure Rs. 2.5 lakhs. Rs. 29,869 were contributed to Depreciation Fund leaving a net earning of Rs. 3,40,394 which yielded a return of 14.10% on the capital of Rs. 24.14 lakhs.

455. **DEPRECIATION FUND** — The table below indicates the position of Depreciation Fund :—

Particulars	Narrow Gauge Rs.	Metre Gauge Rs.	Broach Jambusar Railway Rs.
Balance on 31-7-43 ...	25,71,353	8,68,807	11,134
Contribution during 1943-44...	3,78,949	2,36,038	29,869
Total ...	29,50,302	11,04,845	41,003
Expenditure during the year...	2,07,604	5,71,783	26,061
Balance on 31-7-44 ...	27,42,698	5,33,062	14,942
Total ...		32,90,702	

456. **RESERVE FUND** — In addition to the Depreciation Fund, there is a railway Reserve Fund, which is credited with the surplus of net earnings after deducting interest on the capital outlay at 4%. This fund is intended to—

- (i) meet the deficiency of gross earning to defray working expenses should such a contingency arise any year and
- (ii) providing funds for further capital expenditure.

The balance in the fund at the end of the year was *Rs. 80.69 lakhs as against Rs. 50.41 lakhs.

457. **TRAFFIC** — The following table compares the traffic receipts with those of the previous year:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Particulars	Narrow-gauge		Metre-gauge		Broach Jambusar Railway	
	1942-43	1943-44	* 1942-43	1943-44	† 1942-43	1943-44
Coaching ...	13.71	18.72	21.97	24.22	2.15	3.31
Goods ...	22.85	23.17	16.91	14.44	1.58	2.53
Miscellaneous...	2.14	2.11	0.79	0.99	0.06	0.07
Total ...	38.70	44.00	39.67	39.65	3.79	5.91

*This is exclusive of the Anand-Fetlad and Okha Railways.

†Earnings for Broach Jambusar Railway for the year 1942-43 are for 10 months only.

The table below gives comparative figures of cotton traffic (which is the principle item of goods traffic) :—

Year	Number of full pressed bales	Number of half pressed bales	Kappas in wagon loads
NARROW-GAUGE			
1941-42 ...	1,25,598	17,514	112
1942-43 ...	77,325	10,202	529
1943-44 ...	1,37,984	20,726	95
BROACH-JANBUSAR RAILWAY			
1942-43 ... (10 months)	19,393	1,200	80
1943-44 ...	16,921	2,177	1
METRE-GAUGE			
1941-42 ...	53,038	1,824	2,767
1942-43 ...	59,709	1,748	1,571
1943-44 ...	64,618	2,024	1,194

458. WAGON POOL — The Metre Gauge wagon pool introduced by the Railway Board in 1939 continued in operation.

459. RAIL-ROAD COMPETITION — This has almost disappeared largely due to the rationing of petrol. The motor bus services organised by the Department were functioning. One out-agency was closed due to shortage of petrol.

460. LOCAL AGENTS AT FLAG STATIONS — Local agents were working at 12 flag stations. The system has proved satisfactory and the earnings at these stations showed a marked increase.

461. TICKETLESS TRAVEL — The crew system is in force over the isolated branches. Elsewhere the squad system is in force. The check over the ticketless travel is effective and the results were satisfactory.

462. RAIL-CUM-SEA ROUTE — The all rail route to Kathiawar was congested and subsequently closed for through traffic from Gaekwar's Dabhoi Group etc. The rail-cum-sea route was therefore opened via Ports of Broach, Kavi and Billimora to facilitate expeditious clearance of Government grain to the deficit districts of Baroda and Navsari from the surplus area of Amreli district. 5,748 tons of traffic moved under this arrangement. This alleviated grain scarcity in Baroda district. The arrangement was on the whole beneficial. This arrangement was subsequently extended to Bombay via. Broach Bunder. The new services over the sea route worked satisfactory till May 1944 when it had to be closed temporarily due to monsoon.

463. **MEDICAL SERVICE** — In addition to the Railway dispensaries at Goya Gate, Dabhoi and Mehsana, a new railway dispensary was opened at Samni from 1st December 1943. All the dispensaries worked satisfactorily and rendered necessary medical aid to the staff. For isolated sections arrangements have been made with the Government dispensaries for giving medical assistance.

464. **SANITARY COMMITTEE** — Sanitary committees appointed at important stations both on Narrow Gauge and Metre Gauge sections did useful work.

465. **CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETY LTD.** — The Society has been rendering useful financial assistance to the railway staff for the past twenty two years. It had 1,202 members during the year as against 1,214 in the preceding year. The members held 11,825 shares as against 13,444 in the previous year. The working capital was Rs. 98,468 as against Rs. 97,817, working expenses Rs. 1,697, and the net profit Rs. 4,159.

466. **RECREATION FOR STAFF** — The Railway institutes at Goya Gate, Baroda City and Dabhoi continued to be well patronised by the staff. The institutes are managed through committees elected annually by the members. No regular institute is started at Mehsana as yet. The staff have started their cricket and other activities and they are given financial assistance from the fine-fund.

467. **COLLECTION OF TERMINAL-TAX** — Terminal tax on goods and parcel traffic collected by the railways on behalf of the Baroda and Petlad municipalities at Goya Gate, Vishwamitri and Petlad stations amounted to Rs. 1,34,169; Rs. 1,32,707 for Baroda Municipality and Rs. 1,462 for Petlad municipality. Remuneration earned by the Railway amounted to Rs. 7,423.

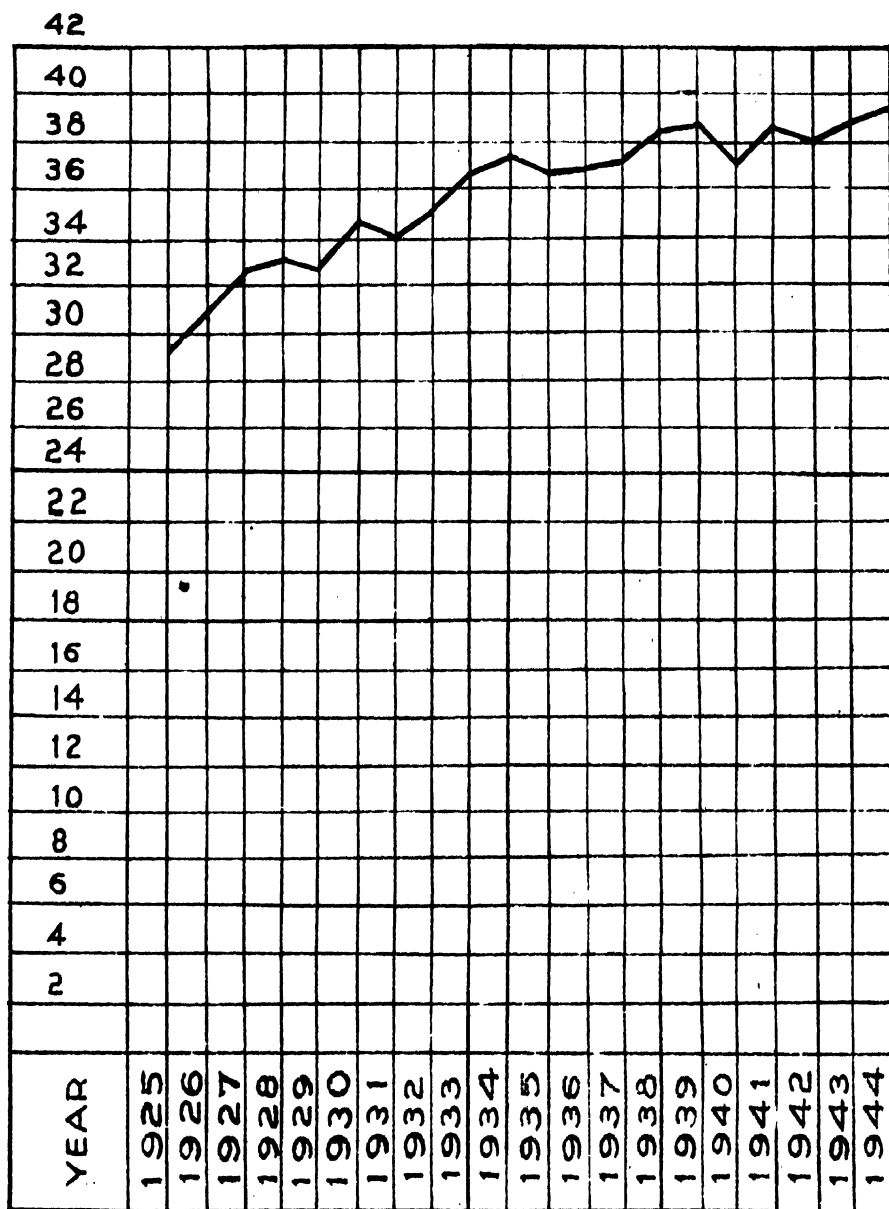
CHAPTER XXVI

EDUCATION

468. IMPORTANT PROGRESSIVE ACTIVITIES —

- (i) In the field of primary education the department continued its efforts to increase enrolment, improve attendance, and to eradicate wastage and stagnation. The policy of opening higher primary classes was continued with vigour and as a result 62 higher primary schools were opened during the year. In order to improve the staffing of the schools 250 new posts of teachers were sanctioned. The work of the Pratap Reading Series is progressing satisfactorily. Book No. I to V are already introduced in schools and books VI and VII will be published shortly.
- (ii) For the spread of education in the backward Thakarda villages ten non-compulsory schools with provision of special grants for encouraging teachers to work in these backward villages have been opened in Mehsana district. The boarding house for Waghers at Dwarka has been placed on a permanent footing. In order to encourage private social-uplift associations to open more schools in backward areas, special scales of grants were sanctioned for private primary schools in Mangrol taluka in Navsari district.
- (iii) The temporary scheme for accelerating the training of women teachers, operating in the Training school for women was reviewed and a uniform three years' course has been introduced which will result in increasing the annual output of trained women teachers.
- (iv) With a view to improve the teaching of the subject of agriculture in the Training school for Men, as well as to introduce agricultural bias in primary schools, one graduate and 15 matriculate primary school teachers have been deputed for special training in the agricultural Institute at Baroda. Government have also accepted the principle that the curriculum in primary schools should have more of handicrafts and as a beginning a class in hand-made paper-making has been started in the Training school for Men.

DIAGRAM SHOWING FLUCTUATIONS IN EDUCATIONAL EXPENDITURE IN LAKHS OF RUPEES.



- (v) Adult literacy classes continued to be run by primary school teachers. In order to keep up the literacy of the newly made literates as well as of pupils who leave schools before completion of primary class V studies a scheme of further literacy classes was introduced and some classes on these lines have been started. At the end of the year there were 331 literacy classes with 2,998 adults attending them.
- (vi) The experinient of conducting infant classes by primary school teachers with the assistance of local educated ladies as suggested by Mr. Wood was continued. In these classes children between 4 to 7 years of age are taught good habits and given some sensory training. Play-way methods are largely employed. At the end of the year there were 117 such classes attended by 2,360 children and 847 local educated ladies took part in this activity.
- (vii) The State Technical Recruiting Organisation assisted the war efforts by recruiting men for war services. The organisation recruited 514 recruits out of which 154 educated recruits have offered to join defence services and subsidiary training scheme. Out of 514, 192 recruits belong to the Baroda State. The total amount spent on this organisation during the year was Rs. 1,712.
- (viii) With a view to increase facilities for higher education in the State, Government have passed orders for the preparation of detailed scheme for starting Medical and Engineering Colleges at Baroda. The necessary preliminaries are being gone through.
- (ix) The Government invited the Central Advisory Board of Education to hold their 9th meeting at Baroda, which was accordingly held in Baroda in January 1944. The meeting was an important one, as the famous plan of Post War Educational Reconstruction was discussed and approved.
- (x) Another important event of the year was the holding of 15th Gujarati Sahitya Parishad Sammelan in Baroda during the month of December.

469. INSTITUTIONS AND PUPILS — The number of educational institutions rose from 2,587 to 2,701 and their strength from 3,04,021 to 3,11,726. Of these 1,91,005 were boys and 1,20,721 were girls. The percentage of those under instruction to the total population was 21.6 as against 20.11 in the previous year.

There are three colleges imparting University education, viz. Baroda College (Arts and Science), the Pratapsinh College of Commerce

and Economics, and the Secondary Teachers' Training College. The total strength of these colleges was 1,357, 590 and 106 as against 1,115, 254 and 123 respectively in the previous year.

The number of public secondary schools rose from 156 to 162 and their strength from 26,789 to 30,724.

