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Baroda,
16th January 1942.

May it please Your Highness,

I have the honour to submit the Administration Report for the year 1940-41.

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

I remain,
Your Highness' most obedient servant,
V. T. KRISHNAMACHARI,
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 sugar cane. 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 Bhadran, 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 Kahnem 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 archæological ruins and monuments of historical 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 a 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 soils 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	1933	959,416
Mehsana	3080	1,180,541
Navsari	1811	465,923
Amreli	1071	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 Gaekwad 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 Gaekwad 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 Gaekwad 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, but 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 Dammagar which he received in dowry.

It is unnecessary to refer here to the history of the years following the death of Damajirao. The Gaekwad'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 Malharao'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 Jamnabai, 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 Jamnabai 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.

Maharāja 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 ganthans 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 Chapter XI.

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 Gaekwad, 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 Chapter XI.

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 second part of this chapter deals in detail with the system of government and administration, the settlement of land, and the social and economic condition of the State as they are found to-day.

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 three Naib Dewans, one of whom is a non-official gentleman 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, the Huzur Central Office, 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 by the Central Office 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 of 1940. 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 2,39,336 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. Three 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. 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, Attached Estates, 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 remissions 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 three talukas 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 sub divisions. 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, Attached Estates 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 5,142 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 foudjar, the police station under foudjar, the circle under sar foudjar 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 4,781 (effectives)—Light field-artillery 93, cavalry 1,500, infantry 3,071, band 111, and 6 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 systems.

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 realisation 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. 7·5 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 1,303, and it has been calculated that 12 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 investment in the share capital of pioneer industries, or for concessions, such as compulsory acquisition of land, remission of octroi duties, 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 712·8 square miles. The area is divided into nine ranges for administration.

Of these five are in the Navsari and one in each of the other districts. The 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 Vidya-dhikari. 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 Vidhyadhikari, 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 2,289 Government primary schools with 6,436 teachers and 47 Government secondary schools with 514 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 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 village libraries rose from 697 in 1930 to 1,517 in 1940. 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 44 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 117 medical institutions—one for 70 square miles or 20,880 of the population. The strength of the department at present is 21 medical officers, 119 sub-assistant surgeons, 161 nurses and midwives, and 103 compounders.

The Maharani Shanta Devi Trust Fund: Recently 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, irrigations, 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 723 miles, of which 21·42 miles are broad-gauge, 345·85 miles metre-gauge and 355·73 miles narrow-gauge, the total capital invested being Rs. 5·58 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, Bilimora, 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.

31. **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 Legal Remembrancer, the Accountant General, and the Principal, Baroda College, and the Chief Assistant to the Ministers works as secretary.

Local Self-Government

32. **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. Of the 2,894 villages, 1,648 have panchayats, and 879 villages are served by 384 group panchayats. 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 powers of supervision over village affairs 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 from grass, trees etc., form their main sources of income. The average income of the panchayats is Rs. 168 per year.

33. **DISTRICT BOARDS**—In 1904, 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, dharamshalas 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 works of importance, they were relieved of this (Rs. 2.75 lakhs) as well as of their contribution of Rs. 0.29 lakhs towards veterinary services. This added Rs. 3.04 lakhs to their resources. The total income of the five prant panchayats is about Rs. 8.5 lakhs.

34. **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. 1.5 lakhs, is about Rs. 11 lakhs.

35. **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 earlier 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. 6.5 lakhs and of 'B' class about Rs. 3.5 lakhs.

The system of land revenue

36. **SETTLEMENT OF RYOTWARI LANDS**—In the earlier years, 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.

37. OCCUPANCY RIGHTS—In Baroda territories, as in those comprising the Bombay Presidency, 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.

38. 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.

39. 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 fractional 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.

40. **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 resettlements 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.

41. **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

42. **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.

43. **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 dharmadaya lands bestowed on Brahmins, Bhattas, 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 inams* : There are three distinct classes of service inams: (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.

44. **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.

45. **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 interferes 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

46. 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.

47. 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 Bombay Presidency. 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	<hr/> 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 Bombay Presidency 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 Bombay Presidency. 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 holding. 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 of 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.

48. 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 quarrying, 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. 1,164 lakhs in 1941, of which Rs. 117 lakhs and Rs. 295 lakhs respectively, represented the capital of companies incorporated in the State. A noteworthy feature of this industrial development is that it is broad based. There are sixteen 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 Hindustan Chemical and Colour Works and several other smaller concerns. The cement factory at Dwarka produces over 1,50,000 tons a year and the Okha Salt Works 75,000 tons of salt. There are two match factories, a sugar factory, thirteen oil mills and a number of miscellaneous industries.

49. RELIGIOUS DENOMINATIONS—Almost all religious denominations of India are found in the State. Of the total population, 25,60,000 or 89.34 per cent are Hindus, including 3,73,000 or 13 per cent Tribal, 2,24,000 or 7.83 percent 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.

50. **CHILD MARRIAGES**—The result of thirty seven 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 percent in 1916–20 to 13 percent in 1936–40, inspite of the age having been raised. The working and effect of this law is reviewed in the chapter on Social and Economic Legislation.

51. **LITERACY**—There are now 6,53,000 literates (4,82,000 males and 1,71,000 females) and 1,60,000 partially literate. Thus, 229 per mille of the population are literate, 56 per mille partially literate, and the wholly illiterate form 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 the 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 males 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

52. DISTRICT TOURS—His Highness the Maharaja toured in Okhamandal and in the Amreli, Dhari, and Damnagar talukas in November 1940, during which he met the prominent people and agriculturists of these places. His Highness had to cancel his programme of tour in the Mehsana district on account of the sudden death of His Highness the late Chhatrapati Maharaja of Kolhapur on 26th November 1940.

53. VISITS ETC.—At the end of November 1940, Their Highnesses paid a visit of condolence to Kolhapur on the occasion of the death of His Highness the late Chhatrapati Maharaja.

His Highness the Maharaja visited Delhi, for his investiture on 18th February 1941. On his way to Delhi he visited His Highness the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior.

His Highness also attended the wedding ceremony of His Highness the Maharaja Scindia of Gwalior on 20th February 1941, and took part in the zal procession.

In September – October 1940, His Highness made an interesting trip to the Pindhari Glacier. On his way there, His Highness visited Udayshankar's cultural centre at Almora, and to encourage the institute, which is dedicated to the revival of Indian Art, specially dancing, His Highness donated Rs. 3,000 a year for five years. The Almora Municipality presented him with an address, and His Highness donated Rs. 1,000 for a play ground for the children of the municipal schools.

His Highness left Baroda on 18th March 1941, spent the summer months in Ceylon and Ooty, and returned to Baroda on the 14th July 1941.

His Highness opened the new Bank of Baroda building on 11th March 1941.

Her Highness the Maharani attended important meetings for settling programmes of work of Shri Shanta Devi Trust and the Anti-Tuberculosis Association. She also visited Shri Maharani Chinnabai Industrial Home and other institutions and encouraged them in their activities. She opened Shri Pratapsinh Coronation gymkhana on the 2nd March 1941.

The naming ceremony of His Highness' daughter, princess Lalitadevi, was performed on the 9th August 1940.

Shrimant Yuvraj Fatehsinh took part in a number of ceremonial functions. He unveiled His Highness the Maharaja's busts in Baroda and Dabhoi and performed the opening ceremony of the water works at Ranoli.

54. DISTINGUISHED VISITORS—His Highness the Nawab of Cambay and Their Highnesses the Rajas of Baria, Bansda, Chhota-Udaipur, Sandur and Jath visited Baroda.

CHAPTER III

RELATIONS WITH OTHER GOVERNMENTS

55. 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 by the Minister.

56. RECIPROCAL ARRANGEMENTS ETC.—The following reciprocal arrangements were reached during the year :—

- (i) With the Government of India : in regard to the exemption of British Indian Insurance Companies from payment of deposits and investment of assets in the Baroda State under the State Insurance Act, and vice versa ;
- (ii) With the Government of Bombay : in regard to recruitment of public services. Candidates domiciled in the Baroda State will hereafter be eligible for recruitment to Government services in the Province of Bombay, and candidates from that province for admission to the State service, on production of domicile certificates ;
- (iii) With the Government of Bombay : in regard to motor vehicles registered in the State plying on roads in the Bombay presidency and vice versa ;
- (iv) With the Banswara State : for the direct service of civil, criminal and revenue processes of non-compulsory nature ;
- (v) With the States, talukas and thana circles in the Banas division of the Sabarkantha Agency and the Palanpur State : for the provisional surrender of stolen property for purposes of identification and final disposal ;
- (vi) With the Bansda State : for free medical treatment to the Baroda subjects at the dispensaries in Bansda State.

The 1939 agreement with the Hyderabad State, for the recovery of duty on spirit and spirituous preparations of the Alembic Chemical Works, Baroda, was extended for five years.

57. PASSPORTS—The following statement gives information about applications for passports :—

District	South Africa	East Africa	Other places	Total
Baroda	3	30	5	38
Navsari	40	8	19	67
Mehsana	...	1	...	1
Amreli	...	1	1	2
Okhamandal	...	5	...	5
Total	43	45	25	113

There were no applications for passports to Europe or America.

58. CONFERENCES ETC.—The Baroda Government participated in

- (i) the twelfth industries conference held by the Government of India in Lucknow in December 1940,
- (ii) the Labour Ministers Conference held by the Government of India in New Delhi in January 1941, and
- (iii) the Film Publicity Conference held by the Government of Bombay in Bombay in May 1941.

The State participated in the All India Cattle and Poultry show held in New Delhi in February 1941.

At the invitation of the Baroda Government, the Indian Historical Records Commission held its seventeenth session at Baroda on 21st and 22nd December 1940.

59. THANKS—The thanks of the Baroda Government are due to the Government of United Provinces for lending the services of Mr. Sanval, assistant engineer, and Mr. B. Sohanlal, overseer, for one year for the working of the Vijapur tube-well scheme and of Mr. J. P. Sharma for two years for sugarcane development in the State.

WAR

60. WAR LEGISLATION—The following Ordinances and Orders relating to the War were promulgated :—

- (i) The Air Raid Precautions Services Ordinance (No. 1 of 1941).

- (ii) The Petroleum Premises (Fire Protection) Order, 1940.
- (iii) The Cargoes and Claims (Information) Order, 1941.
- (iv) The Control of non-postal Communications Order, 1941.
- (v) The Navigation Order, 1941.
- (vi) The Navigation and Anchor Lights Order, 1941.
- (vii) The Darkening of Ship Order, 1941.
- (viii) The Wireless Telegraphy (Ships) Order, 1941.
- (ix) The Flare-up Lights (Ships) Order, 1941.
- (x) The Aluminium Control Order, 1941.
- (xi) The Undertakings (Charges and Accounts) Order, 1941.
- (xii) The Newsprint Control Order, 1941.

61. WAR EFFORTS—The squadron of Spitfires, for which His Highness the Maharaja gave a contribution of £. 50,000 in 1939-40, is now in service with the R.A.F. H. M. I. S. "Baroda", for which also His Highness the Maharaja gave £. 50,000, was launched in October and took its place in India's defence. The 2nd Infantry continued on war duty. The Mechanical Transport sections completed their training and left Baroda for joining service. The State has undertaken the training of technicians in the Kalabhavan and the Railway Workshops. His Highness the Maharaja has subscribed Rs. 20,755 to His Excellency the Governor of Bombay's war gifts fund and Her Highness the Maharani Rs. 10,000 to Her Excellency Lady Linlithgow's Silver 'Trinkets' fund. The State war gifts fund now exceeds rupees two lakhs. This fund has given a donation of Rs. 50,000 for the purchase of five armoured carriers to be named after Baroda. Investments from the State in interest-free defence bonds have amounted to nearly Rs. 25.20 lakhs and in the defence loans to over Rs. 80 lakhs, so far as ascertainable. The war committees did good work and the civic guards movement is becoming more popular. The weekly bulletin of the Propaganda Sub-Committee was more and more widely read. The Government are organising A. R. P. measures, volunteers for which have readily come forward.

CHAPTER IV

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

62. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL—Sir V. T. Krishnamachari, K. C. I. E., in his capacity as Minister of the Baroda State, continued as President of the Council. The other members in the beginning of the year were :—

Col. Kumar Shivraj Singh,
Mr. K. V. Uplap, and
Mr. B. A. Gaekwad.

The new Executive Council, under the Government of Baroda Act, 1940, was constituted on 16th of November 1940. Mr. Uplap retired from that date and Mr. M. C. Desai, an elected member of the Dhara Sabha, was appointed member of the Council. The portfolio system was introduced and the various departments distributed among four portfolios : Political, Revenue, Law and Development, each in charge of a Member.

63. TOURS—The Members between them toured 52 days, in the five districts, to keep themselves in direct touch with the rural areas.

CHAPTER V

LEGISLATION

Dhara Sabha

64. THE NEW DHARA SABHA—The new Dhara Sabha, constituted under the Government of Baroda Act of 1940, was inaugurated on the 16th of November 1940. His Highness the Maharaja sent the Dhara Sabha the following message :—

“ In my message dated the 20th February 1939, I announced My assent to a scheme of constitutional advance as a further step in the policy of association of the people of the State with the Administration. In pursuance of this, the Government of Baroda Act was promulgated on the 1st of February 1940 and to-day the Dhara Sabha established by the Act is inaugurated.

“ On this important occasion, I desire to send you my congratulations and sincere good wishes for success in your labours.

“ As I said in my proclamation, the new constitution is based on the complete identity of interest between the Ruler and the ruled and among all sections of the population. I have every confidence that this spirit of unity will actuate all your deliberations and that the new constitution will advance the material and moral progress of my people.

“ I shall always watch your work with the keenest interest.”

The President, too, called the traditions of the State to the service of the new constitution. “ We in Baroda have built up, through long years under a great Ruler, a record of unity and co-operation and social justice, of which we may be proud. I have every confidence that, continuing to work in this spirit of mutual trust and good will and understanding, we shall strengthen these bonds, and pave the way for further constitutional advance on lines suited to our distinctive traditions, besides making a useful contribution to the common problems of India.

“ As President of the Dhara Sabha and head of the administration under His Highness the Maharaja, my services are always at your disposal : and I assure you of my unfailing interest and whole-hearted co-operation in your efforts for the uplift of the people of the State.”

When the Dhara Sabha was in session, the appointment of a deputy speaker, and three parliamentary secretaries was announced.

The new Minister took his seat on the date of the commencement of the session.

65. **THE MARCH SESSION**—There was heavy business before the House during the second session. There were eight important Government Bills of which five were passed into law and three referred to Select Committees. Of the ten private bills, three were withdrawn, permission to introduce two was refused by the House and five were considered. There were besides this 88 resolutions and 118 questions.

66. **THE BUDGET SESSION**—The House was to assemble for the budget session on the 7th July. The rains of the first week of July, however, so completely cut off all communications with the Navsari district that the session had to be postponed.

Legislation

67. **ACTS**—The following Acts were passed by the Government during the year, before the new constitution came into force :—

- (i) The Soldiers (Litigation) Act (No. XL of 1940) provides protection to soldiers while serving under war conditions or overseas in respect of litigation. It is based on the Indian Soldiers (Litigation) Act (No. IV of 1925).
- (ii) The Dabhel-Simlak Madressa Act (No. II of 1941). The Madressa Jamia-Islamia at Dabhel is an important seat of Islamic learning and culture in India. There was no proper constitution for the management of its affairs. As a dispute threatened the existence of the institution, the Government, with the consent of all parties, passed this Act which lays down a constitution for the Madressa.
- (iii) The Defence of India Act as applied to the Baroda State (No. V of 1941) provides for special measures to ensure the public safety and defence of the State during the present war.
- (iv) The War Donations and Investments (Companies) Act (No. VI of 1941) is designed to enable companies in the State to offer donations to public funds and investments in Government loans, floated for the purpose of assisting the prosecution of the war.
- (v) The Social Disabilities Removal (Amendment) Act (No. LVIII of 1940). The original Act, based on an enactment in force in Madras Presidency, was designed to

remove the social disabilities of the backward and untouchable communities among Hindus. But it provided no penalties for the contravention of the Act. The amendment remedied this defect.

- (vi) Act to amend the Civil Procedure Code (No. XXXIX of 1940) repeals the provision in the Code for arresting and imprisoning judgment debtors in execution of civil decrees.

The following Bills were passed by the Dhara Sabha under the new constitution and became law :—

- (vii) The Cotton Control Act (No. XIII of 1941). The Act empowers the Government to prescribe the varieties of cotton for cultivation in areas which may be specified, and, for maintaining the purity of such cotton, to prohibit the cultivation, possession and use of or trade in other varieties of cotton.
- (viii) The Insurance (Amendment) Act (No. XLIV of 1940). The Insurance Act (No. IV of 1938) of British India has been applied to the Baroda State with necessary modifications. The present amendment empowers the Government to implement any arrangement arrived at with the Government of India, for exempting insurers from the provisions of the Act, on terms of reciprocity.
- (ix) The Baroda Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Act (No. IX of 1941). The Act empowers the Varisht Court, the sessions courts and the district magistrates, to requisition from post and telegraph authorities, any document or article in their possession, if required for criminal proceedings.
- (x) The Backward Classes Land Protection (Amendment) Act (No. XI of 1941) exempts transactions entered into with persons belonging to backward classes, before the original Act came into force. The amendment also provides that, when any land is purchased by a person belonging to the backward class, the market value should be recovered by instalments.

68. RULES—The following rules were published in the year:—

- (i) Standing orders for the conduct of business in the Dhara Sabha.
- (ii) Rules under the Soldiers Litigation Act.
- (iii) Rules under the Parsi Marriage and Divorce Act.

Rules under the Pleaders' Act were amended on the lines of the amendment of Bombay Bar Council Rules. One year's work with a recognised pleader will henceforth be necessary for obtaining a pleader's sanad in the State.

69. IMPORTANT GOVERNMENT ORDERS—

- (i) An independent secretariate for Dhara Sabha under the direct control of the President was created.
- (ii) The maximum amount of election expenses, and the number and description of persons to be employed on payment in connection with election, were prescribed. The expenses must not exceed rupee one per elector, or Rs. 2,000 in case of general and Rs. 600 in case of special constituencies.

CHAPTER VI

JUSTICE

70. **THE COURTS**—Besides the Huzur Nyaya Sabha and the High Court, there were five district judges' courts and the Okhamandal sessions court, 24 small causes courts, 24 subordinate judges' courts, 5 district magistrates' courts, 24 magistrates' courts and 18 revenue magistrates exercising 2nd and 3rd class magisterial powers.

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

71. **SUPERVISION**—In February 1939 the Government systematised their arrangements for supervision and regular inspection of courts and scrutiny of the judgments of munsiff - magistrates. At first, an additional judge of the High Court was entrusted with this work, but later it was distributed among the ordinary judges of the High Court. During the year the judges scrutinised 2,710 contested cases disposed of by magistrates. Of these 103 cases were taken in revision. This scrutiny has been of educative value specially in the case of junior magistrates.