The number of primary schools increased from 2,385 to 2,496.

There are three industrial schools — the Kalabhavan at Baroda, the Kotawala Hunnarshala at Patan and the industrial school at Amreli. The Amreli industrial school was reorganised and placed on a permanent footing.

Besides the above State institutions there are three privately managed institutions viz. the J. N. Tata Hunnarshala at Navsari, the Chinnabai Stree Udyogalaya at Baroda and the Mahila Udyogalaya at Amreli.

University Education

(a) Baroda College

470. STRENGTH — The number of students in the College was 1,357 including 146 girl students and 83 postgraduate students as compared with 1,115 at the end of the previous year. The number of students belonging to the Baroda State was 1,195 i. e. 88.1% compared with 70.0% last year. 32 students came from other Indian States and 130 from British India.

471. EXAMINATION RESULTS — The following table shows the University examination results :—

Class	Total sent up	Total pass	Second class	First class	Remarks p. c.
M. A. ...	27	10	3	2	37%
M. Sc. ...	4	1	...	...	25.0%
B. Sc. ...	91	77	39	11	84.6%
B. A. ...	160	104	25	8	65.1%
Int. Sc. ...	199	109	34	2	54.7%
Int. Arts ...	281	155	25	...	55.1%

472. MISCELLANEOUS ACTIVITIES — Prof. Wadia continued in command of the Baroda College training corps assisted by Prof. Cholkar. There were 103 cadets on the roll. A scheme for reorganising the Training Corps and putting it on the same level as U. T. C. is submitted to Government. 700 students received compulsory physical training.

Research work on various activities was continued. A number of papers of scientific and literary interest were published by members of the college staff.

The Meteorological laboratory attached to the Science Institute continued to work well.

473. EXPENDITURE — The following table shows the expenditure and receipts of the college and the average net cost per each pupil during the year :—

Year	Expenditure	Receipts	Net cost per pupil
1943-44 	2,08,094	1,25,000	61-3-8
1942-43 	2,05,228	1,74,604	50-5-0

(b) *Secondary Teachers' Training College*

474. COURSES OF STUDY — The Secondary Teachers' Training College has three distinct departments, the B. T. class affiliated to the University of Bombay for a strength of 75 graduate students, the T. D. Classes affiliated for 60 matriculate students, and the M. Ed. Department dealing with research students.

475. ADMISSIONS — The College admitted in June 1944, 75 candidates in the B. T. and 31 in the T. D. classes. There were 7 research students preparing for M. Ed. degree.

476. UNIVERSITY RESULTS M. ED., B. T., AND T. D. — One of the research students was awarded the M. Ed. degree by the Bombay University for his research work on "Science Teaching in Secondary schools in the Bombay Presidency". 76 students were presented by the College for the B. T. examination. The percentage of successes at the whole examination was 91, in Theory 97 and in Practice 91. The corresponding percentages in the case of the 23 candidates who appeared at the T. D. examination were 61, 61, and 100 respectively.

477. IMPORTANT VISITORS — The members of the Central Advisory Board of Education visited the college during the time of their January meeting in Baroda. Mr. John Sargent, Educational Advisor with the Government of India, addressed the students of the college on Baroda's Plan of Post-War Educational Reconstruction in India.

478. JOURNAL OF EDUCATION & PSYCHOLOGY AND OTHER ACTIVITIES — The college continued to publish the Journal of Education and Psychology founded in 1942-43 and maintained several other activities during the year.

479. **EXPENDITURE** — The total expenditure of the college during the year under report was Rs. 36,777 as against Rs. 32,254 and the receipt Rs. 32,254 as against Rs. 24,484 respectively of the previous year.

(c) *The Pratapsinh College of Commerce & Economics*

480. **PROGRESS** — The Pratapsinh College of Commerce was started during the year under report. The number of students admitted was 590 including one girl student.

481. **EXAMINATION RESULTS** — In March 1944 the college sent up for Inter Commerce examination for the Bombay University its first batch of 96 students. Two students stood in first class; one of them stood first class first in the whole examination; 19 students stood in second class and 29 students got pass class.

The College started the Senior B. Com. class in June 1944. It is now a full grade college possessing all classes and provides instruction in three optional subjects at the B. Com. viz. Advanced Accounts; Advanced Banking and Cotton Industry.

482. **EXPENDITURE** — The total receipts and expenditure of the college during the year 1943-44 was Rs. 67,730 and Rs. 59,987 respectively.

Secondary Education

483. **GENERAL** — The policy of Government is to encourage private bodies to open and maintain English schools and classes by giving grants-in-aid.

During the year there were 41 high schools in the State, 17 Government, 21 getting grant-in-aid and 3 recognised. The number of A. V. Schools was 121 as against 118 in the previous year, 33 Government, 14 aided and 74 recognised. Of these 2 Government high schools and 5 A. V. Schools (2 Government schools, 1 grant-in-aid and 2 recognised schools) were exclusively for girls.

The number of pupils in secondary schools, was 30,724 as against 26,789 in the previous year. Of these 10,371 including 2,029 girls were in Government schools; 14,360 including 1,068 girls in aided schools and 5,993 including 283 girls in other recognised institutions.

484. **GRANT-IN-AID INSTITUTIONS** — The total number of schools and institutions that received grant-in-aid from Government was 35. The total grant given to privately managed institutions during the year was Rs. 78,819 as against Rs. 43,144 in the previous year.

485. **MATRICULATION RESULTS** — The Matriculation results were satisfactory. The percentage of successful students in Government high schools was 50.1, in private schools 52.1 and for all high schools 51.1.

486. **RECRUITMENT OF TEACHERS** — Teachers are generally selected from amongst candidates with honours and training qualifications and allotted to schools in accordance with their needs. First class graduates and M. A. s are given preference. During the year the number of trained teachers in Government schools was 127 graduates and 182 undergraduates.

487. **INSPECTION** — The Inspector of Secondary Schools inspected 23 high schools and 44 lower secondary schools during the year. Efforts were made to come in close touch with the rural population and to find out the real causes of general inefficiency in rural schools. Special attention was paid to the teaching of English. 61 demonstration lessons were given by him.

488. **PHYSICAL TRAINING** — Physical training has been made compulsory and now forms a part of the regular curriculum in all schools. For imparting intensive physical training to the trained teachers training centres were opened and camps organised.

489. **MANUAL TRAINING CLASSES** — The value of education through handicrafts is now recognised. Manual training and sloyd classes are therefore attached to the high schools at Mehsana, Patan, Visnagar, Padra, Petlad, Bhadran, Kathor, Gangadhara, Amreli, and Dwarka. Students take considerable interest in the work.

490. **OTHER ACTIVITIES** — Extra-curricular activities are encouraged. Many such activities were carried on in schools, such as circulation of important educational publications, magazines and journals, demonstration lessons, gardening, organisation of co-operative stores, junior red cross societies and nature study.

491. **RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE** — The expenditure on secondary education during the year was Rs. 5,60,706 and the receipt Rs. 2,08,172 as against Rs. 5,05,691 and Rs. 1,65,393 in the preceding year.

492. **EDUCATION OF THE ROYAL CHILDREN** — The Yuvaraj and Shri. Maharajkumari Mrinaliniraja have this year continued their studies in the same subjects as last year in English, Sanskrit, Marathi, Gujarati, Mathematics, Physics, Geography and Indian and English History. Owing to pressure of work, and the number of languages studied it was found necessary both to enlarge the time-table to provide eight periods per day, and also to drop the subjects of

Drawing, Wood-work and Gardening. For practical work in Physics, the laboratory of the Baroda High school is put at the disposal of the Yuvaraj Saheb and Princess Akkaraje once a week.

On the whole, good progress has been registered in all subjects of the curriculum. The Physical Training period, with its body-building exercises and games, continues to be a popular and invigorating feature of the daily time-table.

Primary Education

493. **SCHOOLS AND PUPILS** — During the year 1943-44 there were 2,496 primary schools having 2,76,245 pupils on the roll. Of the 2,496 primary schools 2,374 were Government primary schools with 2,67,836 pupils. The increase in the number of Government schools is mainly due to the starting of 63 higher primary schools inclusive of 26 Dabhoda and Narmali mahal schools and 23 new lower primary schools. Over and above Government primary schools, there were 122 private schools with 8,409 pupils on roll. Out of the total enrolment of 2,76,245 pupils 1,59,801 were boys and 1,16,444 were girls, as against 2,72,909 pupils (1,57,238 boys and 1,15,671 girls) in the previous year. The percentage of boys and girls under instruction in primary schools to the total male and female population was 10·8 and 8·4 respectively as against 10·7 and 8·4 respectively in the previous year. The average daily attendance during the year under report was 78·5 per cent as against 79·6 during the previous year. The drop in the attendance is mainly due to the present abnormal times.

494. **EFFORTS TO REDUCE WASTAGE AND STAGNATION** — The department was fully alive to the causes of wastage and stagnation in primary schools and made steady efforts to check them by the following measures:—

- (1) Improving the attendance.
- (2) Making efforts to see that all children get enrolled in the beginning of the school year.
- (3) Improving the qualifications of the teaching and the inspecting staff.
- (4) Increasing the number of women teachers.
- (5) Improving the staffing of schools by amalgamation of small schools with adjoining bigger ones.
- (6) Stricter and more systematic supervision by the inspecting staff.
- (7) Special attention to backward students.

The results of these efforts are slow but satisfactory. The proportion of pupils in class V to pupils in class I is gradually improving every year as will be evident from the following figures :—

Year	Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V*	Proportion of class I to V
1938-39 ...	68,036	55,665	51,871	40,254	32,182	46.5
1939-40 ...	66,674	56,757	52,204	42,188	34,336	51.4
1940-41 ...	72,704	55,996	52,119	42,089	36,275	50.4
1941-42 ...	73,871	59,284	53,357	42,387	37,368	50.7
1942-43 ...	71,821	57,438	53,494	42,466	36,169	50.4
1943-44 ...	76,855	57,716	51,479	42,271	37,509	48.8

*Pupils studying in English I (7,465) are included in class V.

On account of increase in the enrolment of class I, its proportion with class V has decreased by 1.6 as compared with that of last year though the actual number of pupils in class V shows an increase over that of last year.

495. QUALIFICATIONS OF TEACHERS — The efficiency of teaching depends to a large extent on the qualities and training of teachers. Steady efforts have been made to train all primary school teachers and improve the training given. Admissions to the training schools have been increased from time to time and during the year, the two training schools had 661 candidates under training. A minimum period of two years' training has been made compulsory for all teachers. As a result of these efforts there has been an improvement in the proportion of trained teachers and in the quality of their teaching. Out of the total of 6,746 teachers in primary schools 5,331 or 79.1 per cent were trained teachers as against 82.0 per cent during the previous year. Of the remaining 1,415 the majority were teachers with more than 10 years experience. During the year under report 250 new posts were created and filled by appointing fresh candidates and hence the percentage of trained teachers shows a drop of 2.9 per cent this year.

496. GIRLS' SCHOOLS — The total number of girls schools was 305 of which 297 were Government and 8 private schools, as against 295 and 10 respectively in the previous year. The number of girls attending these schools was 46,610. Besides these there were 69,835 attending mixed schools. Thus the total number of girls attending primary schools during the year was 1,16,444 as against 1,15,671 in the previous year showing an increase of 773.

497. **KINDERGARTEN CLASSES** — The total number of kindergarten schools was 33 with 2,100 pupils as against 34 with 2,020 pupils during the last year. Of these 28 with 1,611 pupils were private institutions. To encourage private efforts in this field, the Government have sanctioned an amount of Rs. 3,200 for annual grants for these schools and reduced the fees from Re. 1 to As. 8 per month per pupil.

498. **EXPENDITURE** — Total expenditure on primary education was Rs. 22,32,399 as against Rs. 22.51 lakhs in the previous year.

Education of special classes and communities

499. **BACKWARD CLASSES** — The Government continued the policy of providing special facilities to members of the communities which are backward in education, namely Antyaj, Raniparaj, Thakardas, Waghers and Muslims. Poor and deserving students of these communities are given freeships in all secondary schools and there are special freeships for them in Kalabhavan and the Baroda College, and special scholarships in all Government and educational institutions. In some places there are special primary schools for them and special deputy inspector for these schools. Besides, the Government maintain a number of hostels and boarding schools for the children of these classes.