72. **INCOME AND EXPENDITURE**—The income of civil and criminal courts rose from Rs. 6.68 lakhs to Rs. 7.05 lakhs. This was mainly due to the increase in the number of cases instituted and the fines under the Child Marriage Prevention Act. The expenditure was Rs. 7.62 lakhs or Rs. 23,233 less than in the previous year. This decrease was largely due to smaller refunds of court fees under the Agriculturist Debt Regulation Act.

73. **HUZUR NYAYA SABHA**—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	
	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40
CIVIL						
Appeals	26	29	4	13	22	16
Extraordinary applications.	34	35	7	13	27	22
Review applications	2	2	2	...	...	2
CRIMINAL						
Appeals	21	20	15	11	6	9
Extraordinary applications.	13	15	6	12	7	3

Of the 13 civil cases disposed of, 5 were prima facie disallowed. In the other 8 cases in which appeal was allowed, the Huzur accepted the recommendation of the Nyaya Sabha. In 6 of these the decisions of the High Court were reversed and in 2 they were modified.

During the year 21 criminal cases were submitted to the Huzur. In 20 the recommendation of the Nyaya Sabha was accepted and in one modified by the Huzur. In 17 cases the decisions of the High Court were reversed and in 4 they were modified.

Besides this, 146 extraordinary applications were disposed of after first hearing, 72 civil and 74 criminal.

74. **KHATANIHAYA SADAR ADALAT**—The Khatanihaya 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 form of recommendations for final orders. During the year, it disposed of 153 appeals, 97 revision applications and 2 review applications. Of the 15 cases submitted to the Huzur, in 4 the recommendation of the Adalat was accepted, in one accepted with modification and in 7 rejected, while 3 remained in arrears.

Civil Justice

75. **LITIGATION**—The number of suits instituted and disposed of in 1939-40 and 1940-41 is given below:—

Year	File with arrears	Disposal	Pending cases	Pending for more than a year	
				Ordinary suits	Regular appeals
1940-41	42,557	32,659	9,898	482	73
1939-40	42,379	33,333	9,046	427	36

The total number of cases on the file was practically the same as in the previous year, although 2,000 more new cases, mainly ordinary and small causes suits, were instituted during the year. The total value of the suits was Rs. 36.34 lakhs as against Rs. 30.52 lakhs in 1939-40. The average value of the suits rose from Rs. 419 to Rs. 461.

76. **EXECUTIONS**—The number of applications for execution was 29,419 including 11,972 of the previous year as against 30,078 in 1939-40. Of these 19,509 were disposed of as against 18,106. The amount realised in execution fell from Rs. 12.6 lakhs to Rs. 11.8 lakhs and the percentage of recovery to the total amount from 23.4 to 20.3 per cent.

77. DURATION—In the district courts the duration of ordinary suits increased from 457 days to 526 days or by 15 per cent. This was largely due to a greater number of disposal of old suits. The duration of ordinary suits and small causes suits in the munsiff courts declined appreciably from 157 to 141 days or by 10 per cent and from 65 to 59 days or by 9 per cent respectively. There was no marked difference in the duration of appeals in the High Court but in the district courts the time taken for regular appeals fell from 203 to 183 days or by 10 per cent.

At the end of the year there were 13 appeals pending for more than a year in the High Court, 60 as against 36 in the preceding year in the district courts, and 444 suits as against 381 in the preceding year in the munsiff and the small causes courts.

78. THE HIGH COURT—The following table shows the civil work in the High Court:—

Year	File with arrears	Disposal	Pending at the end of the year
FIRST APPEALS			
1940-41	133	78	55
1939-40	169	94	75
SECOND APPEALS			
1940-41	531	314	217
1939-40	566	325	241
MISCELLANEOUS APPEALS			
1940-41	82	41	41
1939-40	58	28	30

79. DISTRICT COURTS—The following table shows the civil work in the district courts:—

Year	File with arrears	Disposal	Pending at the end of the year
REGULAR APPEALS			
1940-41	1,559	1,027	532
1939-40	1,741	1,241	500
MISCELLANEOUS APPEALS			
1940-41	191	134	57
1939-40	235	183	52

Year	File with arrears	Disposal	Pending at the end of the year
ORDINARY CIVIL SUITS			
1940-41	226	86	140
1939-40	192	96	96
MISCELLANEOUS CASES			
1940-41	780	534	246
1939-40	809	547	262
EXECUTION WORK			
1940-41	206	47	159
1939-40	292	156	136

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

Year	File with arrears	Disposal	Pending at the end of the year
ORDINARY SUITS			
1940-41	11,169	7,607	3,562
1939-40	11,274	7,845	3,429
SMALL CAUSES SUITS			
1940-41	19,056	15,548	3,508
1939-40	18,866	15,863	3,003
MISCELLANEOUS CASES			
1940-41	7,505	6,285	1,220
1939-40	7,176	6,092	1,084
EXECUTION APPLICATIONS IN ORDINARY SUITS			
1940-41	16,832	9,712	7,120
1939-40	16,358	8,413	7,945
EXECUTION APPLICATIONS IN SMALL CAUSES SUITS			
1940-41	12,381	9,750	2,631
1939-40	13,428	9,537	3,891

81. VILLAGE MUNSIFFS—The village munsiff courts at Variav (Kamrej taluka) and Limbodra (Kalol taluka) worked satisfactorily. They disposed of 11 cases. The average duration of the suits was 33 days.

Criminal Justice

82. CRIMINAL WORK—The total number of cases instituted with the arrears rose from 38,999 to 41,333. The disposal, however, kept pace and the arrears at the end of the year was 3,273 as against 3,630 in the previous year.

83. HIGH COURT—The following table shows the criminal work in the High Court:—

Year	File with arrears	Disposal	Pending at the end of the year
FIRST APPEALS			
1940-41	85	54	31
1939-40	69	52	17
SECOND APPEALS			
1940-41	92	82	10
1939-40	47	46	1
ACQUITTAL APPEALS			
1940-41	132	114	18
1939-40	188	154	34
REFERRED CASES			
1940-41	32	22	10
1939-40	36	31	5
MISCELLANEOUS APPEALS (1st and 2nd)			
1940-41	4	4	...
1939-40	4	4	...
REVISION CASES			
1940-41	274	239	35
1939-40	374	355	19

84. DISTRICT COURTS—The following table shows the criminal work in the district courts:—

	Appeals		Miscellaneous appeals		Sessions cases		Miscellaneous applications	
	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40
File with arrears	544	440	40	36	209	261	470	488
Disposal	486	382	37	31	199	238	446	472
Pending	58	58	3	5	10	23	24	16

Appeals increased by 104 but the number of cases pending did not increase over the preceding year's figures. Sessions cases decreased by 52.

85. MAGISTRATES' COURTS—The table given below shows the criminal work in the magistrates' courts:—

Year	File with arrears	Disposal	Pending at the end of the year
	ORIGINAL CRIMINAL CASES		
1940-41	34,204	31,492	2,712
1939-40	31,365	28,343	3,022
	MISCELLANEOUS APPLICATIONS		
1940-41	5,162	4,801	361
1939-40	5,583	5,153	430

There was an increase of 2,839 in the number of original cases, but the disposal was better than in the previous year and fewer cases were pending at the end of the year.

In the High Court, the duration of first appeals was 67 days as against 60 in the previous year, of second appeals 18 days as against 22, and of acquittal appeals 71 days as against 62. In the sessions courts there was a slight improvement: the duration of sessions cases fell from 41 to 37 days and of criminal appeals from 54 to 51 days. In the magistrates' courts, because of the marked increase in the number of cases on the file, the duration of cases was slightly higher than in the previous year: 46 as against 43 days.

Registration

86. DOCUMENTS REGISTERED—The number of documents registered during the year was 48,902 and their total value Rs. 306.67 lakhs as compared to 43,084 documents of the value of Rs. 260.38 lakhs in 1939-40. The increase of 5,818 in the number of documents and of Rs. 46.29 lakhs in their value is attributed to greater investments in immovable property, due to the fall in the yield on Government securities. The documents registered by co-operative societies and agricultural banks, which are exempted from registration fees, numbered 1,180 and remissions given amounted to Rs. 13,160.

The gross receipts from registration fees increased from Rs. 1.92 lakhs to Rs. 2.19 lakhs. The expenditure of the department was Rs. 0.65 lakhs and the net income rose from Rs. 1.29 lakhs to Rs. 1.43 lakhs.

87. RECORD OF RIGHTS—The Record of Rights Act has been in force in the Karjan taluka of the Baroda district since 1932. The sub-registrar, Karjan, sends to the vahivatdar monthly lists of registered documents for each village. From these lists, the revenue authorities make entries in their registers. During the year 551 lists were sent to the revenue authorities.

CHAPTER VII

LAW AND ORDER

88. GENERAL—Peace and order continued to prevail in the State and there were no serious breaches of the peace. Precautionary measures had, however, to be taken in some cases.

In the Mangrol taluka as a precaution against the revival of the Kisan agitation, which in the previous year had threatened to disturb the compromise reached between the landlords and tenants, the district magistrate continued the ban on meetings connected with the Kisan movement for a year.

The Khaksar movement was also declared illegal in the State.

The strikes in the mills of Baroda City in January and February 1941, also called for precautionary measures, specially as these occurred at the time of the Moharrum. Labour meetings were prohibited in the City for one month.

The relations between the communities continued to be cordial. When communal riots broke out in Ahmedabad and Bombay, meetings, processions, and carrying of lathis and lethal weapons were forbidden in Baroda City and the Mehsana district. These measures and the co-operation of leaders had a good effect. In Sidhpur, efforts to stir up communal trouble were frustrated by the prompt action of the police. The special police maintained there, after the riots of the previous year, was continued. At Sokhada in Baroda taluka there was slight trouble at the time of Moharrum, but the measures taken by the police prevented untoward incidents.

The general tone of the local Press was, on the whole, loyal to the Baroda and the British Governments. The influence of the general political awakening was increasingly felt, and the main topics discussed in the Press were constitutional reforms in the States, the Government of Baroda Act, and local problems relating to taxes, relief measures and development schemes.

The Police

89. STRENGTH—The strength of the force of the State was 955 officers and 3,451 men, of whom 109 were of the mounted police, 168 of the railway police and 12 of the water police. The total cost of the department was Rs. 15·14 lakhs as against Rs. 15·10 lakhs in the previous year. The expenditure on the district police amounted to Rs. 14·47

lakhs as against Rs. 14.33 lakhs in the previous year. The average cost of a policeman came to Rs. 336 as against Rs. 334 in the preceding year.

The proportion of the number of the police to the population, varies with the different districts, from 1 to 984 inhabitants in the Baroda district to 1 to 483 in the Amreli district. It averages 1 to 662 for the State. The proportion of the number of police to the area is one policeman to 0.01 square mile in Baroda City, 2.94 square miles in the Baroda district, 2.89 square miles in the Navsari district, 2.64 square miles in the Amreli district, and 2.09 square miles in the Mehsana district.

90. EDUCATION AND TRAINING—The headquarter school and the four district schools continued to work efficiently. New recruits are given six months course in drill and elementary police duties. Officers are trained in the headquarter school. Their course extends to eighteen months, and includes the study of the various codes, Acts and Rules, scientific investigation of crime, and riding.

The gradual elimination of illiterates was continued, and their percentage fell from 24.1 per cent in the preceding year to 21.3 per cent. The health of the force was on the whole good.

91. DISCIPLINE AND REWARDS—There was an increase in the percentage of subordinate officers and men punished from 5.27 to 7.91 per cent in the year under report, due chiefly to stricter discipline. The number of men dismissed from the force was 30. Money rewards were granted to 81 members of the force as against 88 in the preceding year. The number of private persons including village officers rewarded increased from 67 to 72.

92. CRIME—In spite of the unfavourable seasonal conditions, there was a marked decrease in the volume of crime. The total number of cognisable offences was 2,944. The number is lowest since 1935-36, and is 490 less than in the previous year. The credit for this improvement goes to the strict vigilance of the police, and in the Mehsana district, to the new system of supervision over the criminal tribes. The percentage of detection to the total cognisable crime was 63.75 as against 42.12 in the previous year. The number of persons arrested was 6,007 as against 6,966, and the number of security cases was 294 as against 236 in the previous year.

The total number of cases with the magistrates for disposal was 2,591 as against 3,306 in the preceding year. Of these 417 were compounded or withdrawn, 1,146 ended in conviction, 574 in acquittal, and 454 were pending with the magistrates.

The percentage of cases convicted to cases tried was 66.62 as against 66.92 per cent in the preceding year.

93. DECREASE IN CRIMES—The following table shows the increase or decrease district by district, under three main classes of cognisable offences:—

District	1940-41	1939-40	Increase or decrease
CLASS I. OFFENCES AGAINST PERSON			
Baroda City	74	67	+ 7
Baroda	188	270	—82
Mehsana	276	362	—86
Navsari	82	90	— 8
Amreli	80	74	+ 6
Total	700	863	—163
The percentage of these offences to the total number of crimes was 23·77 as against 25·14 per cent in the preceding year.			
CLASS II. OFFENCES AGAINST PROPERTY			
Baroda City	226	251	— 25
Baroda	499	543	— 44
Mehsana	784	897	—113
Navsari	139	169	— 30
Amreli	150	127	+ 23
Total	1,798	1,987	—189
The percentage of these offences to the total number of crimes was 61 as against 57·8 per cent in the previous year.			
CLASS III. MISCELLANEOUS			
Baroda City	49	90	— 41
Baroda	145	186	— 41
Mehsana	151	187	— 36
Navsari	33	40	— 7
Amreli	68	81	— 13
Total	446	584	—138
Grand Total	2,944	3,434	—490
The percentage of these offences to the total number of crimes was 15 as against 17 per cent in the previous year.			

94. **GRAVE CRIMES**—The number of cases of grave crimes reported decreased from 1,649 to 1,459. There was a decrease in the number of murders by 15, in dacoities by 6, in burglaries by 83 and in thefts by 104. There was an increase in cattle thefts by 15 and in riots by 3.

The following table shows the result of cases of grave crimes dealt with by the courts:—

Kinds of offences	Number of cases	Number actually tried	Number ended in conviction	Percentage of conviction	
				1940-41	1939-40
Murder and culpable homicide.	106	69	46	66.66	75.71
Dacoity	26	17	10	58.82	50.00
Robbery	60	30	18	60.00	59.45
Burglary	614	237	182	76.79	68.50
Thefts	794	457	287	62.80	61.91

95. **PROPERTY STOLEN AND RECOVERED**—The number of cases of stolen property reported to the police was 1,446 as against 1,483 in the preceding year. The percentage of cases in which property was recovered to the cases reported was 45.22 as against 44.64 per cent in the preceding year.

Miscellaneous

96. **CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT**—The criminal investigation department investigated a number of important cases of organised cheating, fraud, theft, murder and conspiracy. It assisted in the work connected with the Defence of Baroda Ordinances, the Registration of Foreigners Act and similar measures.

97. **FINGER-PRINT BUREAU**—The Finger-print Bureau had 27,413 slips on record. The number of slips sent for search was 2,299 of which 2,176 related to cases in the State, and 163 were traced. Expert finger print evidence was given in nine cases.

98. **CIVIC GUARDS**—The formation of a civic guard on voluntary basis affiliated to the police was announced in September 1940. The call for volunteers has met with encouraging response. At the end of the year there were 791 civic guards. They are trained in parade, drill, first aid and A. R. P. measures.

Air raid precaution measures are also being worked out. A Special Officer has been appointed for this purpose and for petrol rationing.

99. **REGISTRATION OF FOREIGNERS ACT**—The Registration of Foreigners Act, 1939, has been applied with suitable modifications, to

the State. Forty three foreigners have been registered by the end of the year.

100. **CRIMINAL TRIBES ACT**—The policy of exempting villages from the operation of the Act, on condition that the panchayats accept responsibility for seeing that no crime is committed by the village or that crimes, if committed, are reported, has met with marked success. In 1939 when this policy was first adopted, there were 12 villages to which the Act applied, all in the Mehsana district. During the year under report there was only one, all others having been exempted.

Side by side with this, measures like the opening of rural reconstruction centres, sinking wells to extend cultivation, opening schools, and the like, have been undertaken in these areas to ensure permanent effects. In Chhavalia village alone, where there were only four wells in 1938, 40 new wells have been sunk. Tagavi has also been liberally given for the extension of cultivation. These measures have been so far successful that the number of crimes in the Mehsana district has decreased during the last five years by 20·1 per cent from 2,636 to 2,105.

Extradition

101. **EXTRADITION DEMANDS**—The Baroda Government made extradition demands in 136 cases, as against 174 in the previous year, and received demands from the British districts and Indian States in 183 cases, as against 209 in the preceding year. During the year, 248 persons involved in 153 cases were surrendered to Baroda, while the State surrendered 333 persons, 146 in 96 cases to British India, and 187 persons in 110 cases to Indian States.

Of 303 persons charged during the year, 64 persons in 30 cases were discharged, 68 persons in 35 cases acquitted, 150 persons in 103 cases convicted, and 21 persons in 9 cases dealt with otherwise. At the end of the year 93 persons in 42 cases were awaiting trial.

Prisons

102. **NUMBER OF PRISONERS**—The following statement shows the number of prisoners during the year under report:—

Year	No. of prisoners at the commencement of the year		New admissions		Total		Number discharged		Number at the end of the year	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
1940-41	1,369	36	5,520	271	6,889	307	5,639	262	1,250	45
1939-40	1,093	39	6,198	175	7,291	214	5,922	178	1,367	36

There was a decrease of 582 in the number of admissions in the year.

Of the 5,791 prisoners admitted during the year, 2,681 were convicts, 2,736 under-trials, 363 civil prisoners and 11 lunatics. The daily average number of prisoners in jails and lock-ups was 1,283 as against 1,240 in the previous year.

103. SHORT TERM SENTENCES—The attention of the magistrates had been drawn in the previous year to the undesirability of punishing trivial offences by imprisonment for short terms. There has been a slight improvement: 27.4 per cent of the sentences were for less than 3 months as against 29.5 per cent in 1939-40.

Of the 1,820 convicts, 275 or 15.1 per cent as against 15.9 per cent, were sentenced to terms of less than one month, and 12.3 per cent as compared to 13.6 per cent, of less than three but more than one month.

104. HABITUALS—Out of 1,920 convicts admitted during the year, 45 or 2.5 per cent were habituals. Their conduct was on the whole satisfactory and no corporal punishment was awarded.

105. ESCAPES—One prisoner from the Central Jail and one from Okha lock-up escaped, but both were caught. Two prisoners from the Mehsana district jail escaped and were not traced.

106. CONDITIONAL RELEASE OF PRISONERS—Further relaxation was made in the system of releasing prisoners on probation. In considering the period of sentence already undergone by prisoners, remissions will be counted to their advantage. The advisory committee was authorised to resubmit rejected cases of prisoners. Forty nine prisoners were released on probation during the year.

107. HEALTH, DISCIPLINE AND EDUCATION—The health of the prisoners was good. The average number of sick prisoners decreased from 60 to 52 per day; the death ratio remained more or less constant: 10.5 as against 10.9 per 1,000 in the preceding year; 38.5 per cent of the prisoners released had gained weight.

There was a marked improvement in discipline. Only 63 offences were committed as against 129 in the preceding year, and the ratio of punishments to average strength fell from 10.4 to 4.9.

There were 60 prisoners, of whom 38 were new, in the Central Jail school, as against 51 in the preceding year. Prisoners were taught occupations which will be useful to them after release. In the jail factory 335 prisoners were taught and did cane work, tailoring,

dyeing, carpet weaving, hand and power loom weaving, and laundry work; 58 were employed as warders, 308 as menials and 189 on other remunerative work.

108. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE—The total expenditure during the year, excluding police guards for lock-ups, amounted to Rs. 1·46 lakhs as against Rs. 1·40 lakhs in the preceding year. The total net income from all jails and lock-ups, during the year, amounted to Rs. 17,730 as against Rs. 27,465 in the preceding year. The decrease is due to the change in the procedure of charging for convict labour. The net cost to Government was Rs. 1·28 lakhs as against Rs. 1·13 lakhs in the preceding year. The average cost per prisoner was Rs. 99-15-5 as against Rs. 90-12-8 in the preceding year. The rise in prices and the expenditure on jail buildings are responsible for the higher cost per head.

CHAPTER VIII

THE ARMY

109. REGULAR TROOPS—The following table shows the strength of the State regular troops:—

Description of the force	Fixed strength			Actual strength		
	Effectives	Non-effectives	Total	Effectives	Non-effectives	Total
ARTILLERY						
L. F. Battery ...	93	67	160	53	44	97
CAVALRY						
1st Cavalry ...	455	24	479	329	46	375
2nd Lancers ...	455	24	479	326	45	371
3rd Cavalry * ...	455	24	479	...	...	...
The Guards ...	135	10	145	141	20	161
Total ...	1,500	82	1,582	796	111	907
INFANTRY						
1st Infantry ...	698	29	727	655	42	697
2nd Infantry ...	698	49	747	675	46	721
3rd Infantry ...	698	29	727	698	31	729
4th Infantry * ...	516	27	543	...	...	...
Okha Battalion ...	461	14	475	167	8	175
Training Company ** ...	...	...	...	175	11	186
Total ...	3,071	148	3,219	2,370	138	2,508
Band ...	111	6	117	60	7	67
Chief of the Military Staff and Staff Officers.	6	2	8	4	...	4
Grand Total ...	4,781	305	5,086	3,283	300	3,583

* Amalgamated with the rest.

** The Training Company has been raised recently.

110. REORGANISATION—The 2nd Lancers has been reorganised as a State service unit, under the name of Baroda Lancers, and its strength increased to 526, and its cavalry band disbanded.

A reserve of 12 officers has been maintained in the Training Company, in order to be able to reinforce the 2nd Baroda Infantry, which is now on active service.

The 1st Cavalry has been reorganised, and turned into a head-quarter squadron with a strength of 148.

The Light field-battery was abolished, and in its place, one of the platoons of the Baroda detachment has been converted into an ordnance platoon.

The military guards of the treasuries and temples in Amreli and Okhamandal have been replaced by the police. The forces to be maintained at Dhari and Dwarka have been fixed at 220 and 210 men respectively.

111. TRAINING—Candidates were sent for training at Small arms school, Chemical warfare school, Army school of physical training, Army signal school and Army school of education. Driving and maintenance training school was started to train men to reinforce the general purpose transport company for Baroda and Kathiawar States, and to give preliminary training to the men who are to be detailed for mechanical transport courses at Ahmednagar, Chakalala etc.

112. HEIGHT AND-CHEST MEASUREMENTS—The average height in the army was 5'-5.2"-in the artillery 5'-6", in the cavalry 5'-5.8" and in the infantry 5'-5.2". The average chest measurement was 33-35"-in the artillery 34-36", in the cavalry 33-36" and in the infantry 32-34". The height requirement for recruits was lowered by half an inch to 5'-3.5" in case of Marathas and 5'-6" in case of Muslims and Rajputs, and chest measurement to 33.5" expanded.

113. IRREGULAR FORCE—The following table shows the strength of the irregular force during the year :—

Horse

Shilledar	Shibandi	Paganihaya	Khalsa	Total
908	383	182	577	2,050

Foot

Shibandi	Khalsa	Total
1,139	657	1,806

114. EXPENDITURE—The total cost of the Army for the year came to Rs. 18·28 lakhs as against Rs. 31·92 lakhs for the preceding year. The expenditure of the preceding year, however, included Rs. 10·0 lakhs for capital expenditure, construction of military lines and buildings. The expenditure on account of the irregular force was Rs. 0·46 lakhs as against Rs. 0·60 lakhs in the previous year.

The cost of maintaining the regular force increased slightly as the following table shows :—

(*Figures in lakhs of rupees*)

Force	Year	
	1940-41	1939-40
Artillery	0·47	0·57
Cavalry	6·57	7·43
Infantry	9·11	7·85
Band	0·38	0·39
Chief of the Military Staff and his staff	0·65	0·80
Medical establishment	0·19	0·16
Veterinary establishment	0·12	0·16
Total	17·49	17·36

The annual average cost of an effective in the artillery was Rs. 894, in the cavalry Rs. 825, in the infantry Rs. 384, and in the band Rs. 637. The average cost of an effective in the force as a whole was Rs. 533 or about Rs. 44 a month.

115. DISCIPLINE—The discipline and efficiency of the troops were maintained and their practical training improved.

CHAPTER IX

FINANCE AND ACCOUNTS

116. ESTIMATES—The Budget for the year estimated the ordinary revenues at Rs. 247·62 lakhs, the ordinary expenditure at Rs. 237·25 lakhs and anticipated a surplus of Rs. 10·37 lakhs. The year, however, proved better than anticipated. The receipts were Rs. 252·45 lakhs, and though the expenditure exceeded the estimates by Rs. 3·08 lakhs, mainly due to the war contribution of Rs. 3·77 lakhs, the year closed with a surplus of Rs. 12·12 lakhs.

117. 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)

(Actuals)

Sr. No.	Head	1940-41	1939-40	Increase or Decrease
1	Land Revenue*	95·07	95·00	+ 0·07
2	Taxes	11·60	4·07	+ 7·53
3	Forest	4·64	3·45	+ 1·19
4	Excise	27·85	25·11	+ 2·74
5	Opium	2·49	2·41	+ 0·08
6	Customs	27·79	32·09	— 4·30
7	Salt	0·02	11·37	—11·35

* The actual collection of land revenue was Rs. 105·98 lakhs but the excess over Rs. 95·07 lakhs was credited to the Land Revenue equalisation fund.

Sr. No.	Head	1940-41	1939-40	Increase or Decrease
8	Stamps	10'62	9'93	+ 0'69
9	Registration	2'19	1'93	+ 0'26
10	Tribute	6'06	6'15	— 0'09
11	B Class municipalities	0'18	0'17	+ 0'01
12	Village panchayats	1'62	1'57	+ 0'05
13	Interest	19'72	17'61	+ 2'11
14	Railways	21'92	20'30	+ 1'62
15	Electric	3'34	— 1'17	+ 4'51
16	Irrigation	0'06	0'11	— 0'05
17	Port	0'37	0'75	— 0'38
18	Press	0'25	0'34	— 0'09
19	Dairy	0'10	0'15	— 0'05
20	Central Administration	0'08	0'09	— 0'01
21	Judicial	0'96	0'99	— 0'03
22	Police	3'52	0'14	+ 3'38
23	Jail	0'18	0'28	— 0'10
24	Army	0'07	0'09	— 0'02
25	Sanitation	0'41	0'40	+ 0'01
26	Medical	0'89	1'15	— 0'26
27	Education	4'88	4'45	+ 0'43
28	Agriculture	0'95	0'97	— 0'02
29	Commerce, Industries, Co-operation, Statistics etc.	0'65	0'27	+ 0'38
30	Public Works	1'92	2'38	— 0'46
31	Miscellaneous	1'98	2'29	— 0'31
32	Profits received in conversion of Government Securities.	0'07	0'39	— 0'32
Total		252'45	245'23	+25'06 —17'84

DISBURSEMENTS

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

(Actuals)

Sr. No.	Head	1940-41	1939-40	Increase or Decrease
1	Land Revenue	21.15	22.34	— 1.19
2	Taxes	0.31	0.40	— 0.09
3	Forests	1.25	1.67	— 0.42
4	Excise	1.99	2.02	— 0.03
5	Opium	0.10	0.14	— 0.04
6	Customs	0.56	0.57	— 0.01
7	Salt	..	...	...
8	Stamp	0.25	0.45	— 0.20
9	Registration	0.71	0.69	+ 0.02
10	B Class Municipalities	0.17	0.18	— 0.01
11	Village Panchayats	1.57	1.64	— 0.07
12	Interest	4.59	4.01	+ 0.58
13	Irrigation	0.07	0.07	...
14	Dairy	0.33	0.33	...
15	Civil List including Shri. Yuvraj's budget.	22.96	21.19	+ 1.77
16	Central Administration	11.02	10.72	+ 0.30
17	Political	2.43	...	+ 2.43
18	Proletarians' pay	0.68	0.49	+ 0.19
19	Judicial	5.27	5.42	— 0.15
20	Police	15.16	15.77	— 0.61
21	Payment in lieu of contingent	3.75	...	+ 3.75
22	Jail	1.00	0.93	+ 0.07
23	Army	22.50	31.72	— 9.22
24	Sanitation	1.11	1.00	+ 0.11
25	Medical	7.98	7.73	+ 0.25

Sr. No.	Head	1940-41	1939-40	Increase or Decrease
26	Education	38'82	38'36	+ 0'46
27	Agriculture	6'42	6'81	— 0'39
28	Commerce & Industries	2'96	1'67	+ 1'29
29	Statistics	0'18	0'19	— 0'01
30	Fisheries	0'15	0'16	— 0'01
31	Co-operative	0'79	0'73	+ 0'06
32	P. W. Department	27'99	24'92	+ 3'07
33	Miscellaneous	10'83	14'27	— 3'44
34	Loss in conversion of Govt, Securities.	0'63	1'23	— 0'60
35	Ecclesiastical	1'93	1'98	— 0'05
36	Nemnook assami	10'45	10'34	+ 0'11
37	Pension	8'76	10'32	— 1'56
38	Subsidy to local boards	3'20	6'18	— 2'98
39	State ceremonials	0'06	...	+ 0'06
40	Famine Relief	0'25	3'80	— 3'55
41	Huzur Discretionary Grant	...	...	...
	Total	240'33	250'44	+14'52 — 24'63

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

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Sr. No.	Head	Variation	Reasons
1	Taxes	+7'53	Recovery of arrears of the previous year amounting to Rs. 3 lakhs, more efficient administration of the Income Tax Act, and improvement in trade and industry.
2	Forests	+1'19	Larger receipts under timber and grass.

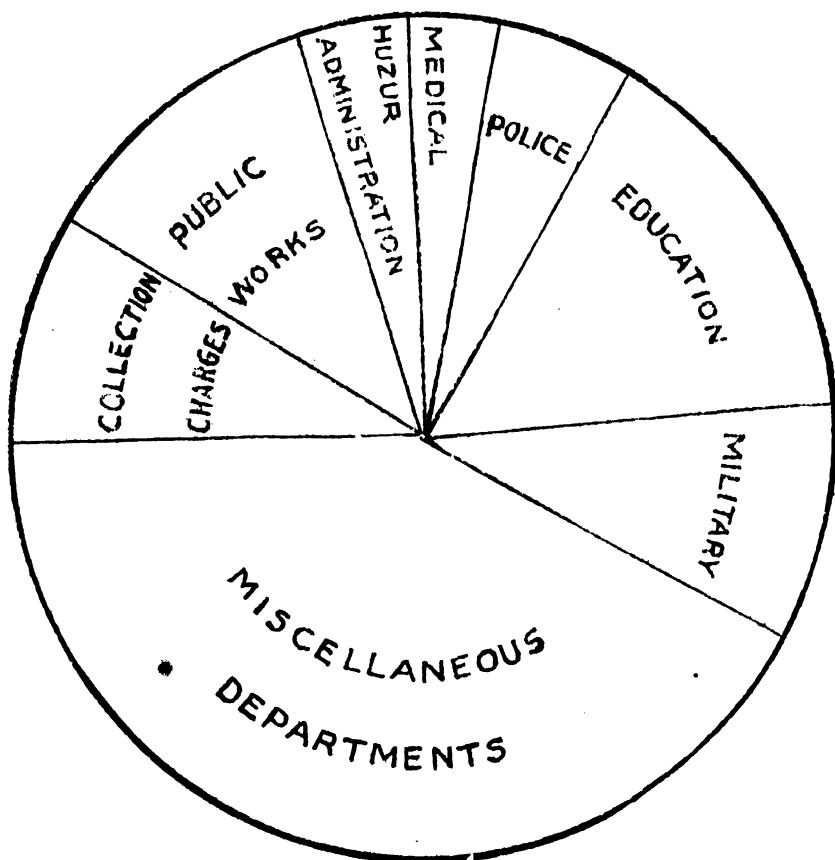
Sr. No.	Head	Variation	Reasons
3	Excise	+2'74	Higher receipts from duty on liquor, toddy and poisonous and intoxicating drugs.
4	Customs	-4'30	The fall in trade at Okha explains the fall in import customs by Rs. 1'87 lakhs. The State's share of the excise duty on matches which was Rs. 3 lakhs in the preceding year was also not received from the Government of India. The distribution of the excise duty on matches for the year was not made by the Government of India.
5	Salt	-11'35	The State's share was not received during the year from the Government of India, while in 1939-40 payment was made for two years.
6	Stamps	+0'69	Higher receipts under documentary stamps.
7	Interest	+2'11	Increase in the amount of loans.
8	Railways	+1'62	Increase in rates of fares and freight.
9	Electric	+4'51	The profits of the preceding year were abnormally low as depreciation and reserve fund contributions for two years were charged in that year.
10	Police	+3'38	The income under the Motor Vehicles Act for the preceding three years was adjusted during the year.

119. VARIATIONS IN EXPENDITURE—The ordinary expenditure was less by Rs. 3.11 lakhs than that of the preceding year. The reasons for the main variations as compared to the preceding year's expenditure are shown below :—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Sr. No.	Head	Variation	Reasons
1	Land Revenue	-1'19	There was no special expenditure, such as was incurred in the preceding year on fencing the game-preserves.

DIAGRAM SHOWING THE PROPORTION
OF
EXPENDITURE ON VARIOUS HEADS.



Sr. No.	Head	Variation	Reasons
2	Forests	—0'42	Extra expenditure was incurred last year for supplying grass to the famine stricken areas of the State.
3	Interest	+0 58	Interest on the loan of Rs 25 lakhs borrowed from the Bank of Baroda Ltd.
4	Civil List	+1'77	The nemnook of Shri. Yuvaraj having been incorporated in the Civil List.
5	Political	+2'43	This was a new head of expenditure created during the year.
6	Police	—0'61	The adjustment of accounts of income realised under the Motor Vehicles Act.
7	Contingent	+3'75	Separation of this item from the military budget.
8	Army	—9'22	A special grant of Rs. 10 lakhs for buildings was made in the previous year.
9	Commerce and Industries	+1'29	Adjustment of the subsidy given to the Gandevi Sugar Works.
10	Public Works	+3'07	Undertaking of new works and increased expenditure on repairs.
11	Miscellaneous	—3'44	Miscellaneous expenditure was high in the preceding year because of the war contribution of Rs. 6 lakhs.
12	Pension	—1'56	Military pensions are henceforth to be charged to the military.
13	Subsidy to Local Boards	—2'98	There were no large works such as were executed in the preceding year, city drainage and duplicating 30" main from Nimeta to Baroda etc.
14	Famine Relief	—3'55	Better season.

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

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Name of Agency	Total demand			Collection	Arrears
	Past arrears	Demand for the current year	Total		
Gujarat ...	0·23	1·31	1·54	1·26	0·28
Western India States ...	4·59	4·38	8·97	4·23	4·74
Rajputana ...	0·39	0·41	0·80	0·41	0·39
Miyagam ...	...	0·07	0·07	0·07	...
Total ...	5·21	6·17	11·38	5·97	5·41

121. **LAND REVENUE EQUALISATION FUND**—The Land Revenue equalisation fund was created in 1939-40 by the transfer of Rs. 50 lakhs from the past balances. A sum of Rs. 5·81 lakhs had to be withdrawn from this fund for making good the deficit in land revenue for the year 1939-40. During the year, however, the receipts from land revenue amounted to Rs. 105·98 lakhs of which Rs. 10·91 lakhs were transferred to the Land Revenue equalisation fund. Thus, the deficit of the previous year was wiped out and the original corpus augmented by Rs. 5·10 lakhs. The balance at the end of the year 1940-41 was Rs. 55·10 lakhs.

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

Particulars	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Cash Balances :				
In current accounts with banks	43,46,705	43,96,412	1,87,32,038	1,85,34,318
In treasuries	9,23,807	8,81,715		
Fixed deposits	1,34,61,526	1,32,56,191		
	1,87,32,038	1,85,34,318		
Loans and advances			1,04,40,677	1,35,98,452

Particulars	1940-41	1939-40
Capital Account :	Rs.	Rs.
Investments (permanent capital works)	6,55,97,449	6,52,54,834
Securities	4,67,65,983	4,31,42,870
Total assets ...	14,15,36,147	14,05,30,474
Less liabilities ...	3,08,97,210	3,11,04,056
Net assets ...	11,06,38,937	10,94,26,418
Net increase ...	12,12,519	

The net assets of the State at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 11.06 crores. Of these, Rs. 5.54 crores represent capital invested in railways, Rs. 38 lakhs in electric works, Rs. 48 lakhs in Okha and other ports, and Rs. 16 lakhs in other concerns. The liquid assets now amount to Rs. 4.63 crores. Of these, Rs. 350 lakhs are set apart for the Reserve fund and Rs. 55 lakhs for Land Revenue equalisation fund. Interest earned on the Reserve fund is utilised for providing capital expenditure.