500. **THE ANTYAJ** — The number of Government Antyaj schools was 63 with 3,819 (2,187+1,632) pupils, as against 63 schools with 4,023 pupils in the previous year. There were 6 private antyaj schools with 170 pupils. Besides these 17,641 antyaj children were attending Gujarati and other mixed schools. The drop in the number of pupils in antyaj schools is mainly due to the increasing enrolment of these community pupils in the common primary schools. There were 155 antyaj pupils in secondary schools and 18 in the Baroda College. Over and above this, 40 students were in the Training schools and 2 were in the Technical schools. Thus the total number of antyaj pupils under instruction was 21,845 or 9.4 per cent to the total antyaj population as against 18,279 or 7.9 in the previous year. Preference is given to students of this community for admission to all Government institutions. The Government supply books and other school requirements to the students free of charge. Thirty scholarships are awarded in primary and 17 in secondary schools. Poor students are given free studentships in all Government institutions. There are special scholarships in Baroda College for antyaj students. Antyaj boarding houses are maintained by Government at Baroda, Patan, Amreli and Vyara. These had 46, 23, 6 and 25 boarders respectively during the year.

A sum of Rs. 15,000 was donated some years ago by Sheth Jugalkishor Birla to encourage religious education among the students of the depressed classes. From the income of this fund a preacher is

engaged for propaganda work among this class to improve their habits and educate themselves.

501. **THE RANIPARAJ** — The education of boys and girls of raniparaj and other forest tribes, living in sparsely populated places with hardly any centres of habitation, is a problem of peculiar difficulty. Compulsion has proved unsuccessful. As the schools were few and situated far from the residence of pupils, attendance was very poor and the teachers from the plains were not willing to work in these areas. After the first experience of compulsion, the raniparaj area was exempted from the operation of the Compulsory Primary Education Act, and a scheme of grant-in-aid schools was introduced instead. The result was however not encouraging and in 1934 it was decided to reinforce compulsion.

For the benefit of the boys and girls belonging to raniparaj areas six Government boarding houses for boys are maintained at Songadh, Vyara, Mahuva, Vankal, Anaval and Amroli. The total number of boarders in these boardings was 88, 96, 30, 40, 33, and 32 respectively or 363 in all. There is also a boarding house for girls at Songadh with 44 girls. Model farms are attached to the boarding houses at Songadh and Vyara for practical training in agriculture.

To train teachers from this backward community, encouragement is given to candidates of this community to join training schools. During the year under report 33 students were studying in training schools, of whom 8 were men and 25 were lady students.

There were 12,147 raniparaj pupils under instruction in primary schools, 64 in secondary schools, 3 in technical schools and 1 in Baroda College. Thus the total number of pupils under instruction was 12,248 or 3.3 per cent of the total raniparaj population as against 12,287 pupils or 3.3 of the total population during the previous year.

502. **MUSLIMS** — The number of Government Urdu schools was 68 with 8,048 pupils (5,304 + 2,744) as against 67 schools with 7,817 pupils (5,112 boys and 2,705 girls) in the previous year. There were 17 private Urdu schools with 1,968 pupils, as against 19 schools with 1,985 pupils, in the previous year. On the whole the total number shows an increase of 214 pupils. Besides this there were 11,581 muslim children studying in other primary schools, 1,426 in secondary schools, 5 in technical, 13 in training schools, and 60 in collegiate education. The total number of muslim children under instruction was 23,101 or 10.3 as against 22,062 or 9.8 per cent to the total muslim population in the previous year.

503. **THE WAGHERS** — The education of Waghers of Okhamandal continued to receive special attention of the Government. In the boarding house for wagher boys at Dwarka, they are given manual training at the workshop, attached to the institution. The

number of boarders at the end of the year was 45. Special scholarships are sanctioned for the students of this class studying in the Kalabhavan and the Baroda College.

Schools for Deaf, Mute and Blind and Orphanage

504. SCHOOLS FOR DEAF, MUTE AND BLIND — There are two schools in the State for the education of the deaf, mute and the blind, one at Baroda and the other at Mehsana. The pupils are taught tailoring, drawing, carpentry, wood-carving, cane-work, tape-weaving and music, besides reading and writing. The total expenditure incurred on these institutions was Rs. 16,151 as against Rs. 16,361 in the preceding year.

The Orphanage at Amreli had 13 inmates as against 12 in the previous year. Most of them attend Amreli industrial school. There is also a special class for tailoring.

Training of teachers

505. TRAINING SCHOOLS FOR TEACHERS — In the Training school for men, the number of students was 374 as against 371 in the previous year.

In the Training school for women, there were 287 students as against 278 in the previous year.

The total expenditure on these training schools was Rs. 58,884 as against Rs. 63,385 in the previous year.

Technical Education

506. SOURCES OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION — Technical education in the Baroda State is imparted in the following institutions :—

1. Kalabhavan, Baroda.
2. District Industrial schools at Amreli and Patan, and
3. J. N. Tata Hunnarshala, a grant-in-aid institution at Navsari.

507. KALABHAVAN — The central Polytechnic Institute known as Kalabhavan was established in March 1890 by His Highness the late Sir Sayaji Rao Gaekwar. The work of the institute is divided into 10 different departments or study each under a qualified head.

508. COURSES — The institute offers the following courses:—

1. Diploma course.
2. Certificate course.
3. Intermediate Industrial school course.

Instruction in Diploma courses is imparted in English while in other two courses it is given in Vernacular (Gujarati).

509. NUMBER OF PUPILS BY DEPARTMENTS — The number of students attending the Kalabhavan at the end of July 1944 in the different departments was as under :—

S. No.	Branch of Study	Number of students in				
		1943-44	1942-43	1941-42	1940-41	1939-40
1	Mechanical Engineering ...	102	104	116	137	131
2	Electrical	79	79	94	91	80
3	Civil	74	76	99	94	88
4	Chemical Technology ...	115	93	101	95	88
5	Weaving Technology ...	68	66	75	69	61
6-7	Arts:					
	(a) Drawing and Painting					
	(b) Photography and Process work.	28	31	64	52	41
8	Architecture ...	46	47	75	78	67
9	Commerce ...	19	11	39	42	49
10	Intermediate Industrial classes ...	19	19	31	37	24
	Total ...	550	526	708	712	629

510. KALABHAVAN WORKSHOP — The Kalabhavan workshop is run as a semi-commercial concern. Practical training of students of the different departments is the principal purpose but outside orders are taken to the extent they are likely to be useful in the training of the students. Due to the carpentry class being re-transferred here from the State Furniture Factory, the carpentry work of the Education Department is executed here with a view to give special training to the students of the carpentry class on large scale order work. Owing to the railway transport difficulties, carpentry work of every district is to be done in that district either locally or in the industrial school existing in that district. Figures of work turned out and profits made are as follows for the last 5 years.

Item	1943-44	1942-43	1941-42	1940-41	1939-40
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Value of work done.	54,436	54,188	63,760	24,102	26,815
Profit ...	11,000	11,125	10,978	3,389	2,250

511. EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS — The total expenditure of the Kalabhavan came to Rs. 1,38,759 as against Rs. 1,41,078 in the previous year. The total income came to 28,870 as against Rs. 23,933 in the preceding year.

512. **AMRELI INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL** — The school at Amreli taught carpentry, weaving and tailoring. Total expenditure during the year under report was Rs. 9,602-1-6 as against Rs. 7,286-7-2 in the previous year.

513. **KOTAWALA INDUSTRIAL SCHOOL, PATAN** — The R. B. Sheth Punamchand Kotawala Industrial School at Patan started with a donation from Mrs. Hiralaxmi Kotawala, offers industrial courses in (1) Turning, Fitting and Smithy, (2) Wireman's course and (3) Carpentry. During the year under report, there were 15, 8 and 3 students in the above mentioned courses respectively and the total expenditure came to Rs. 7,031-0-0 as against Rs. 7,549-14-9 in the previous year.

514. **J. N. TATA HUNNARSHALA, NAVSARI** — The Hunnarshala continued its work in Mechanical Engineering, having 44 students as against 60 students in the previous year.

Library Department

515. **SECTIONS OF THE DEPARTMENT** — The Library department is organised into two sections for administrative convenience: (1) the Central Library for the city of Baroda, and (2) the mofussil library branch including the travelling libraries for the rest of the State.

516. **CENTRAL LIBRARY** — The Central Library is a lending as well as a reference library. It has a complete collection of Gujarati books and the collection of Marathi books is nearing completion. The total number of books in the library was 1,71,319 of which 2,137 were added during the year.

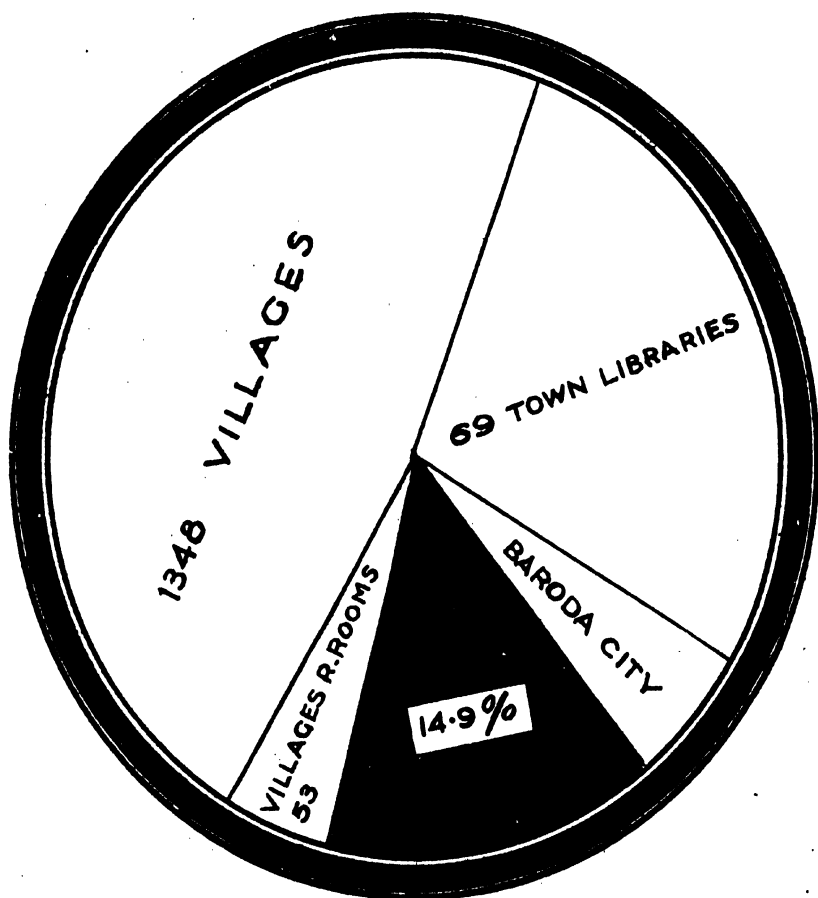
517. **CIRCULATION** — The number of books circulated during the year was 1,09,407 as against 1,57,687 in the preceding year. Of these 49,292 were Gujarati, 24,744 English, 21,088 Marathi and the remaining were Hindi, Urdu etc. The number of readers was 3,882 as against 4,207 in the previous year.

518. **MAHILA LIBRARY** — The number of books circulated through the Mahila Library was 8,227 and the number of readers was 588. The corresponding figures for the last year were 11,250 books and 489 readers.

519. **CHILDREN'S LIBRARY AND PLAY-ROOM** — The Children's library and playroom were visited by 37,461 readers as against 48,222 in the preceding year. The number of working days was 270 and the average daily attendance 139. The number of children who took books home and of the books read by them were 385 and 13,541 as against 552 and 20,156 respectively in the preceding year.

520. **REFERENCE LIBRARY** — About 50 readers used the Reference library every day.

POPULATION SERVED BY LIBRARIES & READING ROOMS



] POPULATION SERVED BY LIBRARIES

		NOT			
TOTAL POPULATION				2855010.	
"	"	SERVED		2422990.	85.1%
"	"	NOT	"	432020.	14.9%
TOWN	"		"	813681.	100%
VILLAGE	"		"	1609309.	80%
"	"	NOT	"	432020.	20%

521. NUMBER OF LIBRARIES IN THE STATE — The following table shows the number of libraries :—

Year	District and Town libraries	Village libraries	Mahila libraries	Children's libraries	Reading Rooms		Total	
					Town	Village		
1943-44	...	69	1,348	21	13	4	51	1,506
1942-43	...	46	1,351	21	13	2	71	1,504
1941-42	...	46	1,301	21	12	2	121	1,503

Of These 182 have their own buildings. 20 reading rooms were transformed into village libraries, out of which 11 got an aid of Rs. 40 each as gift from the Diamond Jubilee Fund. 4 village libraries situated in the taluka headquarters and 19 village libraries located in villages having more than 4,000 population were transformed into town libraries; so that at the end of the year 23 town libraries were added, while there is a decrease of 3 village libraries.