CHAPTER X

ADMINISTRATION OF LAND AND REVENUE

(i) General condition

123. SEASON—The monsoon set in early in June 1940 inducing early sowing of cotton, but failed to establish till the end of the month. There was good rain in the Navsari district, but in the Baroda district there was a long break after the first rains, which affected the open field paddy. The cyclone of mid-October caused damage to crops. In the Baroda district the rainfall was 25 inches, 13 inches below normal, and in the Navsari district 72 inches, 18 inches above normal. In the Mehsana and Amreli districts the monsoon was satisfactory for kharif crops, but the absence of rain in late September hit juar and rabi crops. The total rainfall for Mehsana was 13·93 inches, —half the decennial average—spread over only 37 days, and in Amreli 18·15 inches spread over 38 days. In the four northern talukas of the Mehsana district, Patan, Sidhpur, Harij and Chanasma, liberal relief had to be given. In Okhamandal there was only 3 inches of rain and famine was declared.

124. CROPS AND PRICES—The following statement gives the extent and percentage of area in bighas, under the more important food and commercial crops, and the estimated value :—

Crop	Area (000 omitted)	Percentage to the total area	Estimated value of the crop in lakhs of rupees
COMMERCIAL CROPS			
Cotton	14,65	23·3	197·0
Castors	1,15	1·8	7·86
Tobacco	87	1·4	25·0
Sugar cane	7	0·1	8·0
Sesamum	75	1·2	5·71
Rapeseed	13	0·2	0·57
Grass	5,62	8·9	27·63
		36·9	

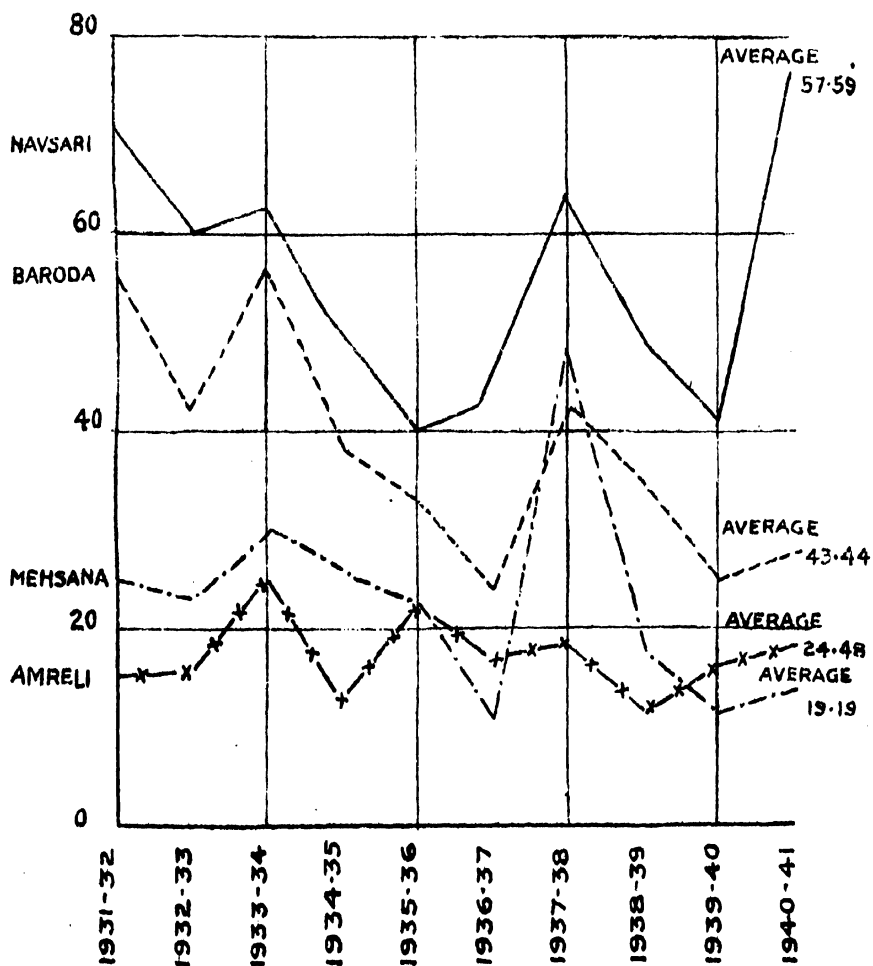
1931-32 TO 1940-41

GRAPH SHOWING

VARIATION OF RAINFALL

IN

THE BARODA STATE.



AREA UNDER CROPS.

(TOTAL 62,88,965 BIGHAS.)

FOOD CROPS. 53%.			COMMERCIAL CROPS. 37%.			OTHERS 10%.		
10	20	40	60	80			100	

FOOD CROPS.

(TOTAL 33,37,954 BIGHAS.)

JUVAR 34%.			BAJRI 37%.			T U V A R 5%.	K O D R A 4%.	W H E A T 4%.	GRASS & OTHER PULSES 3%.	VEGETABLE, ETC. 4%.
10	20	40	60	80						100

COMMERCIAL CROPS.

(TOTAL 23,33,519 BIGHAS.)

COTTON 63%.			T O B A C C O 4%.	C A S T O R S 5%.	S E S A M U M 3%.	GRASS 24%.		
10	20	40	60	80				100 %

Crop	Area (000 omitted)	Percentage to the total area	Estimated value of the crop in lakhs of rupees
FOOD CROPS			
Bajri	12,50	19.8	93.0
Juwar	11,37	18.0	66.0
Paddy	3,00	4.8	55.0
Tuvar	1,75	2.8	12.0
Fruits and vegetables	1,32	2.1	30.74
Wheat	1,27	2.0	33.0
Kodra	1,26	2.0	11.0
Pulses	90	1.4	3.3
		52.9	
Other crops	6,40	10.2	31.8

The average value of the produce per khatedar from food crops was Rs. 93 and from commercial crops Rs. 103, making a total of Rs. 196 per year, the same as in the preceding year.

The effect of the monsoon conditions on crops is seen in the following table, which shows the estimated yield of staple crops in annas :—

District	Rice		Bajri		Juwar		Cotton	
	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40
Baroda	8	6	10	9	10	10	10	11
Mehsana	3	3	11	7	5	5	3	4
Navsari	9	6	8	10	8	12	11	11
Amreli	7	9	10	9	9	7	9	7
Okhamandal	...	...	2	...	2	...	...	...

Prices of agricultural products generally declined in the year. The price of rice, however, everywhere rose sharply, and in the Mehsana district and Okhamandal the prices of juwar and wheat

showed slight improvement. The movement of prices is seen in the following table :—

The figures denote the number of seers per rupee

(SEER=40 TOLAS)

District	Rice		Bajri		Juar		Pulse		Wheat	
	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40
Baroda	12	27	20	16	23	25	12	20	16	15
Mehsana	14	16	27	20	27	22	13	12	18	19
Navsari	12	22	16	16	20	21	18	14	15	14
Amreli	13	20	26	17	28	20	15	15	16	15
Okhamandal	8	16	23	17	27	18	13	16	13	16

(ii) Land Administration

125. OCCUPIED AREA—The total occupied area during the year was 66,87,452 bighas and exceeded that of the previous year by 6,656 bighas. The increase was common to all the districts, the largest being in Mehsana 3,823 bighas. A steady attempt is made to bring unoccupied arable lands under cultivation, but poor seasons and low prices have prevented expansion of cultivation during the last few years. In fact, since 1935-36, there has been a decrease in the occupied area of about 700 bighas.

About five percent of the cultivable area is unoccupied, the greater part of which is in the Mehsana district. There are 35,000 bighas in the Vijapur taluka, 23,000 in Patan and 21,000 in Chanasma. The lands in Vijapur are along the river Sabarmati and have suffered from soil erosion; those in Patan and Chanasma talukas are alkaline. The following statement shows the distribution of cultivable, occupied and unoccupied lands in the different districts :—

District	Cultivable area in bighas (000 omitted)	Occupied area in bighas (000 omitted)	Unoccupied area in bighas (000 omitted)
Mehsana	29,21	27,35	1,86
Baroda	17,69	17,51	18
Navsari	11,54	11,42	12
Amreli	9,65	8,88	77
Okhamandal	2,44	1,71	73
Total	70.53	66.87	3.66

126. TRANSFER OF LAND—There was a slight increase in the land transferred during the year, as compared to the previous year, as the following table shows :—

Transferred on account of	1940-41		1939-40	
	Persons	Area in bighas	Persons	Area in bighas
Inheritance	9,420	1,53,354	9,462	1,52,920
Partition	293	4,023	134	3,347
Gifts or exchange	317	2,629	318	3,444
Sale	11,098	85,118	10,160	80,777
Other causes	1,355	13,814	1,300	16,648
Total	22,483	2,58,938	21,374	2,57,136

During the last three years, on an average 24,000 bighas of land have passed from agriculturists to non-agriculturists, and 11,000 from non-agriculturists to agriculturists, leaving a balance in favour of non-agriculturists of 13,000 bighas per year. During the year under report, however, there has been an improvement, the unfavourable balance being 7,000 bighas. The following table gives detailed information of these transfers :—

Nature of transfer	1940-41		1939-40	
	Persons	Area in bighas	Persons	Area in bighas
From agriculturists to agriculturists	7,561	59,898	6,399	50,634
From agriculturists to non-agriculturists	2,346	17,235	2,956	27,458
From non-agriculturists to agriculturists	1,214	9,597	1,167	10,538
From non-agriculturists to non-agriculturists	1,649	14,831	1,256	12,239
Total	12,770	1,01,561	11,778	1,00,869

127. SURVEY AND SETTLEMENT—At the time of the Revision Settlement of the Waghodia taluka in 1927, the introduction of the standard assessment (Lal Akar) was postponed as a concession in 46

villages for ten years in the first instance, and then again for three years. The period having expired, the standard rates were introduced in these villages during the year.

128. BARKHALI—The Barkhali department deals with the disposal of the claims relating to cash allowances, vatans, and barkhali lands.

During the year the ankada of four villages was reduced in proportion to the general reduction in assessment granted by the Government.

Mulgiras lands, measuring 463 bighas, were purchased during the year to satisfy the claims of creditors of girassias. By the settlement of these claims, the girassias gained about 28 per cent of the value of the claims.

129. GIRAS—The Giras Adhikari disposed of 69 cases of succession, 10 of miscellaneous claims and 172 Residency references. There were 415 appeal cases pending before the Adhikari at the end of 1939–40, and 40 were received during the year. Of these 37 were disposed of, leaving 418 pending.

Four appeals were disposed of by the Resident. Of these, one was remanded, one withdrawn and two accepted.

130. ESTATES UNDER ATTACHMENT—The number of estates under attachment was 379 as against 373 in the previous year. Of these 82 were attached under the Guardians and Wards Act, 7 to secure Government loans, 31 for arrears of revenue, 17 on account of disputes among holders, 147 owing to mismanagement of temples, 7 pending mutations of names, 8 to protect Government shares, and 80 for other reasons.

Of the estates under attachment 40 were under attachment for less than a year, 107 for one to four years, 111 for more than five years, 52 for more than ten years, and 69 for more than fifteen years.

The total demand of these estates was Rs. 8·88 lakhs, of which Rs. 4 lakhs were arrears. The total collection was Rs. 5·14 lakhs as against Rs. 5·34 lakhs in the preceding year. The arrears at the end of the year were Rs. 3·74 lakhs.

(iii) Collection of Revenues

131. LAND REVENUE—There was marked improvement in the realisation of land revenue. The total demand was Rs. 95·34 lakhs as compared to Rs. 94·51 lakhs in the previous year, the increase being due to new lands having been brought under cultivation. The realisation was Rs. 90·84 lakhs as against Rs. 83·51 lakhs, an improvement

from 89.4 to 95.0 per cent. The improvement was common to all the districts except Okhamandal. In the Baroda, Navsari and Amreli districts the realisations were over 98 per cent, and in the Mehsana district 90.5 per cent as against 75.8 per cent in the previous year.

132. LOCAL CESS—The demand and realisation of local cess during the year amounted to Rs. 7.38 lakhs and Rs. 7.15 lakhs respectively as shown in the following statement:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

District	1940-41			1939-40		
	Demand	Collection	Percentage	Demand	Collection	Percentage
Baroda	2.80	2.73	98.9	2.76	2.65	96.0
Mehsana	2.25	2.14	95.0	2.24	1.96	87.9
Navsari	1.64	1.63	99.9	1.54	1.43	93.1
Amreli	0.65	0.64	99.0	0.62	0.60	97.0
Okhamandal	0.04	0.01	73.2	0.04	0.04	91.0
Total	7.38	7.15	93.2	7.20	6.68	93.0

133. MISCELLANEOUS REVENUE—The realisations from miscellaneous revenues amounted to Rs. 3.08 lakhs, out of a demand of Rs. 3.33 lakhs, including the amount of compensation for Salami lands acquired for Tata Chemicals Ltd.

134. ARREARS—Arrears of previous years to the extent of Rs. 19.33 lakhs were recovered or written off during the year, so that the balance of arrears fell from Rs. 49.71 lakhs to Rs. 30.48 lakhs. The following table gives the details:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

District	Total arrears at the beginning of 1940-41	Recovered or written off during 1940-41	Balance at the end of 1940-41
Baroda	9.32	6.12	3.26
Mehsana	34.53	10.31	24.25
Navsari	0.88	0.72	0.16
Amreli	4.02	1.59	2.45
Okhamandal	0.96	0.59	0.36
Total	49.71	19.33	30.48

135. COERCIVE MEASURES—The following statement shows the number of coercive measures of each kind taken during the year:—

	1940-41	1939-40	1938-39	1937-38
Notices	3,596	2,348	5,703	6,767
Fines	611	400	440	368
Attachments	4,846	3,577	3,150	7,353
Sales	465	334	773	541
Warrants of arrests	1,352	707	667	748

There was an increase in number of coercive processes as compared to previous years.

136. REMISSIONS AND SUSPENSIONS—The complete failure of rains in Okhamandal necessitated generous relief. Full remission of land revenue amounting to Rs. 11,948 was given to khatedars, paying assessment of less than Rs. 20. Past arrears of land revenue were written off to the extent of Rs. 56,485. Besides this, suspension of past arrears amounting to Rs. 34,553 of land revenue, Rs. 68,109 of tagavi instalments and Rs. 18,294 of local cess was granted.

In the Mehsana district, the talukas of Pattan, Chanasma, Harij and Sidhpur suffered from insufficiency of rain. Therefore, remissions of Rs. 4,745 were granted, and in the Sidhpur and Pattan talukas Rs. 84,529 of arrears of land revenue were written off; suspensions of Rs. 84,529 of current land revenue due from 6,975 khatedars of 132 villages, of Rs. 3,47,379 out of arrears of land revenue, and of Rs. 63,884 in respect of tagavi instalments were also sanctioned.

The total remissions thus amounted to Rs. 16,693, suspensions to Rs. 4.75 lakhs and Rs. 1.41 lakhs were written off.

Besides this, fines for cultivating Government lands without permission and water cess on water from Government and panchayat wells and tanks were foregone. The execution of the decrees against khedut-khatedars by civil and revenue courts, co-operative societies, and debt conciliation boards was suspended till 31st December 1941.

137. FLOOD RELIEF MEASURES—The districts of Navsari, Baroda and Mehsana suffered severely from very heavy rains in July 1941. In the Navsari district particularly, where it rained 49 inches in forty eight hours, the damage was heavy. Many huts and houses collapsed and sown seeds were washed away. The Government took prompt

measures to meet the situation. Rupees one lakh were placed at the disposal of the Suba for urgent relief and a special officer appointed to supervise the relief work.

For the Baroda and Mehsana districts, which had suffered less severely than Navsari, Government sanctioned Rs. 25,000 and Rs. 20,000 respectively for relief.

138. RELIEF MEASURES IN OKHAMANDAL—Special relief was also undertaken in Okhamandal, where the almost complete failure of rain for a second year in succession, had created a serious shortage of fodder. The Government organised the supply of hay at concession price of 2 pies as against a cost of 7 pies per pound, and 13,09,890 lbs. of hay were advanced as tagavi loans to agriculturists, involving a loss of Rs. 14,641 to Government.

Income-tax

139. 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. Although the number of assesseees fell from 25,000 in 1938-39 to 6,877 in 1939-40 and 8,331 in the year under report, the demand increased by nearly one lakh and a half from Rs. 5.76 lakhs in 1938-39 to Rs. 7.16 lakhs in 1939-40 and Rs. 7.01 lakhs in 1940-41.

The Baroda district pays the largest amount of income-tax—Rs. 3.35 lakhs, the Mehsana district Rs. 1.93 lakhs, Navsari Rs. 1.05 lakhs, Amreli Rs. 0.26 lakhs and Okhamandal Rs. 0.42 lakhs.

In the preceding year only Rs. 3.91 lakhs had been realised out of a demand of Rs. 7.41 lakhs, as the assessment under the new Act had not been completed. Thus the total demand for 1940-41, including arrears amounting to Rs. 3.5 lakhs was Rs. 10.51 lakhs. Of this Rs. 9.01 lakhs were realised, leaving a balance of Rs. 1.5 lakhs.

Excise

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

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

License fee, duty and tree tax are the main items of excise revenue.

141. SYSTEM—In the Baroda, Mehsana and Navsari districts, contracts are given for five years for distilling country liquor, and the

right of sale is leased to individual shops for one year. In the Amreli district including Okhamandal, on the other hand, the monopoly of manufacture and retail sale for the whole district is farmed out.

142. LEASES—The country liquor shops in the Baroda, Mehsana and Navsari districts were auctioned, as usual for one year, from 1st April 1941. Twenty-six shops in the Baroda district on the Mewasi border, and thirty-three in the Mehsana district on the Mahi Kantha Agency border, were leased without auction. In fourteen kasba shops in the Mehsana district sale of liquor at fixed prices in sealed bottles was continued. The total number of shops was 885 as against 875 in the previous year.

143. 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 Jambusar-Waghra dry area ;
- (ii) in the Mehsana district rationing of twenty-eight shops, including the Kalol and Dehgam kasba shops. The rations of these shops were, however, increased by 30 per cent ;
- (iii) in the Navsari district rationing of six shops situated on the Vansda-Andhatri border, and of fifty-one shops on the borders of Bardoli, Valod, Broach and Ankleshwar talukas, besides providing a shop-free belt.

There was no control of selling prices, except that shop-keepers were not allowed to sell liquor below the fixed minimum, made up of duty and cost price.

144. EXCISE REVENUE—The excise revenue amounted to Rs. 27.56 lakhs as against Rs. 24.82 lakhs in the previous year. Of this amount, Rs. 20.44 lakhs were from country liquor and Rs. 5.39 lakhs from toddy. The Navsari district yielded Rs. 14.79 lakhs, the Baroda district Rs. 9.49 lakhs, Mehsana Rs. 2.90 lakhs and Amreli and Okhamandal Rs. 0.38 lakhs. The increase is the result of larger consumption usual to good years and of the keen competition at the auctions of country liquor shops in the Baroda, Mehsana and Navsari districts and of toddy shops in the Navsari district.

145. OFFENCES—The number of detected offences increased from 841 to 960. The increase is attributed mainly to stricter supervision.

Opium

146. SOURCES OF REVENUE—The State has a monopoly for the manufacture of opium on the 'Bengal system.' The sale price of opium at the Government depots continued to be Rs. 37-8-0 per seer of forty tolas. Besides this a license fee is charged on a scale graduated according to the sales, increasing from Rs. 7 to Rs. 10 per seer.

The profit on opium issued to the licensed vendors and the licenses fees form the main sources of opium revenue.

147. POPPY CULTIVATION—Poppy is cultivated in parts of the Mehsana district. Applications for permission to cultivate poppy were received from 14 villages and permits were given for 400.5 bighas as against 449 bighas in the preceding year. The juice tendered by the cultivators was 23.8 maunds as against 49.8 maunds in the previous year. The decrease was due to unfavourable season. The cultivators are required to sell the whole of the produce to the Government. They are paid Rs. 4 per seer for the best quality of juice.

148. CONSUMPTION AND REVENUE—During the year 6,020 seers of opium were sent to the depots from the opium factory as against 2,520 seers in the preceding year.

The profit to the State from the sale of opium was Rs. 1.95 lakhs as against Rs. 1.90 lakhs in the preceeding year. The total amount of sale price and license fees was Rs. 2.43 lakhs and the cost of production Rs. 0.48 lakhs.

Customs and port dues

149. SOURCES AND 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	1940-41	1939-40
	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda	2,445	2,777
Mehsana	6,091	6,303
Navsari	4,984	6,293
Amreli	35,749	44,032
Okhamandal	29,24,903	31,85,047
Total	29,74,172	32,44,452

The decrease of Rs. 2.70 lakhs was mainly due to the decrease in customs revenue realised at Port Okha.

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. The cost of collection, however, exceeded the amount of duty collected during 1937-38, 1938-39 and 1939-40 and consequently the State did not get any refund.

Protective duties were continued in the Mehsana and Amreli districts. The income was Rs. 6,091 in the Mehsana district and Rs. 2,367 in the Amreli district and the expenditure on collection Rs. 30,575 and Rs. 16,195 respectively.

150. EXCISE ON MATCHES—The following table gives the demand, collection and arrears of the excise revenue on matches :—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Year	Arrears at the end of the preceding year	Demand	Total	Collection	Arrears
1940-41	1.29	5.67	6.96	6.34	0.62
1939-40	2.09	6.62	8.71	7.42	1.29

The Baroda Government received Rs. 0.45 lakhs as their share from the common pool of match excise duty, for the three months ending 31st March 1940. The allocation for the year 1940-41 had not been received from the Government of India by the end of the year.

151. EXCISE ON SUGAR—The Gandevi Sugar Works Company Ltd., Gandevi, is the only sugar factory in the State. It manufactured 29,693 cwts. of sugar.

The State levied an excise duty on sugar at the rate of Rs. 3 per cwt. during the year. The duty levied amounted to Rs. 92,858 as against Rs. 49,318 in the preceding year.

152. PETROLEUM—Under the Petroleum Act, 132 licenses for the import, transport and storage of petroleum were issued during the year, and Rs. 3,553 were realised as fees.

153. SALT (COMMON)—The salt arrangements for the Baroda, Mehsana and Navsari districts continued unchanged. In the Kodinar taluka the contract to collect salt has been given for a period of three years from 1st August 1938 for Rs. 960 to be paid annually. Out of 16,656 maunds of salt collected from natural deposits or imported from outside, 12,839 maunds were consumed during the year leaving a balance of 3,817 maunds.

In Okhamandal the right to collect salt in twelve beds continued with the Tata Chemicals Co. Ltd. The company exported 16,43,958 maunds to Bengal as against 32,73,200 maunds in 1939-40.

The Baroda Government have claimed from the Government of India Rs. 5.68 lakhs for 1940-41, on account of duty on salt consumed in the Gujarat possessions of the State. The matter is under correspondence.

154. SALT (DENATURED)—Denatured salt was supplied for agricultural purposes in the Baroda and Navsari districts. Six permits were issued to import 550 Bengal maunds of salt.

155. STAMPS—The following table shows the revenue derived from the sale of stamps in lakhs of rupees:—

Sources of revenue	1940-41	1939-40
Court fee stamps	5.15	5.04
Revenue stamps	6.48	5.70
Special levies	0.04	0.06
Miscellaneous receipts	0.14	0.12
Total	11.81	10.92

The expenditure on stamps was Rs. 24,963 as compared to Rs. 45,510 in the preceding year, the decrease being due to printing fewer stamps during the year.

(iv) Development Activities

156. TAGAVI—During the year Rs. 3.16 lakhs were advanced as tagavi as compared to Rs. 11.24 lakhs in the previous year. This decrease was due to the monsoon having been more favourable on the whole than in the preceding year, and Government were required to sanction as special tagavi only Rs. 3 lakhs for the Mehsana district and Rs. 24,000 for Okhamandal. The tagavi was given mainly for

the improvement of land. The details are shown in the following statement:—

District	Purpose of tagavi loans		
	Improvement of land	Maintenance including purchase of cattle, seeds, manure and building materials	Total
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Baroda	7,400	11,380	18,780
Mehsana	1,84,325	16,715	2,01,040
Navsari	28,400	10,560	38,960
Amreli	15,829	16,205	32,034
Okhamandal	750	24,703	25,453
Total	2,36,704	79,563	3,16,267

The realisation of tagavi instalments was postponed in Okhamandal and in the talukas of Pattan, Sidhpur, Harij and Chanasma of the Mehsana district owing to bad season. In the previous year it had been postponed in Okhamandal and fifteen other talukas. The realisation was, therefore, much better than in the preceding year, being Rs. 4.14 lakhs out of a demand of Rs. 6.57 lakhs or 70 percent, as against Rs. 1.56 lakhs out of a demand of Rs. 3.31 lakhs or 47 percent in the preceding year. The realisations were, as usual, particularly good in the Navsari and Amreli districts—Rs. 0.42 lakhs out of Rs. 0.43 lakhs or 97 percent in the former and Rs. 1.34 lakhs out of Rs. 1.49 lakhs or 90 percent in the latter. In the Baroda and Mehsana districts on the other hand the realisations were only 60 percent of the demand, Rs. 0.62 lakhs and Rs. 1.74 lakhs respectively.

157. IRRIGATION FACILITIES—Besides tagavi which is given mostly for developing irrigation facilities, special measures are taken to encourage agriculturists to sink wells. Those agriculturists who cannot obtain tagavi, may have wells sunk in their land at Government expense, if they agree to pay a water rate of Re. 1 per bigha for the lands protected by the wells. The cost of an unsuccessful well is borne by Government. A khatedar may purchase the well on payment of the cost in ten instalments. This scheme has been applied to the villages of the Mehsana district. During the year 25 wells and 4 bores were sunk at a cost of Rs. 39,550 as against 16 wells at the cost of Rs. 12,000 in the previous year. They will irrigate 348 bighas.

158. SPECIAL MEASURES IN THE MEHSANA DISTRICT—In 1939, a committee consisting of three principal officers of the State, the Sar Suba, the Irrigation Engineer and the Commissioner of Agriculture, was appointed to study the rural problems in the talukas of Harij, Patan, Chanasma, Kadi and Kalol, which had been having a series of bad seasons. The committee was asked to study specially the possibility of change in agricultural practices, extension of well irrigation, development of cottage industries, and other measures of planned improvement. The committee's report was a comprehensive one recommending a ten year plan of improvements falling under (a) irrigation, (b) dry farming, (c) pasture and animal husbandry, (d) agricultural finance and (e) improvements in rural education. The Government passed orders generally approving the recommendations and setting apart every year Rs. 2 lakhs for the development. The work which was started in the preceding year was continued. Irrigation channels were reconditioned and repairs of 16 tanks completed and of 24 tanks were in progress. Further progress was made with the dry farming station at Harij, the Rabari colonies and the Thakarda boarding scheme at Deodarda. A survey of a selected area along the Sabarmati was carried out for the purpose of studying measures to prevent soil erosion.

159. RELIEF OF CONGESTION IN VILLAGES—Early in 1936, the attention of Government was engaged on the question of relieving congestion in villages. On a scheme developed by the Revenue department, the Government laid down principles for the extension of village sites.

Where the village-site area falls short of 30 bighas for a population of 700 or 43 bighas for 1,000, the gamthan should be held to be insufficient. In such villages, suitable areas for expansion should be selected, acquired and divided into convenient plots, with suitable building regulations. 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.

To further the ends of sanitation and relieve the lungs of congested towns, a plan was also ordered to be prepared to provide play grounds and open spaces for towns with a population of 7,000 and upwards, where such are not ordinarily provided. Under the scheme of village extensions, already twelve villages in Baroda and Mehsana districts, where congestion was acute, have had their village-sites extended according to reasonable standards. A plan has been developed to take up 5 to 10 such cases every year.

160. MARKETING—The agricultural market at Bodeli in the Sankheda taluka of the Baroda district completed its second year of working, during which 47,667 bhars of cotton were sold, as

against 43,531 in the previous year. The income of the market was Rs. 8,680.

Arrangements for opening a similar market at Amreli were completed during the year, and it is expected that the market will begin to operate from the next season.

The principal objects of these regulated markets are :—

- (i) to bring the cultivator into direct touch with the merchant, and enable him to get as good a price as possible, and for this purpose to disseminate market news;
- (ii) to guarantee proper weights and prevent fraudulent methods of weighing, by frequent inspections;
- (iii) to minimise the illegal practices of middlemen;
- (iv) to prevent irregular deductions such as muthi and dharmadaya.

161. COTTON TRANSPORT—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. Four check stations were maintained on the Khandesh border of the Songadh taluka, and two on the Surat border of the Mangrol and Kamrej talukas in the Navsari district. No check stations were considered necessary in other districts.

CHAPTER XI

COMMEMORATION FUNDS

Diamond Jubilee Trust Fund

162. 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, is to assist in the improvement of village life in all its aspects—economic, social and cultural. In carrying out the object, special preference is given

- (i) to poorer areas in which development has not kept pace with the rest of the State, and
- (ii) to the needs of backward communities like the Rani-paraj, the Antyaj, the Thakarda, Koli, Rabari, etc.

163. PROGRAMME OF WORK—A long time 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) headquarter schemes, which will benefit large areas or sections of the rural population.

For the village works a ten-year programme was sanctioned in 1938-39 after a careful and comprehensive 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. 2.5 lakhs every year. The special works sanctioned for the backward classes and areas, and the headquarter schemes absorb about half a lakh of rupees each.

164. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE—The receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 1.478 lakhs, made up as follows:—

	(rupees in lakhs)
Balance of previous years	8.71
Interest for the year from endowment	3.50
Contributions from panchayats and villagers	0.49
Interest on deposits and miscellaneous receipts	0.15
Receipts from anamats and tasalmats	1.93

The expenditure on the programme of village works was Rs. 1·82 lakhs, on schemes for backward areas and classes Rs. 0·54 lakhs and on headquarter schemes Rs. 0·25 lakhs, besides Rs. 0·15 lakhs spent on the broadcasting scheme, and Rs. 0·34 lakhs was miscellaneous expenditure. The total expenditure including deposits and advances amounted to Rs. 4·41 lakhs. The balance at the end of the year was Rs. 10·37 lakhs.

165. VILLAGE WORKS—In all 614 works were to be executed during the year. Of these, 292 were works begun in the previous years but not completed, and 322 were new works sanctioned for 1940-41. During the year, 222 works were completed, 128 were under progress and 264 remained to be taken up.

The different classes of works, completed in each district, are shown below:—

District	Protected drinking water supply	Water supply for cattle etc.	Roads	Village protective works	Total
Baroda	9	35	2	19	65
Mehsana	8	32	1	...	41
Navsari	30	1	30	...	61
Amreli	10	5	25	...	40
Okhamandal	9	6	...	...	15
Total	66	79	58	19	222

The amounts spent on different classes of works in each district are shown below in rupees:—

District	Classes of works				Total expenditure
	Protected drinking water supply	Water supply for cattle etc.	Communication	Village protective works	
Baroda	7,146	35,333	12,444	15,233	70,156
Mehsana	7,278	29,450	766	...	37,494
Navsari	21,488	535	15,471	...	37,494
Amreli	5,788	9,504	19,770	...	35,062
Okhamandal	1,410	119	...	...	1,529
Total	43,110	74,941	48,451	15,233	1,81,735

166. **SCHEMES FOR BACKWARD CLASSES AND AREAS**—The most important of these schemes is the Diamond Jubilee Thakarda boarding school at Deodarda near Patan. A large farm is provided and great emphasis is laid on practical agriculture. It is intended that the school should become a centre of rural reconstruction for the Thakardas of that area. A similar institution is being started at Dabhoi. Another important scheme is the Rabari colonization scheme. Seven colonies have been founded in the Mehsana district in which, so far 113 Rabari families have been settled, with the object of inducing them to give up nomadic habits and take to cultivation of fodder and improved methods of rearing cattle. Fuller details will be found in the chapter on Agriculture.

Scholarships of Rs. 10 per month were given to 13 boys of the backward classes for training in textile mills as skilled workmen. The Harijan Ashrams of Baroda and Navsari and the Raniparaj Boarding House of Baroda were given grants of Rs. 500 each. Loans were advanced to 159 members of co-operative societies of backward classes. Agricultural implements and seeds worth Rs. 2,171 were supplied to the agriculturists of backward classes and areas. Grants for opening eleven new libraries in backward areas were given. The total expenditure on these schemes during the year was Rs. 53,803, of which Rs. 22,577 was on the Thakarda Boarding school and Rs. 25,909 on the Rabari colonisation scheme.

167. **HEADQUARTER SCHEMES**—During the year Rs. 24,929 were spent on the headquarter schemes. The health unit at Kosamba, the adult literacy campaign, poultry farming, supply of plant-pullers, maintenance of the new classes of the Diamond Jubilee Cottage Industries Institute at Baroda come under this head. The very important question of prevention of soil erosion was also taken up. Selected areas in the Mehsana and Amreli districts have been surveyed and methods of preventing soil erosion are being scientifically investigated. Further details will be found under the chapter on Agriculture.

168. **BROADCASTING SCHEME**—The studio house is nearing completion. Orders have been placed for transmitters but these have not been received due to war. During the year Rs. 15,400 were spent on the scheme.

Diamond Jubilee People's Fund

169. **DIAMOND JUBILEE PEOPLE'S FUND**—The total fund amounts to Rs. 7.09 lakhs and yields an income of about Rs. 25,000 a year. The income is utilised for giving scholarships to bonafide agriculturists for obtaining practical instructions in agriculture, horticulture and subsidiary occupations like poultry keeping, spinning, weaving, tanning etc.

An amount was also set apart for supplying implements to institutions producing Khadi and during the year 16 such institutions were provided with implements at the cost of Rs. 1,751.

During the year 138 agriculturists were trained in agriculture and scholarships worth Rs. 3,993 were awarded to them. Besides this 30 farmers were taken on a tour to visit Government agricultural farms to acquaint them with improvements in agriculture. For training in cottage industries scholarships worth Rs. 3,672 were given to 44 students. A subsidy at the rate of one anna per yard of khaddar is given to institutions producing khadi. During the year subsidy amounting to Rs. 2,028 was given to nine institutions. Loans upto Rs. 500 to individuals and upto Rs. 1,000 to institutions are advanced for starting cottage industries, but only one person has so far been granted such a loan.

Shree Sayajirao III Memorial Fund

170. SHREE SAYAJIRAO III MEMORIAL FUND—The income of the fund is Rs. 3.5 lakhs per year. Including the income of the preceding year and Rs. 0.07 lakhs received as interest on deposits, the total receipts during the year amounted to Rs. 7.07 lakhs. The programme of work to be carried out from the income of this fund is under consideration of the Government. Four schemes, however, have been so far sanctioned.

171. SANCTIONED SCHEMES—(i) To perpetuate the memory of His Highness the late Maharaja Sayajirao III, an annual endowment of Rs. 15,000 was made to the Benares Hindu University, for the purpose of establishing a Chair, to be called "The Sayajirao Chair of Indian Culture and Civilisation," and for two fellowships attached to it. 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 Hindu and the Moslem, the Christian and the Parsi 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 part of this Foundation".

In May 1941, Dr.*Sir Radhakrishnan was appointed as Sir Sayajirao Professor of Indian Culture and Civilisation.

(ii) A grant of Rs. 10,000 a year is made to the Maharani Shantadevi Trust for medical aid to women and children of the State.

(iii) Sayajirao Memorial scholarships for the sons of Sardars, Assamdars, etc. of the State have been instituted, and Rs. 15,000

a year set aside for the purpose. The scholarships are available for secondary and higher education.

(iv) Two scholarships, one for chemical engineering and another for textile chemistry, available to B. Sc. students of the Baroda College have also been instituted.

The Agriculture Institute at Baroda, which is the central institute for agricultural education, was maintained from this fund during the year.

The total expenditure on these schemes during the year was Rs. 37,000 of which Rs. 19,872 was on the Agricultural Institute and Rs. 5,366 on scholarships.