522. TRAVELLING SECTION — In the travelling library section there were 29,200 books at the end of the year. The section circulated 536 boxes with 15,805 books among 12,766 readers. Over and above this, the travelling section distributed "Indian Information Bulletin", "War Bulletins" and other books and pamphlets received as gifts to the town and village libraries of the State.

523. LIBRARY ASSOCIATION — A concomitant to the district library movement is the State Library Association. The Association assisted in inspecting libraries and organised two Mahal Conferences and one training class for librarians was held at Vaso. It gets an annual aid of Rs. 1,200 from Government.

524. PUSTAKALAYA SAHAYAK SAHAKARI MANDAL — This is another off-shoot of the district library movement. It is a society of libraries established for the purpose of helping the libraries in getting books, periodicals and other requisites at reduced prices. It has a sharecapital of Rs. 50,000 and most of the reserve funds of the libraries are invested with it. It publishes a monthly journal "Pustakalaya" for the guidance of libraries. In this, circulars and other departmental information are included free of cost.

525. EXPENDITURE — The expenditure of the Library department amounted to Rs. 83,314 as against Rs. 85,901 in the previous year.

Physical education and Scout Organization

526. **COMPULSORY PHYSICAL TRAINING** — Physical education is compulsory in the whole State from the year 1940-41 and physical training according to a well laid down syllabus is imparted in all schools of the State, by teachers specially trained for this purpose and by Gymnasium teachers.

527. **PROVISION OF TRAINED TEACHERS** — To provide trained teachers under this scheme, training classes are conducted every year, at various centres. Besides these, regular physical training classes are conducted in the Training schools for Men and Women and in the S. T. T. College. All these classes during the year 1943-44 turned out 210 trained teachers carrying the total number of such trained teachers to 3,978.

528. **SEPARATION OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION AND SCOUT DEPARTMENTS** — The Director of Physical Education, Baroda State, continued to work as Organising Scout Commissioner and also worked as the administrative head of both the departments of Scouting and Physical Education from January 1943 up to the end of June 1944. From July 1944 the Scout Organization was again separated and put in charge of Organising Scout Commissioner as before.

529. **SCOUTING** — During the year under report the number of troops and cub packs was 95 and 579 respectively and the total number of scout and cubs was 19,526.

530. **TRAINING CAMPS AND EXCURSIONS** — To impart specialised training in scout-craft three training camps were held at different districts of the Raj on the Wood Badge Course. Lectures on A. R. P. and Safety First are given in such camps.

531. **GIRL GUIDE MOVEMENT** — The total number of guides and blue birds was 2,602 as against 2,761 in the previous year.

532. **EXPENDITURE** — The total amount spent on the Baroda Boy Scout Organization during the year under report amounted to Rs. 16,486 as against Rs. 17,333 in the previous year.

Promotion and preservation of Oriental Arts and Literature

(a) Oriental Institute

533. **ORIENTAL INSTITUTE** — In the institute there were 13,026 printed books and 13,983 manuscripts. During the year 176 volumes were added. There were 213 registered readers and 1,988 books were issued.

534. **GAEKWAD ORIENTAL SERIES** — One hundred and one books have been published in the series, 15 were in the press and 22

under preparation. Important publications of the year were the two volumes of *Kritya-Kalpataru* which represents one of the earliest Law digests compiled by Laksmidhara, Minister of King Govindachandra of Kanauj, who flourished in A. D. 1110-1154. The volume consisting of the *Tirthavivechanakanda* and the *Grihasthakanda* have been edited in an erudite manner by the external editor Rao Bahadur K. V. Rangaswami Aiyangar of Madras.

535. TRANSLATION BUREAU — The Translation Bureau prepares and publishes volumes in four different series. The first two, *Shri Sayaji Sahityamala* and the *Balajnanamala*, are published from the interest of rupees two lakhs endowed by His Highness the late Maharaja Sayajirao III. The third *Gramvikasmala*, dealing with problems of rural reconstruction, is published from the income of the Diamond Jubilee Fund, while the fourth *Matusri Jannabai Smarak Granthamala* dealing with problems of women, from the income of the special fund dedicated to the memory of Matusri Jannabai Saheb. During the year, *Sahityamala* published one volume, *Balajnanamala* two volumes, *Gramvikasmala* one volume and *Matusri Jannabai Granthamala* one. The total number of the different series stood at the end of the year, at 288 in the *Sahityamala*, 185 in the *Balajnanamala*, 6 in the *Gramvikasmala* and 2 in the *Matusri Jannabai Granthamala*. The *Gramvikasmala* volume was distributed free of charge to village libraries as usual.

536. EXPENDITURE — The total expenditure of the Oriental Institute amounted to Rs. 35,815 as against Rs. 34,733 in the previous year.

(b) *Museum and Picture Gallery*

537. REORGANIZATION — The long-planned reorganisation of the Museum and Picture Gallery was taken up again. The new Egypto-Babylonian Gallery was completed; the new Greco-Roman and earlier European halls, arranged on the best modern models, are almost ready, except for the labels. The new Modern Indian Picture Gallery and the Islamic room are under work. In the European Picture Gallery a number of alterations were made for better protection and adaptation to changing circumstances. The greater part of the Bird Gallery has been modernised. The Economic Court destroyed in the last floods was transferred to the College of Commerce and Economics.

538. ACQUISITIONS — A portrait of His Highness; 7 modern Gujarati paintings and etchings, one Norwegian painting, 2 Gandhare heads, the pre-historic finds of Dr. Sankalia's excavations in Baroda State, a number of dated Jain bronzes, a Hellenistic bronze jug, an early Chinese stone Buddha and a very early Japanese gilt bronze, a number of Indian and Tibetan miniatures, and Indian and Chinese textiles were acquired during the year.

539. EXHIBITIONS AND LECTURES — Special exhibitions were held on Italian Art, Gujarati Art and on the History of Indian Art. Several papers were contributed to scientific publications.

540. VISITORS — The total number of visitors to the two institutions during the year was 3,67,879 as against 2,14,011 of the last year.

541. AFFILIATION — The Museum was affiliated to the Museums Association, London and the Museums Association of India.

542. EXPENDITURE — The total expenditure on the two institutions during the year was Rs. 39,369 as against Rs. 26,288 incurred last year.

(c) *Archæology Department*

543. CONSERVATION — Special conservation work was proposed for the Sahasralinga Talav at Patan, Shaikh Farid's tomb at Patan, the temple at Khandoran, the Jasmalnathji temple at Asoda, the Dwarkadhisa temple at Mul-Dwarka and the Kadi fort.

544. EXCAVATIONS — Excavations in the Sahasralinga talav at Patan were resumed to the west of the Rudrakupa or the silt-chamber. Future work to be undertaken was also decided. Some work was done at Anreli.

545. EPIGRAPHY — Twenty inscriptions were copied during the year; the majority of them are muslim inscriptions from Patan. They range from 1002 H. E. to 1344 H. E. The Hindu inscriptions are from Karnali, Chandod and Sulpan. The most important of these, coming from Sulpan and dated in V. S. 1470 (1413 A. D.), purports to record the construction of Sulpani temple at Sulpani near Tilakwada. The record is on marble and in a damaged condition. It is now removed to Baroda Museum.

546. PUBLICATIONS — Memoir No. II Important Inscriptions from the Baroda State, Vol. I and Memoir No. III Muslim Inscriptions were published by the department in the Shri Pratapsinha Maharaja Rajyabhisheka Granthamala Series. Memoir No. IV comprising report of the 1st Gujarat Pre-historic is under publication.

547. MUSEUM — The Director has undertaken the work of examination of the coins exhibited in the State Museum and is at present arranging the finds of the 1st Gujarat Pre-historic expedition of 1941-42 which he brought from Poona.

548. PRE-HISTORIC WORK — The work in pre-history was continued by an expedition organised by the Director General of Archæology in India and the Deccan College Post-graduate Research Institute. The work was conducted at Langhnaj in the Mehsana taluka.

549. EXPENDITURE AND INCOME — The total expenditure during the year under report was Rs. 13,182 as against Rs. 13,828 in the preceding year. The income was Rs. 430-15-9 as against Rs. 200 of the last year.

(d) *Encouragement to Sanskrit learnings*

550. SHRI RAJKIYA SANSKRIT MAHAVIDYALAYA — In the year 1915 His Highness the late Maharaja Saheb Sayajirao III started this institution for preparing purohits, puraniks, pandits and shastris to meet the requirements of the modern society. Since then advanced courses in several branches of Sanskrit learning have been organised. Number of scholarships are given at this institution.

The total expenditure on this institution including district Sanskrit schools amounted to Rs. 20,541 as against Rs. 20,373 in the previous year.

551. DISTRICT SANSKRIT SCHOOLS — There are four Government Sanskrit schools with 123 pupils, and 5 private sanskrit schools with 118 pupils in the State.

552. SHRAVANMAS DAKSHINA EXAMINATION — The Diplomas and Titles conferred upon candidates in the Shravanmas Dakshina Examinations, are recognised and valued all over India, and pandits from distant places appear at these examinations. During the year 120 appeared and 86 passed as against 145 and 120 respectively in the previous year. For awarding dakshinas to pandits passing the examinations in different subjects Government have sanctioned an amount of Rs. 5,000 per annum.

(e) *Indian Music*

553. MUSIC SCHOOLS — Besides the central school of Indian music at Baroda there were 4 district music schools and twenty music classes. The number of pupils in the school of Indian Music at Baroda was 248. The number of pupils in district music schools at Dabhoi, Navsari, Patan and Amreli was 48, 109, 27 and 32 respectively. Music classes are attached to primary and secondary schools. The number of students attending these classes was 3,844. The total expenditure on the institution came to Rs. 12,205 as against Rs. 13,281 in the previous year.

(f) *The Āyurvedic Mahavidyalaya*

554. THE ĀYURVEDIC MAHAVIDYALAYA — The Ujamsi Pitambar Āyurvedic Mahavidyalaya at Patan is conducted on a grant-in-aid basis. It imparts instruction both theoretical and practical in Āyurveda, the course being of five years. Students are taught Botany, Anatomy, Physiology, Surgery and midwifery etc. on modern lines. Practical training is given at the dispensary run by the institute and a ward for indoor patients is also maintained.

Attached Areas' Education

555. **NUMBER OF INSTITUTIONS** — 278 schools of these areas were placed in charge of the department. Subsequently due to the amalgamation of the Bavishi and Nirmali Thana areas with this State 26 schools out of the above schools were included in the Kalol Division of this department. Again on account of the second attachment and the handing over of the Sadra Bazar Cantonment area to Vasna taluka 58 more schools came under the State Attached Areas Education Department. One school in Amreli Division was handed over to Junagadh State. Thus at the end of the year under report there are 309 schools in the Attached Areas of this State.

556. **ADMINISTRATIVE ARRANGEMENTS** — For the purposes of administration the schools are grouped into three divisions, the Mehsana-Patan Division having 102 schools, the Amreli Division having 127 schools and the Baroda Division having 80 schools. The former two are each placed under an inspector and the third under a Dy. Inspector. The day-to-day administration of these schools is placed under the control and direction of the Special Officers concerned while the responsibility for the technical and inspectorial matters rests with the Vidyadhikari.

557. **IMPORTANT PROGRESSIVE MEASURES** — During the year under report several progressive measures were introduced for improving the working of the schools in the Attached Areas. Government have laid down that the inhabitants of these areas are to be admitted to the benefits of secondary and technical education on the same terms as Baroda State subjects. Primary Standard VII examination of Attached Areas school is considered as equivalent to primary class VII examination of State schools. Orders are also passed for the gradual introduction year by year of the class organisation, syllabus and text books of this State in Attached Areas schools from the year 1944-45. Through the special efforts of the Amreli Special Officer compulsory education has been introduced in two villages, namely Dhasa and Charkha of the Amreli Division as an experimental measure. The benefit of the State Training Schools is also extended to the teachers of the Attached Areas schools.

CHAPTER XXVII

PUBLIC HEALTH

A. Medical Relief

558. **MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS** — The total number of medical institutions, hospitals and dispensaries is 126 or 1 per every 22,659 persons.

559. **NUMBER OF PATIENTS** — There were 885 beds in the hospitals of the State as against 847 in the previous year. The total number of patients treated during the year was 11,59,487 out of whom 16,844 were indoor and 11,42,643 outdoor patients. Daily average of indoor patients was 622.94 and of outdoor 16,660.61.

The number of surgical operations (major and minor) was 1,43,707.

The five Ayurvedic dispensaries in the State treated 1,17,353 patients.

The statistics of patients and diseases for which they were treated during the year as compared with those of the last year are given below :—

Disease	1943-44	1942-43
Malarial fever	2,59,236	2,62,541
Diseases of skin	2,11,280	1,90,792
Diseases of eye	86,195	1,07,410
Diseases of ear	52,593	55,120
Diseases of nose	9,110	9,146
Diseases of throat and other respiratory organs.	83,509	85,670
Local injuries	1,86,462	2,45,721
Diseases of nervous system	14,542	15,560
Diarrhoea	34,147	33,178
Diseases of intestinal worms	5,369	4,597
Dyspepsia	40,460	48,262
Rheumatic affection	15,957	16,088
Dysentery	20,985	24,507
Venereal diseases	6,215	10,169
Tubercular diseases	2,635	3,186

560. **MEDICAL RELIEF FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN** — The extension of medical relief for women and children has always received the

constant attention of the Government and with the establishment of Shree Maharani Shanta Devi Trust, all efforts in this direction have been co-ordinated.

During the year the Trust received a donation of Rs. 17,640 for opening a maternity home at Nar. Besides, the Trust received a total annual contribution of Rs. 11,436 from the district local boards of Baroda, Mehsana and Amreli and some of the municipalities, as also an annual contribution of Rs. 10,000 from the Sayajirao III Memorial Fund.

Three new maternity homes at Vyara, Shinore and Dhari were opened during the year. The maternity homes at Dabhoi, Karjan and Balisana are nearing completion and are expected to begin working soon.

Five maternity homes at Orna, Dehgam, Nar, Kanisa and Pij have been sanctioned.

In the Baroda city there are 4 maternity wards. The total number of patients in these wards during the year was 4,032. Besides these, there were 23 maternity homes in the districts in which 1,903 patients were admitted during the year. The total number of ante-natal cases treated was 5,015 as against 5,869 in the previous year.

In addition to these maternity homes, there were 45 trained midwives attached to different districts. They attended 2,813 labour cases, 11,060 post-natal cases and 8,749 ante-natal cases as against 3,386, 14,629 and 10,105 respectively during the previous year. Nurse midwives, attached to the Amreli, Mehsana, Dharinaj and Bhadran maternity homes, were also doing ante-natal and post-natal work.

Shree Maharani Chinnabai Maternity and child Welfare League continued to do maternity and child welfare work. The lady doctor of the league examined 2,077 ante-natal cases and conducted 77 labour cases. 25,691 children were treated.

561. SHREE PADMAVATIDEVI SANATORIUM — To deal with tuberculosis more effectively and to provide more facilities and better treatment for T. B. patients this sanatorium has been constructed just near Baroda at the cost of Rs. 3.75 lakhs. It was opened on 17-3-1943 by Her Highness the Maharani Saheb. A specialist in this line has been appointed as superintendent and the Sanatorium commenced work from 1-5-1943. The Sanatorium became popular and 80 beds were found insufficient to meet with public demand. Of the 243 patients admitted, 208 were of pulmonary tuberculosis. 61 patients stayed at the Sanatorium for less than a month. Out of the remaining 147, 60 much improved, 31 improved, in 12 cases the disease was arrested, 5 cases did not improve and 39 cases remained stationary. The total number of operations was 2,739 and of the laboratory examinations was 9,799.

The Tuberculosis Association received Rs. 80,000 by way of donations. The Association also received a contribution of Rs. 50,000 from the Baroda Government and a grant of Rs. 20,000 from Shree Maharani Shantadevi Trust Fund.

The anti-tuberculosis clinic attached to the Jamnabai dispensary continued its useful work of propaganda and treatment. During the year 1,126 new patients were examined and 2,069 home visits made.

562. SHREE SAYAJI STATE GENERAL HOSPITAL - This is the central medical institution at Baroda fully equipped and having special departments for bacteriology, radiology, dentistry, eye and mid-wifery each in charge of a specialist with a gynaecological and children's ward provided.

Number of indoor patients was 7,885 and of outdoor patients 75,277, giving a daily average of 282 and 910 respectively. The number of major and minor operations performed was 2,459 and 45,297 respectively. In the X-ray department, 17,474 patients were treated. The dental department treated 10,799 patients and performed 5,247 operations. The eye department performed 556 operations. In the bacteriological laboratory 20,638 specimens of pathological interest were examined. The total expenditure on the hospital was Rs. 2.89 lakhs as against Rs. 2.97 lakhs in the previous year.

563. MENTAL HOSPITAL — The mental hospital had 110 patients as against 101 in the previous year.

564. LEPROSY ASYLUM — The leprosy asylum at Anusya treated 188 patients as against 126 in the previous year.

565. ANTI-RABIC TREATMENT — The number of patients who were given anti-rabic treatment at Baroda, Navsari, Patan and Amreli was 1,072 as against 1,026 in the previous year. 14,924 injections were given.

566. REGISTRATION OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS — 246 practitioners including doctors, vaidyas, hakims and others were registered during the year as against 107 in the previous year.

567. INDIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY — 388 junior red cross groups were organised in schools. 4,171 boys and 981 girls were enrolled in them. Lectures on ambulance work, nursing, hygiene and sanitation were delivered throughout the State. In all 620 candidates passed the examination in different subjects.

568. "DAIS" TRAINED — 5 dais were trained during the year in the class maintained out of the Victoria Memorial Scholarship Fund at the Jamnabai dispensary.

569. EXPENDITURE — The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 11 lakhs as against 9.42 lakhs in the previous year. This.

does not include the expenditure incurred from Shree Maharani Shantadevi Trust Fund.

570. SCHEME OF SUBSIDISED DISPENSARIES — 4 Ayurvedic dispensaries on subsidy basis were started at Avakhal, Bahial, Parujan and Velan in the preceding year. They treated 24,523 patients during the year.

571. ATTACHED AREAS — There were 20 dispensaries working in the attached areas. The number of indoor and outdoor patients was 117 and 79,285 respectively.

572. DRUG CONTROL ORDER — The Drug Control Order was applied to the State from 15-2-1944. The total number of license holders was 821.

B. Sanitation

573. GENERAL — Sanitation forms the principal function of municipalities in towns and of panchayats in villages. Sanitation of towns was generally satisfactory during the year. The first part of the Foods Act has been applied to all the municipal towns in the State. Efforts were also made to improve village sanitation.

574. INSPECTION — The Sanitary Commissioner and the Assistant Sanitary Commissioner inspected 35 towns and 109 villages. The district inspectors looked after the sanitation work and vaccination in 553 villages.

575. KOSAMBA HEALTH UNIT — To study problems relating to village sanitation, to educate the people and to introduce improvements, a health unit has been constituted for the 30 villages under the Kosamba rural reconstruction centre. The unit is in charge of a medical officer. A lady sub-assistant surgeon attends to ante-natal and post-natal cases.

All the villages were cleaned and their water sources disinfected. Anti-malaria work was continued. 919 persons were inoculated as a precaution against cholera. 55 soakage pits, windows and other sanitary constructional works were made for village people, half the cost being borne by the Government.

573 children were medically examined. The percentage of spleen cases decreased from 23.9 to 15.9. Health propaganda was carried out by personal talk and distribution of leaflets. The school children were given lessons in health and hygiene.

C. Vital Statistics

576. BIRTHS AND DEATHS — Registration of births and deaths is compulsory in the State. During the year there were 1,03,136 births and 68,461 deaths as against 1,02,118 births and 71,356 deaths in the previous year. The ratio of births and deaths per mille of population

was 36.1 and 24.0 respectively. Of 1,03,136 births, 53,616 were males and 49,520 females. Of 68,461 deaths, 35,939 were males and 32,522 females.

577. **INFANT MORTALITY** — There were 13,871 deaths of infants below one year as against 15,270 in the previous year, giving a ratio of 134.4 per thousand registered births as against 149.5 in the previous year. The infant mortality rate was the highest in the Okhamandal district and lowest in the Mehsana district.

578. **CAUSES OF DEATHS** — The following table shows the number of deaths from the different causes :—

Disease	Number of deaths	Ratio per mille of population
Fever	53,171	20.4
Plague ... ..	...	...
Cholera	1	.0003
Small-pox	173	.06
Measles	245	.08
Dysentery and Diarrhoea ...	1,147	.4
Cough	1,336	.4
Pneumonia	502	.1
Consumption	649	.2
Typhoid	122	.04
Influenza	56	.01
Meningitis	17	.005
Diphtheria	30	.01
Injuries and accidents ...	481	.1
Other causes	5,531	1.9
Total	68,461	24.0

The classification cannot be claimed to be accurate, as diseases with symptoms of fever are often registered under "fever" due to bad reporting.

579. **VACCINATION WORK** — Primary vaccination below the age of six months was made compulsory in all the areas under A and B class municipalities. 94,594 primary vaccinations and 1,01,161 re-vaccinations were performed during the year as against 96,538 and

69,992 in the previous year. The increase in the number of re-vaccinations was due to re-vaccination being made compulsory in the Navsari and Amreli districts. The percentage of successful primary vaccinations and re-vaccinations was 93.3 and 46.4 as against 94.3 and 38.3 respectively in the previous year. 20,434 primary vaccinations were performed in the attached areas of which 17,990 were successful.

The total expenditure on account of vaccination was Rs. 51,625-3-2 as against Rs. 51,431-13-11 last year. The average cost of each case was Re. 0-5-8 against Re. 0-4-11 in the last year.

580. PREVENTION OF DISEASES — Anti-malaria measures were continued in the Baroda city, 12 towns and 367 villages. Quinine and Ayurvedic medicines were distributed free in the affected areas. 100 mosquito nets were distributed in 10 villages.

Anti-guinea worm measures were taken in 58 villages of the Mehsana and Baroda districts. 58 water sources were disinfected and 158 patients were treated.

248 fresh cases of tuberculosis and 198 deaths were registered in the Baroda city and 8 towns of the State.

581. EPIDEMICS — There were 67 cases and only one death from cholera during the year. Cholera affected 4 places in the Baroda and Navsari districts. 7,548 persons were inoculated.

The State was free from plague during the year.

389 cases of small-pox were reported in all from all over the State of which 173 were fatal.

336 cases of typhoid were reported during the year, of which 99 were fatal.

There were 25 cases of meningitis of which 13 were fatal and 2 diphtheria cases of which 1 was fatal. Out of 267 cases of measles, 245 were fatal.

No case of leprosy was registered during the year.

582. PROPAGANDA — The department carried on propaganda with the help of cinema and magic lantern shows, lectures and exhibitions. 106 cinema and 9 lantern shows were held in 7 towns and 25 villages. 10 health exhibitions and baby shows were arranged during the year.

583. PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY — The Food and Drugs Act was extended to villages round about Baroda city to prevent adulteration in milk.

1,647 samples of milk and 220 samples of ghee were examined of which 1,155 samples of milk and 86 samples of ghee were found adulterated. The offenders were prosecuted.

CHAPTER XXVIII

MISCELLANEOUS

(i) Religious and Charitable institutions

584. INSTITUTIONS UNDER GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT — The number of institutions under direct Government management was 50 as in the previous year. The local revenue officers manage these institutions except Kedareshwar Khichadi and Gyarmi Karkhana, which distribute alms to Hindu and Muslim destitutes in the Baroda city. These two are directly under the head office of the department. The properties of these institutions were valued at Rs. 22 lakhs and the total expenditure was Rs. 0·81 lakh respectively.

585. FUNDS — Two funds have been constituted for the benefit of these institutions : (i) the general fund and (ii) the reserve fund. The general fund is created out of the net savings of the institutions and it is intended for religious and charitable objects of public utility. The fund increased from Rs. 7·43 lakhs to Rs. 7·56 lakhs after meeting an expenditure of Rs. 0·44 lakh during the year. The contributions received amounted to Rs. 0·57 lakh. The main grants paid out of this fund were:—

Amount paid Rs.	Name of the institutions to which the amounts are paid
12,000	Contributions to certain dispensaries in the Mehsana district.
3,000	The Patan Ayurvedic Pathshala.
4,460	The Baroda Rajkiya Pathshala.
449	The Amreli Sanskrit Pathshala.
6,121	Expenditure of the Seminar, Baroda College.
7,249	Paid to the Chhatris over and above the sanctioned budget.
4,829	Dearness allowance to the Devasthan servants.
4,307	Repairs to buildings.

The reserve fund is intended to meet extraordinary expenditure such as extensive repairs to buildings, etc. All institutions contribute rateably to this fund. The total contribution to the fund during the year was Rs. 0·2 lakh and the balance at the close of the year Rs. 0·15 lakh.