CHAPTER XII

LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT

District local boards

172. **INCOME**—The income of local boards fell by Rs. 0·46 lakhs from Rs. 8·57 lakhs to Rs. 8·11 lakhs, mainly because of the decrease in contribution from the Government and from private individuals. The following table gives their income in lakhs of rupees:—

Source of income	1939-40	1940-41
Local cess	6·66	6·81
Contribution from Government	1·10	0·76
Contribution from private individuals	0·32	0·08
Miscellaneous	0·49	0·46
Total	8·57	8·11

173. **EXPENDITURE**—The expenditure decreased from Rs. 8·70 lakhs to Rs. 8·44 lakhs, civil works, education and sanitation being the main items on which expenditure was curtailed. The cost of administration increased by Rs. 5,394 from 12·1 per cent to 13·0 per cent of the total expenditure. The following statement gives the expenditure on each item and its percentage to the total expenditure:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Heads of expenditure	1939-40	Percent- age	1940-41	Percent- age	Increase or de- crease
Administration	1·05	12·1	1·10	13·0	+0·05
Civil works	3·74	42·9	3·50	41·5	—0·24
Education	0·57	6·6	0·45	5·3	—0·12
Medicine and vaccination	0·32	3·7	0·33	3·9	+0·01
Sanitation and other public con- veniences.	1·59	18·1	1·46	17·3	—0·13
Contribution to municipalities and village boards.	1·19	13·8	1·22	14·5	+0·03
Miscellaneous	0·24	2·8	0·38	4·5	+0·14
Total	8·70	100·0	8·44	100·0	+0·23 —0·49

174. CIVIL WORKS—The expenditure on the main items of civil works is shown below in lakhs of rupees:—

Item	1939-40	1940-41
Communications	1·23	1·10
Buildings	0·86	0·88
Water supply	1·52	1·24
Other works	0·13	0·28
Total	3·74	3·50

175. FEEDER ROADS—To connect as many villages as possible with the railway system, with which Baroda is so well served, a programme of feeder roads was sanctioned in 1928-29. The number of roads on the programme, subsequently expanded a little, was 158 with a length of about 533 miles. Of these, 130 roads covering a length of about 374 miles have been constructed. The programmes of the Amreli and Navsari districts have been completed and new programmes are under preparation. The expenditure incurred upto the end of the year was Rs. 9·97 lakhs of which Rs. 4·77 lakhs were contributed by the Government. The programme and the work completed in each district is shown below:—

District	Sanctioned programme 1928-29			Completed upto July 1941			Government contribution in lakhs of rupees
	Roads	Mileage	Approximate cost in lakhs of rupees	Roads	Mileage	Amount spent in lakhs of rupees	
Baroda	79	231·6	14·44	65	134·10	5·71	3·68
Mehsana	62	245·6	3·13	51	193·2	2·22	0·33
Navsari	9	36·0	4·95	6	25·6	1·67	0·58
Amreli	8	19·6	0·35	8	19·6	0·37	0·18

176. VILLAGE PROTECTED WATER SUPPLY—After the completion of programme of 459 village wells, the different prant panchayats have undertaken new triennial programmes. In the Baroda district, out of 62 wells on the programme 26 have been completed and 21 were in progress. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 21,391. In the Mehsana district, 20 wells were completed and work on 51 wells was in progress. Besides this 21 cattle troughs and tanks were taken up.

The expenditure during the year on these works was Rs. 63,145. In the Navsari district, 10 wells were completed at the cost of Rs. 6,653. The total Government contribution was Rs. 17,000.

Along with the programme of village wells, a triennial programme of tube wells was adopted for villages, where potable water could not be tapped even at great depth by sinking ordinary wells. The programme for Baroda district was completed during the year. In all 47 borings have been successfully completed and 15 abandoned. The expenditure during the current year was Rs. 24,318 of which Government contributed half—Rs. 12,159. In the Mehsana district, 8 borings were completed and 9 were in progress at the end of the year. In the Navsari district, one boring work was completed.

177. **ANTI-MALARIA CAMPAIGNS**—Among the important activities of prant panchayats the extension of anti-malaria measures should be mentioned. Malaria constitutes the main menace to health in the State and in order that the worst areas might be taken up on a systematic plan, the Government have given the following grants:—

- (i) Rs. 5,000 a year for five years, for extending the operations in 75 villages of the Gandevi, Mahuva, Songadh, Vyara and Mangrol talukas in the Navsari district;
- (ii) Rs. 4,526 a year for five years, for extending work to 141 villages of the Kadi, Kalol and Kheralu talukas in the Mehsana district;
- (iii) Rs. 1,000 a year for three years, for operations in 45 villages of the Kodinar taluka in the Amreli district;
- (iv) Rs. 2,223 a year for three years for work in the villages of the Sankheda, Savli, Vaghodia and Dabhoi talukas in the Baroda district.

178. **VILLAGE PANCHAYATS**—To encourage village panchayats to undertake works of public utility of permanent nature, the Government hitherto contributed an amount equal to that raised by the people either by taxation, contribution or manual labour; but this contribution from Government has been reduced to a fourth of the total cost and the prant panchayats are required to contribute a fourth. During the year under report the village panchayats took advantage of this concession and a sum of Rs. 12,865 was contributed by the Government for such works.

Baroda City Municipality

179. **AREA AND POPULATION**—The area of the Baroda City is 8.47 square miles and its population is 1,53,301.

180. INCOME—The following table shows the income of the municipality:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Sources of income	1940-41	Percent- age	1939-40	Percent- age	Increase
Government grant	1'50	12'3	1'50	14'0	...
Municipal rates & taxes:—					
Terminal tax	3'93	32'3	3'63	34'0	0'30
Taxes on houses and lands	1'30	10'7	1'24	11'5	0'06
Taxes on animals and vehicles	1'25	10'2	0'35	3'2	0'90
Toll	0'03	0'2	0'03	0'3	...
Water tax	2'00	16'3	1'96	18'2	0'04
Conservancy	0'51	4'2	0'48	4'5	0'03
Drainage	0'25	2'0	0'23	2'1	0'02
Taxes on offensive and dangerous trades.	0'13	1'0	0'12	1'0	0'01
Other sources of revenue	0'85	7'0	0'79	7'3	0'06
Miscellaneous	0'43	3'5	0'42	3'9	0'01
Total	12'18	100	10'75	100	1'43

There was a general improvement during the year in all items of income of the municipality and the total income increased by Rs. 1'43 lakhs from Rs. 10'75 lakhs to Rs. 12'18 lakhs. The increase of Rs. 0'90 lakhs in taxes on vehicles however is the result of the adjustment of previous year's accounts of motor tax.

The incidence of taxation per head was Rs. 6-2-1 as against Rs. 6-8-5. The decrease is due to the incidence being calculated on the 1941 census figures of population.

181. EXPENDITURE—The following table shows the expenditure of the municipality:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

Heads of expenditure	1940-41	Percent- age	1939-40	Percent- age
Administration	1'75	16'0	1'72	11'9
Other charge	2'71	24'7	2'44	16'8
Roads	0'96	8'8	1'56	10'8
Public works	0'41	3'7	0'32	2'2
Conservancy	1'59	14'5	1'58	10'9
Lighting	0'84	7'7	0'89	6'1
Water-works	1'40	12'8	4'72	32'6
Drainage	1'06	9'7	1'10	7'6
Compensation	0'23	2'1	0'16	1'1
Total	10'95	100'0	14'49	100'0

There was a net decrease of Rs. 3.54 lakhs in the expenditure. The curtailment of programme of repairs of roads was responsible for a decrease of Rs. 0.60 lakhs. The expenditure on water-works decreased by Rs. 3.32 lakhs as the work of duplicating the supply line had been completed in the preceding year, the amount of contribution for new water pipes not being charged to this head during the year as had been done in the preceding year.

182. HEALTH—The city suffered from an epidemic of measles during the year. There were 446 attacks and 188 deaths, deaths being mostly due to the complication of pneumonia. The measures taken brought the epidemic under control.

Malaria which constituted the chief menace to the city ten years ago has been brought under control by the anti-malaria measures, begun in 1932 and continued since then. The number of cases reported have decreased by 62 per cent from 34,115 in 1931-32 to 12,980 during the year.

183. WORKS OF PUBLIC UTILITY—Among the important works undertaken during the year, the following may be mentioned:—

(i) Improvements of the water supply system

Further progress was made in the scheme to increase the water supply of the city. The second 30" water main, which had been brought upto Lehipura, was connected with the Nimetta service reservoir. Its connection with the city main will complete the scheme. The total expenditure upto the end of the year was Rs. 9.56 lakhs, half of which was borne by the Government.

(ii) Propaganda

Propaganda for popularising vaccination against small-pox and inoculation against typhoid was conducted. Booklets on the prevention of tuberculosis were distributed free. Twenty-one magic lantern lectures on the prevention of infectious diseases were arranged in different parts of the city.

(iii) Conservancy

It has been decided to take over the entire conservancy staff into municipal service, and abolish the Gharaki system under which each sweeper has his own clients. Measures are being taken to effect this change.

District Municipalities

184. There are altogether 41 municipalities in the mofussil—11 'A' class in the larger towns and 30 'B' class in the smaller towns.

All 'A' class municipalities elect their own presidents. In Sidhpur, however, the municipal elections have been postponed since the communal riots of 1939-40, and the president and members have been nominated by the Government. In 'B' class municipalities, the vahivatdar or mahalkari is ex-officio president. The right to elect its own president, however, has been conferred on the Unjha municipality. The functions and powers of these municipalities are very much the same. 'A' class municipalities, however, do not get a share of local cess.

'A' Class Municipalities

185. **INCOME**—The main sources of income of these municipalities are house-tax and octroi. As octroi hampers trade, these bodies have been urged from time to time to replace it by other forms of direct taxation, but none of the municipalities has as yet abolished octroi. The total income during the year was Rs. 6.64 lakhs as against Rs. 6.02 lakhs in the preceding year. There was a general increase in all principal items of revenue.

The incidence of taxation per head of population in the municipal towns was as follows :—

Name of the town	Incidence
	Rs.
Navsari.	4- 1-3
Mehsana.	3- 4-8
Visnagar.	2- 9-7
Petlad.	2- 7-8
Kalol.	2- 7-6
Billimora.	2- 4-5
Gandevi.	2- 4-4
Patan.	2- 2-5
Sidhpur.	2- 0-0
Amreli.	1-14-8
Dabhoi.	1- 6-6

186. **EXPENDITURE**—The main items of expenditure of these municipalities are lighting, water supply, drainage, roads and conservancy. During the year the total expenditure was Rs. 6.88 lakhs as against Rs. 6.18 lakhs in the previous year. The increase was due to larger expenditure on drainage, water supply and roads.

187. **IMPORTANT WORKS**—Among important works investigated or undertaken during the year under report, the following deserve mention :—

- (i) *Water supply*: The tube wells sunk in Amreli, Petlad and Sidhpur have been successful and schemes of water supply are under preparation.
- (ii) *Drainage*: A drainage scheme for Amreli is under preparation.
- (iii) *Malaria*: Anti-malaria campaigns were continued by the Navsari, Gandevi, Billimora, Kalol, Dabhoi and Visnagar municipalities. The Government bears half the cost of these measures.

188. **MAHARAJA'S GIFT TO AMRELI**—His Highness the Maharaja on the occasion of his visit to Amreli in November 1940 announced a gift of Rs. 10·15 lakhs for the city's water supply scheme.

'B' Class Municipalities

189. **INCOME**—The main sources of income of these municipalities are house-tax and octroi. The total income during the year was Rs. 3·48 lakhs as against Rs. 3·65 lakhs in the previous year. The fall of Rs. 17,000 in the income was due to a general decline in the main items of revenue. The income from local cess forms 3·7 per cent of the total income. Makarpura, Attarsumba and Songadh municipalities received grants from the Government amounting to Rs. 6,695 to supplement their incomes.

190. **INCIDENCE OF TAXATION**.—The incidence of taxation per head of population was Re. 1-2-10 in the Baroda district, Re. 1-6-2 in the Mehsana district, Re. 1-5-6 in the Navsari district, Re. 1-1-11 in the Amreli district and Re. 1-3-1 in Okhamandal. The minimum was Re. 0-2-5 at Makarpura and the maximum Rs. 2-6-10 at Bhadran.

191. **WATER-WORKS**—Out of the thirty municipalities, eight have protected water-works. Water-works schemes for Dwarka and Beyt in Okhamandal, and Padra and Karjan in the Baroda district, are being investigated.

192. **ANTI-MALARIA WORK**—The Vyara, Songadh and Kathor municipalities in the Navsari district, the Kodinar municipality in the Amreli district, the Sankheda municipality in the Baroda district, and the Vadnagar municipality in the Mehsana district continued anti-malaria work. The Government bears half the cost of these measures.

CHAPTER XIII

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC LEGISLATION

193. SOCIAL LEGISLATION—The following laws relating to social matters are in force in the State :—

- (i) Child Marriage Prevention Act, 1904;
- (ii) Hindu Divorce Act;
- (iii) Hindu Women's property legislation;
- (iv) Special Marriage Act;
- (v) The Caste Tyranny Removal Act;
- (vi) The Social Disabilities Removal Act;
- (vii) Sanyas Diksha Restraint Act.

The working of these laws is reviewed below :—

(i) Child Marriage Prevention Act

194. CHILD MARRIAGE PREVENTION ACT—The legislation was first passed in 1904. The marriage of boys under 16 and of girls under 12, and persons responsible for the marriage, were made liable to punishment. In the first seven years, the Act was leniently worked as it ran counter to old established customs. In later years as public opinion underwent a change, it became possible to enforce the provisions more strictly. The peak of the "offence curve" was attained in 1923-28 when no less than 34 per cent of the registered marriages were below the age limit. The legislation, however, was exercising a steady pressure and educating public opinion. In 1926, the Government reviewed the working of the legislation. They found that public opinion had sufficiently crystallised against child marriages to permit them to extend its scope. The amendment of 1928

- (i) declared marriages, in which either of the parties is below 8 years, to be void;
- (ii) punished parties, including the officiating priest, responsible for such marriages, with fine upto Rs. 500 or imprisonment upto one month or both;
- (iii) raised the maximum limit of fine from Rs. 50 to Rs. 200 for child marriages over the age of eight.

In 1932, the law was brought into conformity with the British Indian Act of 1930, and the marriageable age raised to 18 for boys and 14 for girls. By 1937, public opinion had so far advanced, that in that year on the recommendation of the Dhara Sabha, the punishment for all child marriages was raised to imprisonment upto one month or fine upto Rs. 1,000 or both.

195. THE WORKING OF THE ACT—With growth of public opinion against child marriages, it has been possible to make the enforcement of the law stricter. The percentage of fines of more than Rs. 10 increased from 30 in 1930–33 to 62·3 per cent in 1939–40 and 67·5 per cent in the year under report. In 1930, only 3 persons were sentenced to imprisonment. With the amendment in the law in 1938, it has been possible more and more to punish with imprisonment: in 1939–40, 118 and in 1940–41, 136 persons were sentenced to imprisonment.

196. THE EFFECT OF THE LEGISLATION—The law has been in operation for 38 years. So far as marriages of children under 8 years are concerned, the law has succeeded in practically eliminating them. They now form only 1 in 264. As regards other marriages, the following table is instructive :—

Year	Total number of marriages	Child marriages	Percentage of child marriages to total
1941	20,592	3,343	16·4
1940	19,968	2,671	13·4
1939	20,093	1,437	7·2
1938	13,619	2,828	20·8
1937	16,746	2,353	14·1
1936	17,557	3,209	18·3
1935	13,441	2,412	17·9
1934	12,716	2,535	19·9
1933	11,183	2,658	23·8
1932	14,351	2,208	15·4
1931	14,100	2,510	17·8
1921–30 (Annual average)	16,379	5,352	32·7
1916–20 (Annual average)	10,138	3,365	33·2

Taking the figures for a long term since 1916, it is possible to conclude that the Act has been effective. While before 1920 and even 1930, a third of the marriages in the State were below the prescribed limit, now, under an increased marriageable age only about one-eighth of the marriages come within the penalised age limits. In 1933, just after the law was stiffened and the age limit raised, there was a large increase in infant marriages. There was again a recrudescence of this evil in 1938, but now there is a definite tendency to eliminate the evil from the social system.

The evil is most persistent in the Baroda and the Mehsana districts. In the Navsari district, during the last five years, the number of child marriages have never exceeded 123 in any single year, and in the Amreli district 217; on the other hand, in the Mehsana district the number was well over 2,000 and in the Baroda district over 1,200. This distribution coincides with the geographical distribution of the castes, among whom convictions are most frequent, namely Kolis, Thakardas, Kadwa and Lewa Kunbis, and Scheduled classes. The following statement shows the percentage of convictions according to castes :—

Year	Brahmins	Kshatriyas	Vanias	Artisans	Kolis	Kunbis (Kadwa and Lewa)	Scheduled classes	Purohitis	Others
1940-41	3.0	1.6	0.3	2.3	15.7	19.7	13.9	24.2	19.3
1939-40	1.8	1.7	0.3	1.3	17.4	18.0	14.0	22.6	22.9

The Kunbis with 15 per cent of the population formed almost 20 per cent of the persons convicted, and excluding purohitis or officiating priests who were punished as abettors, they formed 26 per cent of those who were convicted for child marriages. It was noted in the Census Report of 1931, that the very large increase in literacy among this group was not followed by any rise in the formal age of marriage. Since then literacy among the Kunbis has made decided progress, among the Kadwas from 217 to 319 and among the Lewas from 395 to 497 per mille, but there has been no corresponding improvement with regard to child marriages. The curious custom which prevailed among the Kadwas of 'mass marriages' in the whole caste—every nine, ten or eleven years all children from the age of one month being married on a single day fixed by the priests under the orders of the 'Mata' (Goddess)—was a serious obstacle to reform. There were indications at the time of 1931 Census that the force of education and social legislation was breaking down this custom. It has now finally disappeared and this must be attributed in a large measure to Child

Marriage Prevention Act. The abandonment of this custom is a material step in the social uplift of the community.

The other castes, which show convictions for child marriages quite disproportionate to their population, are the Scheduled classes. These constituting 8 per cent of the population are responsible for about 14 per cent of the convictions and 19 per cent of the child marriages. These communities are backward in education. The Vankar, the most numerous and advanced of the depressed classes, show a literacy of only 203 per mille and English literacy of only 5 per mille. Economic factors also exercise special weight with these poor communities. Custom imposes heavy expense on the occasion of marriage, and the economy of two or more marriages from the same house, largely offsets the penalty of law unsupported by social stigma.

The Kolis also, though to a less extent, come under this category. With 15 per cent of the population, they have 16 per cent of the convictions and 21 per cent of the child marriages. It is probable that this is due to the Thakardas, who constitute half of the community and are extremely backward both in education (literate 70 per mille) and economic condition.

The other castes which were addicted to child marriages have responded much more readily to the reforming influence of legislation. This will be seen from the averages of the first 3 years and of the last 3 years of the 1930-40 decade.

	Percentage of population	Average of the	
		1st period	2nd period
Brahmins*	4	3.4	2.9
Kshatriyas	4.4	4.1	1.9
Vanias	3.3	1.6	0.9
Artisans	6.3	2.8	1.6
Muslims*	7.5	2.3	1.6
Rabaris*	...	6.3	3.1

Among some of these castes the average percentage of persons convicted has declined by almost fifty per cent: among Vanias from 1.6 to 0.9 and among Kshatriyas from 4.1 to 1.9. Even among the

* The average for Brahmins, Muslims and Rabaris are for the years 1933-35, as earlier figures were not available.

artisans, who formerly were addicted to child marriages, the percentage has declined from 2·8 to 1·6. It is at least a suggestive fact that these communities are educationally the most advanced, the lowest literacy among them being 355 and the highest 816 per mille, as against the average of 229 per mille for the State. Among them, it would appear, that education and social legislation have so far modified such institutions as the custom of marriages in exchange between families, and of marriages within the 'gol' or sub-caste, that they no longer lead to early marriages.

197. SOCIAL EFFECTS—The effect of the legislation on the civil condition of the population is reflected in the 1941 census figures. The proportion of unmarried in child population, age 0–5, has risen from 97·3 in 1901 to 99·98 per cent in 1941.