586. GRANT-IN-AID INSTITUTIONS -- The State exercises general supervision over religious and charitable institutions under private management receiving grants-in-aid from the Government. Institutions with an annual income of Rs. 200 or above are required, however, to get their budgets approved by the Government.

There were 3,828 such institutions—3,282 for Hindus and 546 for Muslims. The total grant to these institutions in the form of inami villages and cash payments was Rs. 1.39 lakhs.

587. INSTITUTIONS FOR RELIEF OF THE POOR ETC. — The total number of institutions intended for the relief of the poor, are 19. There are, besides, 3 orphanages, 2 schools for the deaf and dumb and 1 leper asylum.

588. ITINERANT RELIGIOUS PREACHERS — 6 itinerant religious preachers worked during the year at Amreli, Becharaji, Sidhpur, Kadi, Patan and Chandod. They delivered simple discourses on the fundamental principles of religion.

589. WAKF — As provided in the new Wakf Act, a survey of the Wakf properties in the Raj was made during the year. The properties registered were valued at Rs. 33 lakhs, with an income of Rs. 1.69 lakhs a year.

The head of the Deosthan department acts as the Wakf Adhikari and the following committee is appointed to assist and advise him on questions relating to these Wakfs:—

PRESIDENT

The Wakf Adhikari.

MEMBERS

2 members elected by the Dhara Sabha.

1 member from amongst the Mutvalis.

3 members from the Sunnis.

4 members from the Shias.

590. ABOLITION OF 'GARAM CHHAP' TAX — The Government abolished the 'Garam Chhap' (hot-print) tax levied at Dwarka during the year.

(ii) The Court of Wards

591. GENERAL — Under the law relating to wards, the Head of the department is authorised to assume control over estates of minors and others, who are physically or mentally unfit to manage them. A charge of 2½% on the income is levied for supervision during the minority of the wards, and 4½% from estates which are continued under management after the wards have attained majority. Subas are guardians of wards in their districts.

592. **ADMINISTRATION** — The number of estates under the Court of Wards at the beginning of the year was 73. Control over the estates of 8 wards was assumed and the estates of 9 wards were released during the year. There were 72 estates at the close of the year. The value of properties managed was Rs. 46.05 lakhs. Their income and expenditure amounted to Rs. 2.02 and 1.68 lakhs respectively. Of the total income of Rs. 2.02 lakhs, Rs. 1.94 lakhs were collected during the year and Rs. .08 lakh remained in arrears. The debts due to estates amounted to Rs. 3.78 lakhs, and the debts which the estates had to pay amounted to Rs. 1.32 lakhs. The total savings effected in favour of the estates at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 8.32 lakhs as against Rs. 7.79 lakhs in the preceding year. The savings are invested in approved securities.

593. **EDUCATION OF WARDS** — Of 97 wards receiving education 28 attend vernacular schools and 30 receive English education. The remaining 39 wards were either too young or unfit for study.

(iii) Government Press and Stationery

594. **THE PRESS** — All printing work of the State and the State Railways and printing of vernacular text books is done at the State Press. The Press also supplies stationery to Government departments.

Work of the value of Rs. 3.37 lakhs was done at the Press during the year, as against Rs. 2.95 lakhs in the previous year. Besides this, binding work of the value of Rs. 1,674 was got done by private agencies.

The Press employed 235 men as against 226 in the previous year. The monthly wages bill was Rs. 5,004 and supervision charges came to Rs. 2,648 per month.

The type foundry cast 5,823 lbs. of types as against 4,555 lbs. in the previous year.

595. **STATIONERY** — Stationery articles of the value of Rs. 1.57 lakhs were supplied to Government offices.

(iv) The Raj Daftardar's Office

596. **WORKING INSPECTION ETC.** — Under the amendment of 1943, daftars of 5,359 villages were sorted. 1,101 requisitions for copies from Government offices and 378 applications from private parties were attended to.

The Raj Daftardar and his staff toured in the Baroda and Amreli districts for 71 days and inspected the records of 74 offices.

Vol. VII of "The Historical Selections from Baroda State Records" was published.

(v) The Information Bureau

597. **THE BUREAU** — The Information Bureau is under a special officer called Information Officer. The bureau issued press notes on important measures taken by the Government. It also published a monthly bulletin in Gujarati for circulation specially in rural areas.

At the request of the War Propaganda Sub-Committee, the bureau issues weekly bulletins in Gujarati giving news about the war and of war efforts in the State and elsewhere. This bulletin is widely circulated.

The Information Officer is in charge of the Secretariat Library and is the secretary of the War Propaganda Sub-Committee, the Central Flood Relief Committee and the organiser of the National War Front. He is also entrusted with special propaganda for investments in the National savings Certificates and recruitment of more authorised agents.

The Information Officer acts as the City Press adviser. The Information Bureau has organised a Press room which is kept supplied with periodicals and books of reference and has proved useful to representatives of the Press.

(vi) Boards and Committees

598. **BOARDS AND COMMITTEES** — Besides those described in the previous chapters, the following are some of the important ones working in the State:—

Boards

- (a) *The Education Board* : The board is constituted to consider important questions relating to education in the State. It studies problems regarding the syllabus of studies in State schools, adult education, vocational education and the like. There are 15 members on the board, of whom 10 are non-officials.
- (b) *The Central Libraries Board* : This board was appointed in 1941 for the final selection and purchase of books and to control and manage the following three libraries:—
 - (1) The Baroda Central Library.
 - (2) The Huzur Political Office Library.
 - (3) The Secretariat Library.

The Curator of the Central Library acts as Secretary.

- (c) *The Central Examination Board* : It superintends and controls departmental examinations. It prescribes the syllabus of studies, appoints examiners and conducts the

examinations. It also supervises the training given to probationers in the higher grade. It is presided over by a Naib Dewan. The Sar Suba, the Accountant General, a judge of the High Court and the Principal, Baroda College, are the other members. The Naib Sar Suba acts as secretary.

Committees

- (a) *The Services Committee* : All appointments to posts, not filled by promotion, are made on the recommendation of the Services Committee. The committee consists of a Naib Dewan, who is the President, the Vidyadhikari, the Accountant General and the Principal P. C. Romans, of the Baroda College. The Chief Secretary to the Government acts as Secretary.
- (b) *The Budget Committee* : To scrutinise the estimates of the different departments and all proposals involving expenditure above Rs. 5,000 the Budget Committee was constituted in 1930. It is presided over by a Naib Dewan and the Accountant General, one retired officer of the State, two gentlemen from Sardar or Assamdar class and three members from the Dhara Sabha nominated by Government act as members.
- (c) *The Auction Committee* : The Central Auction Committee is presided over by a Naib Dewan. The head of the department, one member from the Sardar or Assamdar class, karkhandar and one additional member appointed by His Highness work as members of the committee. The committee has the power to confirm final bids in all auctions relating to any department up to the value of Rs. 15,000 in the case of immovable property and Rs. 1,00,000 in the case of movable property.
- (d) *The Students' Advisory Committee (Baroda College)* : The main function of the committee, consisting of nine members are:—
 - (1) to advise college students about possible avenues of employment in the State and outside,
 - (2) to help them to secure admission to professional colleges and
 - (3) to advise them in regard to foreign studies.

Summary of important features in the administration

THE WAR AND THE STATE ACTIVITIES — During the year the war entered on a new phase and the allies everywhere wrested the initiative from the enemy.

The Baroda Squadron of the R. A. F. and H. M. I. S. "Baroda" are continuing to maintain high traditions. The second infantry and the Mechanical Transport sections also continued on active service.

The training of technicians, motor transport drivers and mechanics and candidates of the Auxiliary Nursing Service continued.

His Highness the Maharaja Saheb gave a donation of

(i) Rs. 1,05,000 to the Indian Red Cross Society.

(ii) £ 500 for Christmas and New Year gifts to the members of the Baroda Squadron of Spitfires.

The State War Gifts Fund now stands at Rs. 2.53 lakhs. Investment by the State in 3% Defence Loans and Interest-free Bonds amounted to nearly Rs. 129.59 lakhs and Rs. 25 lakhs respectively. The total contribution of the State to the War Purposes Fund amounts to Rs. 24.31 lakhs.

The National War Front movement is spreading to the remotest villages.

2. ATTACHED AREAS — The total number of States attached comes to 251, irrespective of the units of Bavisi, Ghadhwada and Vatrak Kantha Thanas which have been amalgamated with the State, forming the Dabhoda mahal and the Jeher Nirmali petamahal.

The units attached to the State were assured that no efforts would be spared either by H. H. the Maharaja Saheb or his Government for the realisation of the object underlying the scheme viz: "the firm establishment of conditions in which the areas concerned will secure and enjoy full opportunity of progress and development".

The total area attached to the Baroda State is approximately 6,076 miles with a population of about 6,00,000; of these 59 are semi-jurisdictional and the rest are non-jurisdictional.

A special machinery was set up for the administration of these areas and the departments of the State have been instructed to extend all the benefits of education, medical relief and recruitment in services, etc. as the subjects of the State.

In order to help the chiefs, the talukdars, etc., H. H. the Maharaja Saheb also granted them loans on easy rate of interest.

Compulsory Education was introduced in Charkha estate of the Amreli Attached areas, while village panchayats were organised in 28 estates.

Grants aggregating to about Rs. 32,000 were also given for the construction of wells.

Floods in the Narmada inundated portions of Sankheda Mewas in August 1944. Help in all forms was rushed to the place and the people appreciated the prompt arrangements made by the Baroda State for their relief.

3. CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS — The working of the reforms is reviewed in chapter VI. The year was one of considerable legislative activity and much interest was shown by the members of the Dhara Sabha in all branches of administration. In view of the increasing work, H. H. the Maharaja Saheb, graciously directed to appoint one more councillor in the Executive Council, who will be a popular Member of the Dhara Sabha.

4. BUDGET AND FINANCE — The finances of the State have been satisfactory on the whole and the activities of the development departments have continued progressively.

The budget estimates of the year provided for a revenue of Rs. 323.26 lakhs and an expenditure of Rs. 322.83 lakhs leaving a surplus of Rs. 0.43 lakh. The year, however, proved better than anticipated. The actual receipts were Rs. 381.53 lakhs showing an improvement of Rs. 58.27 lakhs and the actual expenditure amounted to Rs. 333.70 lakhs exceeding the estimates by Rs. 10.87 lakhs. The year closed with a surplus of Rs. 47.83 lakhs.

The receipts from land revenue amounted to Rs. 103.17 lakhs of which Rs. 8.10 lakhs were transferred to the Land Revenue equalisation fund which stood at Rs. 82.61 lakhs at the end of the year. Rs. 40 lakhs have been set apart for post war reconstruction.

The net assets of the State at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 12.42 crores. Of these, Rs. 5.86 crores represent capital invested in railways, Rs. 42 lakhs in electric works, Rs. 50 lakhs in Okha and other ports and Rs. 40 lakhs in other concerns. The liquid assets now amount to Rs. 7.16 crores. Of these, Rs. 350 lakhs are set apart for the Reserve fund, and Rs. 82.61 lakhs for the Land Revenue equalisation fund. Interest earned on the Reserve fund is utilised for providing capital expenditure.

5. SEASON — The rainfall was favourable in all the districts except in Okhamandal, where there was an unprecedented rainfall of

22.42". The rains were steady and on the whole evenly distributed. This did not necessitate any suspensions or remissions of land revenue or other dues as they were found necessary in the past years.

6. **FOOD POSITION IN THE STATE** — The surplus of wheat, bajra and juvar from Mehsana and Amreli districts were made available in the Baroda, Navsari and Okhamandal districts. Rice was in deficit and people had to substitute other grains for it.

The Government have established food committees in urban and rural areas. Price Control committees composed of representatives of all interests including consumers have been established throughout the State.

The "Grow More Food" campaign continued to be in operation. The Government prescribed minimum areas all over the State on which it was obligatory on agriculturists to grow food crops. The Government also gave concessions for growing more food. They are detailed in paragraph 200.

As a result of these measures there was an increase of about 2,54,361 bighas under food crops over last year. A remission of Rs. 1,15,425 was granted on that account.

7. **CHEAP GRAIN SHOPS** — The organisation of cheap grain shops has been one of the chief items in the policy of the State. These shops are organised either by local officers or non-officials or by institutions like municipal councils. Fair price shops have also been organised in the Baroda city to prevent retail sellers from charging high prices and the emergence of black markets. There were 232 cheap grain shops and 23 fair price shops in the State at the end of the year. A central store has been opened in the Baroda city to make stocks available for the local shops.

The Government made it obligatory on every owner of a factory to open a grain shop at or near the place of employment for supply of food grains to the employees of the factory and their dependents. 1,27,187 persons were supplied food grains from 40 shops at the rates fixed by the Government.

8. **SUGAR** — Sugar rationing continued during the year. The rates for wholesale dealers ranged from Rs. 16-5-0 to Rs. 17-13-0 a standard maund and those for retail ranged from Rs. 16-13-0 to Rs. 18-5-0 a standard maund. The highest rate was Re. 0-3-9 a lb. The increase was due to the temporary levy of Re. 0-13-0 per standard maund.

9. **STANDARD CLOTH** — The Baroda Government agreed to participate in the standard cloth scheme of the Government of India. Out of 21,80,468 yards of cloth received 15,84,701 yards were sold.

Care is taken to see that the cloth reaches those intended to benefit by the scheme. An Advisory Committee continued to supervise the work of distribution.

10. SAVINGS CAMPAIGN — When agricultural prices showed a rise and wages of labourers increased, the Government took special steps to constitute saving banks and thrift societies. The number of savings banks increased from 9 in 1937-38 to 39 and the deposits have arisen from Rs. 5.73 lakhs to Rs. 46.22 lakhs. 20 labourers' societies have been formed and their membership has risen to about 23,027.

Special facilities are afforded to villagers to invest in defence loans and saving banks.

11. THE ECONOMIC EFFECTS OF WAR ON THE STATE — The effects of the war on the economic life of the State have been (i) that agriculturist in the State has been largely benefited by the high prices and (ii) that it pays him to cultivate foodgrains and only the higher grade cotton. These conditions still hold good.

Industries are working to full capacity to meet the war time demands of defence services and of the civilian population and to fill the gaps created by the difficulty and interruption of imports. Existing industries have expanded and new ones have arisen; employment has increased.

12. LEGISLATION — There was much legislative activity in the year. The Wills Act is one of the important Acts passed.

13. EDUCATION — Among the development activities, mass education occupies a leading place. Chapter XXVI describes the progress of education during the year.

There were in all 3,11,726 pupils under instruction in 2,701 educational institutions. Of these 1,91,005 were boys and 1,20,721 girls. Co-education, introduced a long time ago, is becoming increasingly popular. Of 1,20,721 girls under instruction, only 46,610 were studying in separate schools for girls while the remaining 61 per cent were studying in mixed schools.

The Government have been devoting special attention to the health of the children in schools. Compulsory physical training, first introduced in 1938 in the schools of the Baroda City and taluka, was extended to all the schools of the State in 1940-41. Teachers are specially trained for this purpose. During the year 210 teachers were trained making a total of 3,978 trained teachers.

In spite of adverse conditions the adult literacy campaign was carried on. During the year under report, 331 classes attended by 2,998 illiterates were conducted. The experiment of infants' classes is being continued.

In the field of primary education the department continued its efforts to consolidate and improve the existing system. The Pratap Reading Series is progressing satisfactorily. Books I to V are introduced in the schools, books VI and VII will be published shortly.

As the improvement of elementary education depends mainly on the efficiency of the teachers, training facilities are steadily extended and improved. The number of trained teachers increased from 3,831 in 1928-29 to 5,331 or 79.1 per cent of the total strength.

The policy of developing the rural library system as an essential complement to mass education is being steadily pursued. The number of village libraries stands at 1,348. The library movement is described on pages 184-185.

The number of primary schools has increased from 2,384 to 2,496 during the year with 2,76,245 pupils. The percentage of boys and girls under instruction to the total male and female population was 10.8 and 8.4 respectively. The average daily attendance was 78.5 per cent.

The number of pupils in secondary schools was 30,724 as against 26,789 in the previous year. Of these 3,380 were girls. The policy of Government is to encourage private bodies by giving grants-in-aid to open and maintain English schools. The response has been encouraging.

Baroda now has three colleges — an Arts and Science College, a Secondary Teachers' Training College and a Commerce College. All the three colleges continued to work satisfactorily.

The Kalabhavan with its five district industrial schools continued to work satisfactorily. Of these 6 technical institutions, 2 are private industrial schools for women.

14. FEMALE EDUCATION — There were 1,20,711 girls under instruction during the year as against 1,19,466 in the previous year. Of these 1,16,444 were attending primary schools and 3,380 secondary schools. Out of 1,357 students in the Baroda College, 146 were women students. In the Teachers' Training School for Women there were 287 students.

15. THE "DEPRESSED" CLASSES — The policy of Government is to raise the Antyaj community to take its place on a basis of equality with other sections of the people, through education and economic uplift and by affording legal protection for its elementary rights. The position of the depressed classes who form 15 per cent of the population is steadily improving. The Government have provided extensive facilities for their education. Preference is given to students of this community for admission to all Government institutions. Special

scholarships are reserved for them in the college and secondary schools. Antyaj boarding houses are maintained at Baroda, Patan, Amreli and Vyara. The total number of Antyaj pupils under instruction was 21,845 or 9.4 per cent of their population. The policy of Government is that pupils from this class should be educated in the ordinary schools along with caste Hindu pupils. There were 63 special Antyaj schools with 3,819 pupils. There were 155 Antyaj pupils in the secondary schools and 18 in the Baroda College.

16. BACKWARD AREAS AND TRIBES — Paragraphs 499-503 of the report describe the measures taken for the education of the Raniparaj and other tribes in the backward areas. Boarding houses are established for their special benefit and the education imparted combines literary instruction with vocational courses. In these boarding houses there were 363 Raniparaj boys receiving instruction, there were 44 Raniparaj girls in the boarding house at Songadh exclusively meant for girls. In the Training school for teachers there were 33 Raniparaj students of whom 8 were men and 25 women. 3 Raniparaj students were studying in Kalabhavan, 64 in secondary schools and 1 in Baroda College. There were 45 Wagher boys in the boarding house at Dwarka. 68 students were receiving instruction in the Thakarda boarding school at Deodarda and 45 at Dabhoi where a special agricultural bias school for backward class people has been recently started.

17. SOCIAL PROBLEMS AND LEGISLATION — The social legislation is reviewed on pages 101-111 of the report.

The Child Marriage Prevention Act which has been in operation for the last 40 years has succeeded in eliminating the marriages of children under eight years. They now form only 1 in 187. Even though the marriageable age was raised in 1932 to 18 for boys and 14 for girls and though the total number of child marriages has increased from the year 1934-35, the proportion of child marriages is less than half of what it was in 1916 - 33.2 in 1916 and 12.3 in 1943-44. The effect of this social legislation on the condition of society is reflected in the census figures of 1941. During the last 40 years, the average age of marriages has risen by about 5 years.

The Hindu divorce law has been in force for the last twelve years. It was specially designed for persons belonging to castes in which divorce is not allowed by custom. Such persons, however, have been slow to resort to this law due to the force of custom and tradition. Recently however they have shown a greater willingness to seek relief under this law the number of such cases in the first five years was only 7 as against 28 in the last five years.

Hindu women are now asserting the enlarged property rights given to them by the amendments in the Act relating to Hindu law

enacted in 1933. Generally among the higher castes these rights are conceded, as women's property right have always been more extensive in this part of India than elsewhere.

Customs and traditions have restricted the exercise of the opportunity for wider choice in marriage under the special marriage Act. During the 35 years the Act has been in operation, only 80 marriages were registered under it. The action of this legislation, however, is mainly confined to inter-marriage amongst different sub-castes within a religious community.

The Caste Tyranny Removal Act has met with limited success. The number of prosecutions under it has been small. The operation of this Act shows the difficulties of social legislation when not sufficiently supported by public opinion. People are reluctant to take the risk of embittered relations with the leaders of the caste which a prosecution on giving evidence involves.

The Hindu Monogamy Act has much popular support behind it.

18. **AGRICULTURE** — The activities of the department continued to progress satisfactorily. Investigations into diseases affecting crops like cotton root rot were carried out and samples of soils, water fertilising substances and feeding stuffs were analysed by the agricultural chemist. Crop research was conducted on the Government farms. Efforts to select and evolve types of cotton, best suited to the soil and climate of the different districts, were continued. Experiments with bajra, wheat and ground-nuts were continued and several promising types isolated.

Separate farms have been established for each of the distinctive tracts of the State to experiment with crops and processes of agriculture and discover those best suited to the soil, the climate and conditions of the area, and to help to provide the need for pedigree seeds, modern implements and manure. There are nine such farms in the State. Important schemes of research were in progress in co-operation with the Indian Central Cotton Committee and the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, in addition to schemes undertaken by the State itself.

The crux of the problem in agriculture is to link the work of the experimental farms with the villages and to induce the agriculturist to adopt the varieties, methods of farming and collection of manure etc. which the farms after numerous trials have found to be the best suited to the tract. A solution of this problem is attempted on a comprehensive plan which includes intensive work units, agricultural education, tours and exhibitions and rural reconstruction centres.

There were 24 intensive units serving 487 villages. Besides these, five units are opened under Vijaya cotton Extension Scheme. The kamdars in charge of these units carried selected experiments on

farms of agriculturists as an object lesson to the villages, and also distributed improved seeds and implements and showed improved methods of collecting manures.

The itinerant carts made 31 circuits touching 251 villages.

The rural reconstruction centres at Kosamba, Karjan and Vankal are proving an efficient agency for spreading agricultural knowledge. The former is now ripe for being taken over by some semi-official agency.

The results of propaganda are seen in the rapid increase in the use of improved seeds, fertilisers and modern implements.

To make people alive to the seriousness of the loss due to soil erosion and to teach the best ways of checking it, the Government have established a separate organisation. To carry on experiments on a large scale for working out the best methods of approach to different types of soil erosion, two district centres have been established – one at Dhari in Amreli district and the other at Hirapura in Mehsana district. The results at both the centres are being watched with interest.

The section devoted to livestock and veterinary work is rendering useful services. Preventive inoculations and vaccinations were given to 80,470 animals.

The department has made progress in all activities and justified the increase in expenditure from Rs. 1·8 lakhs in 1934–35 to Rs. 9·35 lakhs in the year under report. It is estimated that the department by the services it has rendered adds about Rs. 50 lakhs to the income of the agriculturists every year.

19. ECONOMIC LEGISLATION — The economic legislation in the State reviewed on pages 111–113 of the report falls under three heads

1. tenancy
2. debt, and
3. protection of backward classes.

20. THE TENANCY LEGISLATION — The Rent Regulation Act and the Ankadia Villages Tenants Act have had beneficial effects. Under the Rent Regulation Act, the Backward class tenant has been assured a fair rent and security of tenure and safeguarded from arbitrary erection as well as imposts. Another advantage both to the tenant and the landlord has been that civil suits for arrears of rent have ceased; the tenant has been saved the cost of litigation and the landlord the lengthy procedure of civil courts. The Ankadia Villages Tenants Act has had the desired effect and the relations between tenants and ankadedars are now established on reasonable and cordial basis.

Two measures comprise the legislation in protection of interests of agriculturist debtors – the Agriculturists Debt Regulation Act and the Debt Conciliation Act. The former was designed to give relief to agriculturists from the effects of the fall in prices of agricultural produce due to the depression and has been freely availed of by agriculturists of all classes. The object of the Debt Conciliation Act is to reduce the burden of agricultural indebtedness through conciliation. It sets up conciliation boards to examine the accounts and compose the debts through compromise. During the year, the boards effected conciliation in 33 cases in which the total claim of Rs. 68,718 was settled for Rs. 42,909 or 63% of the demand.

The Backward Classes Land Protection Act is intended to save the Rani Paraj and other backward classes from being ousted from their lands by money lenders.

21. SHREE SAYAJIRAO III DIAMOND JUBILEE TRUST — The notable part played by the Diamond Jubilee Trust in rural reconstruction is described in chapter XIII of the report.

The Shree Sayajirao III Diamond Jubilee Trust was created by H. H. the late Maharaja Sayajirao III by a personal gift of one crore of rupees. The income from this fund is utilised for supplementing the efforts of the Government to improve village life in all its aspects – economic, social and cultural.

A long-term programme has been adopted and grouped under three heads:—

- (a) Works of public utility in individual villages
- (b) Schemes for backward areas and classes, and
- (c) Head-quarter schemes, benefiting large areas or sections of rural population.

The expenditure on village works was Rs. 2.89 lakhs, on schemes for backward areas and Rs. 0.55 lakh and on head-quarter schemes Rs. 0.38 lakh during the year.

22. SHREE SAYAJIRAO III MEMORIAL FUND — To perpetuate the memory of His Highness the late Maharaja Sayajirao III a sum of rupees one crore was endowed by His Highness the Maharaja on the occasion of his accession to the throne. The fund is intended to finance schemes benefiting all sections of the people without any distinction of caste or creed. The income of this fund is Rs. 3.50 lakhs a year.