In the next age group, 5–10, the proportion has risen from 89·7 to 99·3 per cent in the last forty years. In the age groups, 10–15 and 15–20, which used to be the normal ages for marriage in the old days, the percentage of unmarried has risen, among males from 73·0 to 96·2 and from 46·2 to 71·2 respectively, and among females from 47·7 to 86·2 and from 12·7 to 29·6 per cent respectively. Thus, the age of marriage has obviously risen on an average by about five years. Legislation has a great deal to do with this, though no doubt, the influence of social changes, the pressure of economic circumstances, and the leavening influence of education have certainly played an important part.

(ii) Hindu Divorce Law

198. HINDU DIVORCE ACT:—The Hindu law does not allow divorce, except in communities in which it is permitted by custom. To remove this disability the Hindu Divorce Act was passed in 1931. It provides for divorce, judicial separation, separate residence, nullity of marriage and restitution of conjugal rights. The grounds on which relief can be sought are cruelty, drunkenness, desertion, adultery, impotency and incompatibility of temperament. Relief on these grounds is available to all Hindus. Persons belonging to castes, in which divorce is not permitted by custom, can obtain relief only by a decree of a court, whereas the others are only required to register the dissolution of their marriage.

During these ten years, 472 suits for relief under the Act have been instituted. Of these, 400 were for divorce, 25 for judicial separation, 5 for separate residence, 4 for declaring the marriage null and void, and 38 for restitution of conjugal rights. The main grounds for relief were cruelty by husband, habitual drunkenness and desertion. During the last 5 years out of 235 cases, 90 were cases of cruelty and 82 of desertion. There were only 37 cases in which drunkenness was a ground for relief, and 18 cases of second marriage.

Persons belonging to castes in which divorce is not allowed by custom have been slow to take advantage of the law specially designed for them. In these ten years only 34 suits were filed by such persons. In recent years, however, they have shown a greater willingness to seek relief under the law: the number of cases in the first three years was only 3 as against 18 in the last three years. This reluctance is due to the force of custom and tradition, and not to any difficulties in the law. Of the 18 cases decided during the last three years, all except one, have been decreed in favour of the plaintiff or compromised. In communities in which custom allows divorce, the law has provided a regular procedure and a record of the fact of divorce: these benefits are appreciated.

(iii) Hindu Women's property legislation

199. HINDU WOMEN'S PROPERTY LEGISLATION—In 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, that is, 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 any;
- (c) she 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 a limited interest in property, that interest has been liberalized, by allowing her to alienate the property for educational and charitable purposes;
- (e) an unmarried daughter can claim a share in the family property equal to a fourth of a son's share, with a right to claim it separate;
- (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, next to the mother of the deceased father-in-law;
- (h) sons of a predeceased daughter can claim inheritance with living daughters.

200. EFFECT ON HINDU SOCIETY—These reforms have improved the status and material position of women in Hindu families. Among the higher castes, these rights are generally conceded as in this part of India owing to the absence of purda and other causes, women's property rights have always been more extensive than elsewhere; but among the lower classes men are less willing to accept the change, and the women are not yet conscious of their rights. During the year, 4 suits by widow co-parceners were instituted for partition of their shares in the joint property as against six in the preceding year. In suits by reversioners to challenge alienations by widows, the possession of absolute interest in the property alienated is put forward as a defence.

(iv) Special Marriage Act

201. 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 under the Registration of Marriage Act, had to declare that they did not belong to any of the recognised religions. Such a declaration is not necessary under the Baroda Act. The Act thus offers a wider scope in the choice of a life partner, to those who do not feel themselves bound by the forms of the religion in which they happen to be born, without compelling them to renounce that religion.

Customs and tradition have, however, restricted the exercise of this opportunity. During the thirty two years the Act has been in operation, only 50 marriages were performed under it, and of these more than half were in the last five years. Moreover, the restriction of social customs and religious law of different communities have proved, as was hoped, sufficiently strong to confine the action of this legislation, mainly to intermarriages amongst different groups within a religious community. Of these 50 cases, 47 were cases of Hindu inter-caste marriages, two of a Hindu with a Parsi or a Christian, and one of a Buddhist and a Christian. There were no cases of Jains or Musalmans.

(v) The Caste Tyranny Removal Act

202. THE CASTE TYRANNY REMOVAL ACT—In Gujarat numerous customs impose restrictions on the individual, which are detrimental to social progress. Such, for instance, are the customs which restrict marriage in certain castes to 'gols', which are circles within the caste or sub-caste; the customs which penalise foreign travel, refusal to incur heavy expenses on such formal ceremonies as caste dinners, or breaking a betrothal. To encourage enlightened and progressive persons to escape these limitations, the Caste Tyranny Removal Act was passed in 1933. It empowers the courts

to punish by imprisonment upto six months or fine upto Rs. 1,000 or both, persons who penalise those who do not observe tyrannous customs such as indicated above.

The Act has met with very limited success. During its seven years' operation there have been only 54 cases; nor do records show any growing tendency on the part of people to resort more freely to the courts for redress on this account. The average of the number of cases of the first three years of the Act was 11, whereas of the last three years it is only 7. We have only to examine the results of the complaints filed to appreciate the difficulties that prevent a more ready resort to law for redress. Of the 54 cases, not a single case has so far resulted in conviction. The operation of the Act shows once again the difficulties of social legislation when not sufficiently supported by public opinion. People are reluctant to resort to law, because it embitters their relations with the leaders of their caste on whom they are largely dependent for the observance of social and religious forms of their society. Even when cases are instituted, the other members of the caste are unwilling to incur the odium of deposing against leaders. Complainants, therefore, are unable to prove even the fact of excommunication. Such check as this legislation imposes is due, it would appear from experience, not to the penalties which the law imposes, but to the threat of being called upon to answer a charge in a court of law.

(vi) Social Disabilities Removal Act

203. SOCIAL DISABILITIES REMOVAL ACT—The steps taken by Government, to remove the disabilities under which the Antyajas belonging to the Scheduled castes labour, fall into two groups.

First, by education, economic assistance and co-operative movement to raise the community to take its place of equality with the other sections of the people. These are detailed under the respective chapters.

Second, to punish those who deny the members of this community such elementary rights as the use of public wells, roads, buses etc. With this latter object formal legislative shape was given to the old proclamation by the enactment of the Social Disabilities Removal Act in 1939. To prevent any member of this class from exercising his elementary rights, is made punishable by a fine which may extend to Rs. 200 in the first instance. For enforcing the Act standing committees have been set up in all the districts and in talukas where necessary. These committees consist of revenue and other officers and non-officials. The Suba is the president and at least two members are of the Scheduled classes. These committees are charged

with the duty of investigating complaints and initiating action where necessary. It is too early yet to judge the effect of these measures. The committees received complaints, mostly relating to the use of wells, but in no case was there an occasion to institute proceedings under the Social Disabilities Removal Act. The Government have issued instructions to the committees to enforce the law more strictly.

(vii) Sanyas Diksha Restraint Act

204. **SANYAS DIKSHA RESTRAINT ACT**—The Sanyas Diksha Restraint Act came into force in 1933. The Act was mainly intended to remedy the grievance of lay Jains, about the initiation of children to *Sanyas* which in their view was fast becoming common and was detrimental to their interests as well as to the institution of *Sanyas* itself. The Act declares void and of no effect, the initiation of minors into Hindu and Jain orders of asceticism, and makes it punishable with imprisonment up to one year and fine up to Rs. 500. No report of a breach of the Act has been received during these eight years.

205. **ECONOMIC LEGISLATION**—The economic legislation in the State falls under (i) tenancy, (ii) debt and (iii) protection of backward classes, and comprise of the following:—

- (i) The Rent Regulation Act, 1934;
- (ii) Ankadia Villages' Tenants Act, 1934;
- (iii) The Agriculturist Debt Regulation Act, 1935;
- (iv) The Debt Conciliation Act, 1936;
- (v) The Backward Classes Land Protection Act, 1938.

The working of these laws is reviewed below:

(i) The Rent Regulation Act, 1934

206. **THE RENT REGULATION ACT**—The purpose of this Act is to provide security of tenure on reasonable terms, to the tenants of the backward communities. In the first instance it was applied to the Raniparaj people in Vyara, Mangrol and Songadh talukas of the Navsari district. But in 1936, it was extended to the Raniparaj people of Sankheda and to thirty villages of Tilakwada in the Baroda district.

The economic condition of these people had been steadily deteriorating, their holdings had passed into the hands of money-lenders, and they had become mere tenants at will, cultivating the lands of which they were once owners. Cases of rack renting and arbitrary evictions were frequent. Under these circumstances, it was found desirable to legislate to ensure reasonable rents and security of tenure for the tenants in their holdings.

Under the Act

- (i) the naib suba is authorised to fix a fair rent on application of a tenant; but under no circumstance can the rent exceed 5 times the assessment;
- (ii) the tenant cannot be ejected so long as he pays his rent in time and does not commit an act of 'waste' in the land;
- (iii) if the proprietor wants the land for cultivating it himself, possession can be restored on condition that he will not lease it to some one else within three years.

Relief under the Act can be claimed only by a tenant, who had been cultivating a holding continuously for five years preceding his application.

The naib suba conducts all cases under the Act, but there is an appeal to the Sar Suba. Neither party can engage pleaders for these cases, and the civil courts have been deprived of their jurisdiction in cases in which relief can be obtained under this Act.

The following statement shows the relief obtained by the tenants and landlords :—

Type of cases	1940-41	1939-40	1938-39	1937-38	1936-37	1934-35
		BY TENANTS				
Ejectment of tenants	125	176	170	212	196	656
Modification of rent	78	155	290	15	18	43
Fixing of rent	276	1,043	530	389	515	949
Total	479	1,374	990	616	729	1,648
		BY LANDLORDS				
Restoration of possession of land	30	49	41	22	31	112
Suits for recovery of arrears of rent.	477	340	505	500	554	1,297
Total	507	389	546	522	585	1,409

The statement shows that in the last five years the tenants had recourse to law in 4,188 cases. The most common applications were for fixation or modification of rent, a fact which clearly shows how

effective and useful the Act has been. On the other hand landlords instituted 2,549 cases, mostly for the recovery of arrears of rent.

The effects of the legislation have been beneficial, and both tenants and landlords have recourse to it. The Raniparaj tenant has been assured a fair rent and security of tenure. Besides this, he has been saved from a number of exactions of which he was formerly a victim, such as cash payments or payment of assessment in addition to the rent of half the produce, and from practices such as impounding the produce of the field to ensure the rent. 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 provision of the Act imposing a maximum limit of five times the assessment on the rent has induced the landlords to compose their differences without recourse to law. The naib subas in most cases are able to settle rents by agreement between the parties, a procedure which ensures harmony. It is largely due to this, that relations between the parties have steadily improved since the introduction of the Act. The cases of ejectment have fallen from 656 in 1934-35 to 125 in 1940-41, of fixation of rent from 949 to 276, of suits for arrears from 1,297 to 477 and the total number of cases from 3,057 to 986.

(ii) Ankadia Villages' Tenants Act, 1934

207. ANKADIA VILLAGES' TENANTS ACT—In Ankadia villages the Government demand is assessed in a lump on the village as a whole and recovered from the ankadedars, the proprietors of the village. Till recently the Government did not interfere in the internal management and left the proprietors free to settle their relations with their tenants who cultivated their lands. Excessive rents, arbitrary ejectments and levy of taxes and imposts however threatened to disturb the relations between the two till Government interfered and by the Ankadia Villages' Tenants Act regulated the relations between them.

The Act secures to the tenant

- (i) *Security of tenure* : The rights of tenancy are declared heritable and the tenant cannot be ejected from his land except when he fails to pay rent continuously for two years, commits an act of waste in the land, denies the title of the Ankadedar, alienates the tenancy or sublets the land without permission of the Ankadedar.
- (ii) *Fair rent* : The naib suba is authorised on application from a tenant to fix a fair rent and the period for which it should continue.

- (iii) *Safeguard against arbitrary imposts:* The levy of any tax, cess or other impost not connected with the land is declared illegal.

The Act thus secures to the tenants security of tenure, inheritance of the tenancy, fair rents and safeguard against arbitrary imposts. To the Ankadedars it gives quick and easy remedy for the realisation of arrears of rent and for restoration of possession of their lands but no civil suit can be filed in matters which are entrusted under the Act to the naib suba.

The naib suba conducts all cases under the Act. An appeal lies to the Sar Suba.

The following statement gives information about the applications under the Act:—

	1940-41	1939-40	1938-39	1937-38	1936-37
FROM TENANTS					
Restoration of possession of land.	...	4	...	14	62
Fixation of rent.	...	...	...	...	12
Total.	...	4	...	14	74
FROM THAKORES					
Restoration of possession of land.	2	2	10	5	5
Fixation of rent.	...	...	...	...	48
Recovery of arrears.	...	...	3	25	24
	2	2	13	30	77

There has been a marked decrease in the number of cases from a total of 151 in 1936-37 to 2 in the year under report. Since 1937-38 and during the last 2 years there has not been a single application for fixing rents either from the tenants or the Thakores and during the last 2 years there have been no cases for recovery of arrears. All this indicates that the legislation had the desired effect and the relations between tenants and ankadedars are now established on reasonable and cordial basis.

(iii) The Agriculturist Debt Regulation Act, 1935

208. THE AGRICULTURIST DEBT REGULATION ACT—The legislation was enacted to give relief to the smaller agriculturists, whose real burden from debt had become intolerable, on account of the serious fall in prices. It was intended to be a purely temporary measure: with the return to normal level in prices the necessity for interference with the ordinary credit machinery will cease to exist.

It empowers the courts

- (a) to examine the history of the debt, reopen transactions and fix on equitable grounds the amount that should be paid, and
- (b) to decree repayment in easy instalments.

But relief under the Act is available to the smaller agriculturists only: to those whose income from land is less than Rs. 750, provided that two-thirds of the income is derived from agriculture.

The Act has been freely availed of by agriculturists, as will be seen from the following statement :—

(Amount in lakhs of rupees)

	1940-41	1938-39	1939-40	1937-38	Total
Total File	5,525	6,157	5,437	6,122	23,241
Amount involved	12·2	11·82	13·4	14·13	51·55
Cases in which reduction in debt ordered.	539	489	724	453	2,205
Amount	2·68	2·46	4·81	4·0	13·95
Cases in which reduction in interest ordered.	414	446	476	462	1,798
Amount	1·52	1·62	1·69	1·90	6·73
Cases in which payment of instalments ordered.	460	524	499	379	1,862
Cases compromised	2,253	2,066	2,353	3,050	9,722
Cases otherwise disposed	1,678	2,187	2,250	1,685	7,800
Court fees refunded	0·79	0·79	0·93	0·86	3·37

The total number of cases filed during the preceding 4 years was 23,241 and their total value about 52 lakhs. Of these, nearly 42 percent

were compromised. Reduction in debt was effected in nearly 9 percent and of interest in nearly 8 percent of cases. These cases involved Rs. 13.95 lakhs for debt and Rs. 6.73 lakhs for interest, that is, 40 percent of the total value of the suits. Instalments were allowed in 8 percent cases and the remaining 33 percent cases were disposed of otherwise.

The benefit of the Act is almost equally taken by all classes of people as the following statement will show :—

Community.	Percentage of people of the community receiving relief to the total	Percentage of khatedars of the community to the total
Patidar	30.8	34.9
Koli	2.4	9.1
Thakarda	5.2	7.4
Musalmanas	5.2	5.6
Rajput	6.2	3.7
Dhed	3.2	...
Brahmin	1.8	8.1
Vania	0.6	5.5
Rest	44.6	21.7
Total	100.0	100.0

(iv) The Debt Conciliation Act, 1936

209. THE DEBT CONCILIATION ACT—The primary object of this legislation is to reduce the burden of agricultural indebtedness through conciliation. The Act was applied at first to Sankheda, Sinor and Karjan talukas of the Baroda district and Mahuva taluka in Navsari. As a result of experience it was extended to Kodinar and Dhari talukas of the Amreli district in 1938, to Patan and Harij talukas of the Mehsana district and Amreli and Khambha talukas of the Amreli district in 1939, to Mangrol, Songadh, Vyara and Gandevi talukas in 1940. Recently, Government ordered that it should be extended to all areas covered by the operations of the land mortgage banks. The Act was accordingly extended to Dabhoi, Tilakwada and Waghodia talukas of the Baroda district and Kamrej and Palsana talukas of the Navsari district in 1941.

The Act is applicable only to agriculturists whose annual income does not exceed Rs. 750, and whose income from agriculture is not less than two-thirds his total income. The debt for which conciliation is sought should not be less than Rs. 100 or more than Rs. 25,000. In 1939, in order to extend the benefit of this legislation, the maximum income limit was extended to Rs. 1,500.

It was also made compulsory for the conciliation boards in giving their awards to give clear alternatives, (i) for lump sum settlements within not less than three months, as the debtor requires time to get his loan sanctioned from the land mortgage bank, or (ii) for payment by instalments with a fixed rate of interest.

The board examines the accounts produced by the creditors and attempts to compose the debts through compromise. If both parties fail to come to a settlement, the application is filed; if the creditor refuses to come to terms, a certificate is issued to the debtor and the creditor loses his rights to costs and to interest exceeding 6 per cent in any subsequent civil suit. If he fails to present himself or does not produce his accounts, the debt is declared null and void.

The debt conciliation boards are presided over by naib subas. The president is assisted by 3 to 9 members. To link up closely the work of the debt conciliation boards and the land mortgage banks, a director representing these banks serves on the board, wherever possible.

The conciliation boards dealt during the year with 333 cases in which the aggregate claim was for Rs. 8.11 lakhs. Conciliation was effected in 68 cases in which the claim was for Rs. 0.75 lakhs, for Rs. 0.58 lakhs or 77.3 per cent of the demand.

The number of applications and the amount of the debt involved are meagre when compared with the magnitude of rural indebtedness. The number of applications during the years since 1936-37 were 207, 329, 509, 361 and 333. The increase in the number has been slight and is due to the expansion of the area of the operation of the Act.

The facilities offered by the amendments of 1939 do not seem to have made the Act more popular. The figures do not show that agriculturists have realised the advantages offered by the Act. One of the reasons why people have not been coming forward to take greater advantage of the Act, is the inability of creditors to get ready cash in settlement of their debts. The extension of co-operative movement and of land mortgage banks will however go a long way to meet these needs.

(V) Backward Classes Land Protection Act, 1938

210. BACKWARD CLASSES LAND PROTECTION ACT—The Raniparaj and other backward classes, because of their poverty and ignorance, easily fall into debt and were being steadily ousted from their lands by money lenders. Statistics showed that in Sankheda and Tilakwada, during the quinquennium 1930-35, 14 per cent of their lands had passed out of their hands and the deterioration was progressive. The same state of things prevailed in the Navsari district. Such alie-

nation, if it had been allowed to continue, would ultimately have turned these people into a landless class, and would have defeated all the measures Government is taking for their uplift. The object of this Act is to prevent this.