The utilisation of this fund awaits the cessation of hostilities. Funds are being accumulated from this Trust for an Engineering College in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering to be opened after

the war and for an institute for training in B. Sc. (Tech.) in weaving technology. Four minor schemes, however, have been so far sanctioned

- (i) An annual endowment of Rs. 21,000 has been made to the Benares Hindu University for establishing a Chair to be called "The Sayajirao Chair of Indian Culture and Civilization" and for three fellowships attached to it.
- (ii) A grant of Rs. 10,000 a year has been made to Shree Maharani Shantadevi Trust for medical aid to women and children of the State.
- (iii) Rs. 15,000 a year have been set apart for awarding scholarships to the sons of Sardars, Assamdars and the like for secondary and higher education.
- (iv) Scholarships for textile chemistry and chemical engineering, available to B. Sc. students, have also been instituted.

23. **DIAMOND JUBILEE PEOPLE'S VILLAGE UPLIFT FUND** — The total fund amounts to Rs. 7.59 lakhs. The yearly income of interest on this fund is Rs. 26,875. The income is utilised for awarding scholarships to bonafide agriculturists for obtaining practical instruction in agriculture, horticulture and subsidiary occupations like leather tanning, paper making, tailoring, etc. A substantial amount is spent each year for encouraging khaddar industry in the State. Scholarships amounting to Rs. 2,723 were awarded to 72 candidates for training in agriculture, and Rs. 1,940 were awarded to 59 candidates for training in cottage industries. Rs. 9,452 were given as grant to 20 institutions producing khadi. Rs. 5,275 were sanctioned for training 19 young women from rural areas in cottage industries and in rural problems at the Maharani Chinnabai Industrial Home at Baroda.

24. **LOCAL SELF GOVERNMENT** — District local boards carried on anti-malarial campaigns with fairly good results. Schemes for eradication of guinea worm were in operation at Sankheda, Patan, Chanasma and Harij. The Mehsana and Amreli boards specially attended to tree planting.

The Baroda city and District municipalities continued their anti-malarial campaigns with good results.

The Baroda City Municipality conducted propaganda for popularising vaccination against small-pox and inoculation against typhoid.

25. **CO-OPERATION** — The co-operative movement continued to develop along established lines. There were 1,171 societies working, of which 884 were agricultural credit societies.

The total membership increased from 75,825 to 1,15,173. It is estimated that the movement directly affects 18.1 per cent of the

population – the agricultural societies about 8·6 per cent of the village population and the non-agricultural about 43·5 per cent of the town population.

The financial position showed an all round improvement. The working capital increased from Rs. 137·98 lakhs to Rs. 160·09 lakhs, the share capital from Rs. 17·27 lakhs to Rs. 23·65 lakhs, deposits from members from Rs. 45·21 lakhs to Rs. 60·03 lakhs and reserve and other funds from Rs. 21·51 lakhs to Rs. 23·88 lakhs.

Loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 88·62 lakhs as against Rs. 52·72 lakhs in the previous year. The repayments improved from Rs. 46·76 lakhs to Rs. 92·46 lakhs. The outstanding loans at the end of the year decreased from Rs. 73·42 lakhs to Rs. 69·89 lakhs while the overdues fell from Rs. 10·9 lakhs to Rs. 7·89 lakhs.

The two land mortgage banks at Baroda and Navsari extending their operation in almost all the talukas of the two districts continued to work on sound lines.

26. MAJOR INDUSTRIES — All the major industrial establishments in the State continued to work during the year. The textile industry showed progress under the impetus of the conditions created by the War.

The Tata Chemicals Ltd., started in 1939 with a paid-up capital of Rs. 125 lakhs, made considerable progress. 23,205 tons of salts and its bye-products were produced. During the year the process house for the manufacture of soda ash came into operation and soda ash of standard specifications has been produced and put in the market. The Alembic Chemical Works continued to manufacture drugs, fine chemicals etc. A plant for the manufacture of sodium sulphite has been installed by the Star Chemical Works (formerly Hira Chemical Works).

Financial assistance in the form of loans or investments in share capital was given to a number of small concerns.

Industrial research continued satisfactorily and gave useful results.

The number of operatives in factories rose from 41,079 in 1941-42 to 41,771 in 1943-44.

27. COTTAGE INDUSTRIES — For the development of cottage industries in the State, the Government maintain the Diamond Jubilee Cottage Industries Institute at Baroda and in the villages a large number of training classes at which scholarships are given to students. The Government also give grants to private institutions which promote the development of cottage industries and loans for starting them. Many students were trained in calico printing, block engraving, lacquer work, wood-carving etc.

28. **OKHA PORT**—The customs—revenue decreased from Rs. 52·86 lakhs to Rs. 36·03 lakhs. The receipts from port dues exceeded the expenditure by Rs. 1·07 lakhs. The capital expenditure incurred during the year amounted to Rs. 1,21,896 bringing the total capital expenditure on the port to Rs. 47·86 lakhs.

29. **STATISTICS DEPARTMENT**—The Director of Statistics is also the Superintendent of Insurance and Registrar of joint stock companies. The department compiled the statistical abstract for the year 1942–43 and various other statistical statements and returns. It also looked after the insurance of State servants. 40 new companies were registered during the year.

30. **FISHERIES**—Fishery surveys were continued and biological materials collected. The scheme for commercial manufacture of shark liver oil was continued. A revised scheme of experiments in curing, packing and smoking of fish, accepted by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, was worked at Kotdah. Arrangements to open a Prawn farm at Nedra were made during the year.

31. (i) **ELECTRICITY**—The electric supply and distribution systems at Baroda, Petlad and Gandevi were maintained in a satisfactory working condition during the year. New connections for lighting purposes were released as far as practicable, but the restriction on power connections had to be continued.

(ii) **TELEPHONE**—The demand for telephones increased considerably but it could not be met owing to the shortage of materials. There are automatic telephone systems at Baroda, Dabhoi, Petlad, Mehsana, Navsari and Billimora. All these have been connected with the trunk telephone systems. New Public Call offices were opened at Bhilupur on Baroda–Dabhoi trunk line and at Gandevi.

32. **RAILWAYS**—The Baroda State is well served by railways; relatively to its size and population, it has the longest mileage in India. The total mileage of the railways owned by the State, including Bodeli–Chhota-Udaipur railways and Broach–Jambusar railway was 795 miles. The net earnings of the railways amounted to Rs. 57·03 lakhs yielding a return of 9·63 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 592·11 lakhs.

33. **PUBLIC WORKS**—The Public Works department carried out a useful programme of irrigation work, water-works, roads, drainage works and building for hospitals and schools. The activities of the department, however, suffered owing to shortage of materials and the difficulties of transport and rising prices due to war. The work on the Vijapur tube well irrigation scheme in the Mehsana district and other irrigation projects was continued. The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 46·23 lakhs as against Rs. 40·32 lakhs in the previous year. The activities of the Public Works department are described in Chapter XXIV.

34. **MEDICAL RELIEF**-- During the year there were 126 medical institutions in the State or 1 for every 22,659 persons. The scheme for grant-in-aid for village dispensaries was continued.

Extension of medical relief to women and children has been receiving constant attention of the Government. With the establishment of the Shree Maharani Shantadevi Trust, all efforts in this direction have been co-ordinated and have received a new impetus. Three maternity homes were opened during the year in addition to the existing 31 such institutions. Besides these, there were 45 trained midwives attached to the different districts. In the Baroda city there were 3 maternity homes attached to the Shree Sayaji General Hospital and 1 to the Jamnabai dispensary. Maternity and child welfare work was also done by the Shree Maharani Chimmabai Maternity and Child Welfare League.

Shree Padmavatidevi Anti-Tuberculosis Sanatorium was opened on 17-3-1943 by Her Highness the Maharani Saheb. A specialist has been appointed as superintendent and the Sanatorium commenced work from 1-5-1943. The Sanatorium soon became popular and 80 beds provided proved insufficient to meet the public demand. The anti-tuberculosis clinic attached to the Jamnabai dispensary continued its useful work of propaganda and treatment. The Tuberculosis Association received a donation of Rs. 0.80 lakh.

35. **RURAL HEALTH**--The first part of the Foods Act has been applied to all the municipal towns in the State.

The health unit attached to the Kosamba centre continued its activities.

Anti-malaria measures were conducted in the Baroda city, 12 municipal towns and 367 villages. Anti-guinea worm measures were taken in 58 villages and 58 water sources were disinfected.

The State was free from plague during the year. 94,594 primary vaccinations against small-pox and 1,01,161 re-vaccinations were performed during the year.

36. **MISCELLANEOUS**--The Indian Tobacco Excise Duty Act was applied to the State from 1-4-1943. Three lakhs Bengal maunds of tobacco were charged duty under this Act, which amounted to Rs. 69 lakhs during the year. According to the Act all persons dealing in tobacco have to take licences. The number of licences issued was 9,663 and the licence fee realised was a little more than 43 thousand rupees.

APPENDIX A

**Message of His Highness Maharaja Sir Pratapsinh Gaekwar,
Sena Khas Khel, Shamsheer Bahadur, Farzand-i-Khas-i-
Dowlat-i-Inglishia, G. C. I. E., LL. D., to the Chiefs,
Talukdars and Bhagdars and to the people of
the States, Talukas and estates attached
to the Baroda State.**

It gives me very sincere pleasure to send my cordial greetings and good wishes to the Chiefs, Talukdars and Bhagdars and to the people of the States, Talukas and estates attached to the Baroda State under His Excellency the Crown Representative's communiqué of the 16th April. I cordially welcome the relationship now established: and it will be my constant endeavour as well as that of my Government to assist whole-heartedly in the achievement of the essential object in view which is, "the firm establishment of conditions in which the areas concerned will secure and enjoy full opportunity for progress and development."

2. My grandfather, the late Sir Sayajirao III of revered memory proposed the scheme from which the present arrangement has grown. You will recall that he referred to his scheme in the speech he made at the banquet given to His Excellency Lord Willingdon on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of his accession to the gadi. In a message to the people of the State during the Diamond Jubilee he announced the formation of a Trust in words which I extract below:-

"On this occasion when my people all over the State are celebrating the Diamond Jubilee of my accession, I desire to announce that I have decided, in commemoration of this happy event, to set apart a fund of one crore of rupees to be called the Diamond Jubilee Trust, the income of which will be devoted to improving the conditions of life of the rural population, especially those of the poor and of the depressed classes, supplementing the amount which will be progressively devoted to such purposes in the regular budgets of the State.

"As you well know, for over 55 years, I have laboured assiduously in the cause of rural development. Indeed no cause has been dearer to my heart. My ideal is to improve village life - all sides of it. I wish to develop in my people a keen desire for a higher standard of living - "a will to live better" - and a capacity for self-help and self-reliance. I earnestly desire to make village life interesting and farming a career the rewards in which will satisfy the most enterprising among the villagers.

" I desire now to give a further stimulus to the movement I began 55 years ago. It is with this object that I am constituting this special fund. From the income of this, grants will be made for useful schemes like extensions of gamthans to relieve over-crowding, village water supplies, communications, educative work of all kinds etc. Special preference will be given (i) to the poorer areas which probably have been neglected in the past and (ii) to the needs of the backward communities like the Raniparaj, the Antyajas, the Thakardas, the Rabaries etc. As I have already said, this will be over and above the usual State expenditure, which I trust will increase with the expansion of revenues.

x x x x x

" It is my earnest hope that, by this action of mine, the happiness of my people may be increased and they may be led to a higher and better manner of living. Should even a part of this ambition be realised, I shall feel myself amply rewarded for a life-time dedicated to the well-being of my subjects".

I am confident that it would be in accordance with the wishes of His Highness the late Maharaja that the attached estates should share in the benefits of the Trust. I therefore announce that out of the income of the Trust a sum of Rs. 50,000 will be earmarked every year for promoting the objects of the Trust in the attached areas. I am also constituting today a Trust which will yield an income of Rs. 50,000 a year to supplement this annual grant of Rs. 50,000 from the Shri Sayaji Rao Diamond Jubilee Trust and for the same objects. Rules will be framed by my Minister, after due consultation with you, for the administration of these funds in the attached areas. These amounts will be over and above the annual allotments in the budgets for the attached areas for these purposes.

3. I am also setting apart a sum of Rs. 10,000 every year for grants for the education of the sons etc. of the Chiefs and Talukdars.

4. I conclude this short message with my renewed assurance to all of you of my readiness to give my full support to all schemes for the well-being of the people in the attached areas.

Laxmi Vilas Palace,
Baroda, 27th July 1943.

PRATAPSINH GAEKWAR.

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