The Act prohibits the alienation of lands of backward classes, except on one year's lease, without permission. The naib suba is empowered to give permission, provided the land is to be alienated to a person belonging to a backward community. Land which has been alienated against rules is restored by the naib suba.

The Act, by preventing alienation, has curtailed the credit of their proprietors. Therefore, along with this legislation for their protection, co-operative societies have been organised to finance them, and in order to facilitate lending, co-operative societies, agricultural banks and land mortgage banks have been allowed to accept the Raniparaj lands in mortgage without the consent of the naib subas. But lands so mortgaged to co-operative institutions, cannot be alienated except on one year's lease.

The Act has been applied to Songadh, Vyara, Mahuva, and Mangrol talukas of the Navsari district, and Sankheda, Tilakwada, Dabhoi, and Waghodia talukas of the Baroda district.

CHAPTER XIV

AGRICULTURE

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

- A. Research—**
 - (a) Plant breeding and pathology.
 - (b) Agricultural chemistry.
- B. Agriculture—**
 - (a) Farms and experiments.
 - (b) Propaganda and education.
 - (c) Schemes.
 - (d) Seed supply organisation.
- C. Animal husbandry and veterinary relief.**
- D. Poultry development.**
- E. Horticulture.**
- F. Agricultural engineering.**
- G. Marketing.**

A. Research

212. COTTON ROOT ROT—It was estimated in 1932 when the scheme for research of cotton root rot was taken up, that this disease caused a loss of Rs. 75 lakhs a year in Gujarat, of which Rs. 25 lakhs was in the State.

On the pathological side, the viability of the infecting organisms, the *macrophomina phaseoli*, and the process of infection formed the chief subjects of study during the year. Important data were collected, which indicate that it may be possible to bring the disease under control by cultural operations in summer. The value of bajri, as a barrier against this fungus in the soil, was confirmed by further field trials. On the whole, however, the research extending over nine years shows that the control of this disease lies, primarily, in the evolution of a type of cotton possessing high resisting power against root rot and high economic characters. After trials with almost all the important types

Karkhadi was found to be the only cotton which resisted the disease. But the Karkhadi staple is of a very poor quality – its spinning performance is only 10 against 24 of Broach 9. The present efforts are therefore directed to improve the staple by hybridisation with quality cottons such as 1027 A. L. F. and Sg 76-12.

213. PATHOLOGICAL RESEARCH ON OTHER CROPS—Investigations with regard to diseases in other crops were also carried out. The system of taking crops on raised beds and application of Bordeaux mixture were found equally effective against soft rot in ginger and nemotoda disease of turneric, and further field experiments to demonstrate this were conducted. Bhendi and brinjal were found to be susceptible carriers of pepper nemotodes. Alternaria blight of onions was effectively controlled by Bordeaux mixture.

214. AGRICULTURAL CHEMISTRY—The Agricultural Chemist investigated

- (i) the growth of different cottons in different tracts,
- (ii) the nature of the colloidal matter of black cotton soils,
- (iii) the cause of unusual mal-formation in ginger,
- (iv) the effects of fertilisers on the quality of Virginia tobacco,
- (v) the mineral constituents of different grades of tobacco and of tobacco of different districts,
- (vi) the effect of soil moisture on germination of tobacco seeds,
- (vii) the soluble salt content in the soil of Harij dry farm in the Mehsana district,
- (viii) the application of the rapid chemical methods of analysis to soils and irrigation water,
- (ix) the nature of the tube well water in Vijapur, and
- (x) the absorption of nutrients by Cicer Arientum.

The Agricultural Chemist continued to guide the analytical and research work of the cane chemist at the sugarcane station at Vyara.

215. CROP RESEARCH—Crop research was conducted at five main stations : Baroda, Amreli, Dabhoi, Jagudan and Vyara. 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. On Dabhoi farm 45 varieties of paddy from outside were compared with local varieties and cultural experiments carried out to study the effects of irrigation, green manuring and fertilisers. Several promising types of tils with

higher yields have been isolated. In bajri, experiments were continued to secure an earlier strain in the high yielding type known as Baroda Farm. Trials comparing castor from various parts of India with Baroda farm castor were conducted at Jagudan, and Vyara farm dealt with selection of sugarcane.

B. Agriculture

216. EXPERIMENTAL FARMS—Separate farms have been established for each of the distinctive agricultural tracts of the State, to experiment with crops and processes 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 eight 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 the crops of the district such as cotton, bajri, wheat, tobacco, til and onions. The horticultural section experimented with new and improved varieties of lemons, bananas, pomegranates etc. In the fruit preservation laboratory, fruit canning, bottling of juices, preparation of jams and jellies are taught. Attached to the farm is Sheth Dosabhai Maganlal Agricultural Institute, which offers courses in different subjects of agriculture. The farm supplied 4,147 lbs. of B. 9 nucleus seeds, 3,880 lbs. of wheat seed and 2,040 lbs. of T. 21 paddy, and other seeds.

Dabhoi farm: It has an area of 118 bighas of medium black, black cotton, gorat and kyari lands. The farm serves as the centre of production of pedigree seeds of B. D. 8 cotton, which is found to be the type best suited to this tract. Of this seed, 5,760 lbs. were supplied during the year. Experiments with open field paddy are also conducted here in co-operation with the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. Special problems connected with the irrigation of black cotton soils and the utilisation of Wadhvana tank water are also being studied.

In the Navsari district there are two farms: the Vyara farm for the sugarcane area of Gandevi and the Vesma farm which serves the cotton interests of the district.

Vyara farm: The area of this farm is about 47 bighas of black kyari soil. Its principal function is to experiment with different types of sugarcane and supply sets of improved cane to cultivators. The cane investigation is conducted in co-operation with the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. As a result of past work on various canes, C. O. 419, C. O. 421 and C. O. 527 are found to yield the best results—C. O. 527 yielded 10,453 lbs. of gul against 9,086 lbs. by P. O. J. 2878 per acre.

Experimental work with paddy, which rotates with cane, has also been taken up. It has been found that in early coarse types Patni 6, in early fine types K 501, and in late fine types K 540 are best suited.

The farm also supplied 20,000 lbs. of paddy seeds, and for cane extension in Umra and Gandevi 30,575 sets of cane.

Vesma farm : The area of the farm is 106 bighas representing the black cotton soil of the Navsari district. The primary function of the farm is to supply nucleus seeds of 1027 A. L. F. for the extension of the seed organisation, and during the year 7,803 lbs. of such seeds were issued to the organisation.

Cultural and manurial experiments with other types of cotton, ground nut and jowar were also carried out.

Jagudan farm : The area of the farm is 88 bighas representing the sandy alluvial soil of the tract. The farm is associated with Dholleras cotton improvement scheme of the Indian Central Cotton Committee and conducts experiments with Wagad types of cotton. After systematic experiments and field trials the following types have been recommended to the cultivators—cotton Wagad 8, groundnut A. H. 32, jowar Ramkhel, bajri Jagudani, and wheat Cawnpore 13.

Attached to the farm is Seth Bhogilal Rajaram Institute, which offers long and short term courses in agriculture.

The farm produced 1,36,500 lbs. of compost manure and supplied over 3,000 lbs. of Wagad 8 seeds, 8,000 lbs. of Jagudani bajri, 2,000 lbs. of jowar, and 6,500 lbs. of Cawnpore 13 wheat.

Amreli farm : It has an area of 105 bighas of medium black soil of the tract. The Dholleras cotton scheme is in operation at this farm also. The best pure type at present is C. 520 but plant breeding has provided with two exceptionally good strains of Mathio cotton and further experiments and trials are being conducted. Crop tests were also laid out on groundnut, jowar, bajri, wheat and sugarcane. Trials of urine earth and compost manures were continued and 1,53,000 lbs. of compost and urine earth produced; and 3,76+ lbs. of A. H. 32 groundnut, 1,700 lbs. of C. 13 wheat, and 55,000 sets of sugarcane were issued for seed purposes. There is a poultry section attached to the farm with 153 birds.

Harij farm : It covers 100 bighas of salt crusted soil. Experiments were conducted to wash away the salt accumulations and make the land fit for cultivation, if not for crops at least for grass. The plot was divided into blocks by deep drains and bunds, and the effect of rainfall on salt accumulations studied.

Kalyanpura farm : It has an area of 78 bighas. It will serve the very useful purpose of developing good agriculture among the Waghers whose methods of farming are primitive in the extreme. The work on the farm has however been held up by two successive famines.

217. PROPAGANDA—The crux of the problem in agriculture is to link the work of the experimental farms with the villages, to make the agriculturist adopt the varieties, 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 work units* : This is the most important and the wide spread section of agricultural propaganda. Areas selected for intensive work are divided into units of about twenty villages and each unit again divided into three or four sub-units. A unit is in charge of an overseer, and a sub-unit under a kamgar assisted by a fieldman, all trained on the Government farms. The kamgars carry out selected experiments on farms of agriculturists as an object lesson to the villagers, besides distributing improved seeds and implements and showing improved methods of collecting manure. In this work, they are assisted more and more, by the better farming societies, which have been established in the villages of these units. On this plan, there were 18 units serving 417 villages of all the districts. The following figures indicate the good work these units did during the year :—

	Baroda district	Navsari district	Mehsana district	Amreli district	Total 1940-41	Total 1939-40
Crop trials on agriculturists' farms.	175	238	929	563	1,905	2,546
Compost collected in thousands of lbs.	7,742	398	1,623	6,974	16,737	12,214

In the areas outside the intensive zones, graduate assistants tour with itinerant carts, according to settled programmes. These too, show the cultivators improved seeds and implements, teach them the best methods of collecting and preserving manure and distribute seeds and implements at concession price. During the year, 29 itineraries were completed, halting at 252 villages. Over 1,50,000 people attended lantern lectures and cart exhibitions. In the Me and Amreli districts alone, nearly 1,496 field demonstrations in manure making and use of implements were given.

(ii) *Agricultural education*—Another important means of disseminating knowledge among the rural population is to train young agriculturists at Government farms, so that they may go back to their lands with greater experience and knowledge and become more efficient farmers. Courses in agriculture are given at the farms at Baroda, Jagudan and Amreli. The Baroda farm has a long course extending over a year and several short courses of six to twelve weeks, giving instruction in practical farming, and special subjects such as tobacco production and curing, poultry rearing, horticulture, oil engine and tractor, dairy and live stock. One hundred students are taken up at a time. At Jagudan and Amreli farms, similar one year and short courses are being conducted. All students receive stipends while they are in the farms. The candidates that go back from year to year to their villages after training, help to improve the standard of cultivation in the neighbourhood.

(iii) *Tours and exhibitions*—The third means of propaganda is conducted tours, agricultural shows, exhibitions and demonstrations. During the year 67 leading agriculturists, interested in agricultural progress and research, were taken to the institutions of the department at Government expense.

218. **RURAL RECONSTRUCTION CENTRES**—A rural reconstruction centre is an efficient agency for spreading agricultural knowledge but it is not merely that. Its aim is to develop in the people living in villages, a desire for a higher standard of living “the will to live better”, and to bring into existence in the area enthusiastic workers with qualities of leadership who can eventually take over, maintain and develop the work of the centre. This object is achieved by establishing in every village of the centre a co-operative society, whose aim is to effect improvement in all aspects of rural life and whose functions comprise all objects of utility to the village. When such societies have been established in all the villages, a union will be formed which will be entrusted with the task of continuing the work of the centre.

219. **KOSAMBA CENTRE**—The Kosamba centre was established in 1930-31. Its activities are twofold:—

- (i) work at the centre,
- (ii) work in the selected villages.

The activities at the centre were directed towards subsidiary occupations like poultry keeping, kitchen and flower gardening, holding summer school for cottage industries, scouting, sanitation and cottage industries like spinning, weaving, carding, tape-making etc. The summer school was attended by 25 candidates. Nine teachers, two vahivatdars and officers of the other development departments attended the officers' rural uplift class.

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

- (i) Cotton 1027 A. L. F.—About 1,500 cultivators cultivated improved 1027 A. L. F. cotton on about 45,000 bighas.
- (ii) Crop tests—Crop tests on Budhperio jowar, No. 53 ground nut, tobacco, cow peas and fodder crops were continued.
- (iii) Manure—The production of urine earth and compost manure has become popular and 7,017 cart loads were prepared by 526 cultivators.
- (iv) Fertilisers—Over 13,000 lbs. of fertilisers were taken besides what was secured direct by the societies.
- (v) Boll worm—About 600 plant pullers were sold.
- (vi) Improvement of cattle and poultry—About 700 calves were produced from pedigree stud bulls as against 500 in the preceding year; 615 families have 2,571 R. I. R. and white leghorn birds.
- (vii) Kitchen gardens—Practically every cultivator has a kitchen and fruit garden.
- (viii) Cottage industries—1,007 yards of hand woven cloth from yarn produced by the villagers themselves, and 38,802 ft. of bed tape were made by 301 persons.
- (ix) Marketing—The centre helped to market the surplus produce—ghee, poultry, khaddar, bed tapes—of the centre villages, and made a profit of Rs. 350. Marketing of 1,027 A. L. F. cotton was undertaken and 2,392 bales produced at the centre were sold at an average premium of Rs. 11–8–0 per candy.
- (x) Sanitation and medical relief—25 village dispensary organised in the preceding year continued to work; 317 bore holes and 40 septic tanks were made.

These figures are fairly impressive but it is the steady change in the outlook of these villages which is the matter for real satisfaction.

220. KARJAN CENTRE—The rural reconstruction centre at Karjan was started in 1938–39. It concentrated its work in the surrounding ten villages dealing with agricultural improvement, live stock, cottage industries, adult education, sanitation and other activities relating to rural welfare. The work, which is still in its preliminary stages, consisted mainly of the following activities :—

- (i) B. D. 8 cotton expansion ;

- (ii) poultry development and grading up of the local flocks by R. I. R. cocks;
- (iii) kitchen gardening and planting of trees;
- (iv) spinning, tailoring etc.;
- (v) introduction of bore hole latrines and soakage pits;
- (vi) adult education;
- (vii) other activities such as organising thrift societies and general propaganda for better living.

221. DEODARDA THAKARDA SCHOOL—Similar in aims to these reconstruction centres is the Thakarda boarding school at Deodarda, near Patan, financed from the Diamond Jubilee Trust.

The school aims primarily at three things, viz :—

- (i) to teach good agriculture,
- (ii) to instill among the boys 'the will to live better', and
- (iii) to train up leaders,

so that when the boys go back to their villages they may make good cultivators and good members of their community. In this way the school will become the centre of rural reconstruction among the Thakardas of that area.

The school has a farm of 93 bighas and accommodation for a hundred boys. Education is partly literary and partly manual, manual education consisting of agriculture, poultry keeping and cottage industries.

222. EFFECTS OF PROPAGANDA—The effects of this propaganda are indicated by the increase in the use of modern implements, fertilisers, better seeds and manure during the last five years.

	1935-36	1939-40	1940-41
Major implements	27	913	735
Minor implements	3,050	6,815	5,973
	in lakhs of pounds		
Fertilisers	1'2	21'3	20'00
Manure made by the agriculturists	6'27 *	14'76	20'28
Pedigree seeds issued	4'6	13'77	33'13

* 1936-37 figures.

As indicated by these figures of purchases from the department, the use of pedigree seeds has increased 8 times, of fertilizers 20 times, of major implements 27 times, and the making of urine earth and compost manure has increased from 6·27 lakh pounds in 1936-37 to 20·28 lakhs.

Schemes

223. ASSISTED SCHEMES—The following schemes were worked in co-operation with the Indian Central Cotton Committee :—

- (i) The cotton plant puller propaganda scheme—This has been in operation in the Baroda and Navsari districts since 1935. Its object is to introduce the practice of pulling out cotton plant by the root, a practice which would lead to suppression of spotted boll-worm and an ultimate increase of cotton yield by 16 to 20 per cent. The campaign during the year was almost entirely restricted to the Baroda district on account of the shortage of plant pullers and the very high prices of iron pullers required for Navsari. In the Baroda district, however, good work was done. Seven talukas where intensive propaganda had not yet been done were taken up and 2,00,000 bighas in 306 villages were handled. The area cleaned was 64 per cent, which must be considered high for a new area. In over 150 villages the pulling area exceeded 90 per cent. In addition, work was continued in 150 villages. Nearly 5,000 pullers were sold and there was a demand for 1,000 more, but they were not available.

It is now possible to make the practice compulsory under the Noxious Pest Control Act as the large majority of cultivators have been convinced by propaganda and results.

- (ii) The 1027 A. L. F. extension scheme—This reached its final stage in that the Cotton Control Act was passed prohibiting the cultivation of any other except 1027 A. L. F. cotton from seeds which had to be obtained from authorised seed depots. Provision for the supply of seeds of known purity was made and 21 depots were opened in different parts of the district. These stocked 2,156 cart loads of 1027 A. L. F. seeds of known purity. Government sanctioned Rs. 5,000 in order to make the seeds available to cultivators at the local market price. The entire area was sown with this seed but the heavy rains of July made resowing over large areas necessary and it is doubtful whether there will be complete uniformity of cultivation.
- (iii) B. D. 8 cotton extension scheme—The Dabhoi farm has been established to work this scheme. It began functioning in April 1939 and has made steady progress. Over 10,000

bighas were sown but seasonal defects left only 6,600 bighas of checked purity and the yield was poor but the cotton was sold at a premium of Rs. 41 to 85 per candy over Broach. The quantity of seeds sold indicate that in 1941-42 over 20,000 bighas will be under this cotton.

- (iv) Dholleras cotton improvement scheme at Jagudan and Amreli—This scheme is in its fourth year. The technical control rests with the Viramgam cotton breeder.

There are two schemes which are conducted with the financial aid of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research—(i) investigation of suitable types of sugar cane for Gujarat which is carried on at the Vyara Farm, and (ii) the study of open field paddy at Dabhoi farm, started during the year.

224. STATE SCHEMES—Besides these there were important schemes undertaken by the State on its own.

(i) THE VIRGINIA TOBACCO EXPANSION SCHEME—In the previous year the Government had sanctioned Rs. 50,000 for establishing four centres where cultivators were to be subsidised to grow Virginia tobacco, and for construction of barns to which the green leaf could be brought and cured. During the year the two centres in the Baroda district, established in 1939-40, were developed and new centres at Jagudan and Amreli organised. Altogether the area under the scheme was 70 bighas in the Baroda district and 15 in Amreli and 43 at Jagudan. The farms at Baroda and Dabhoi also undertook their cultivation. The results were disappointing. On the Baroda centres cured leaf formed only 20 per cent of the green leaf and the cost of production per lb was As. 5 as against an income of As. 4.3. The percentage of top grade leaf was also much below 65, which is necessary for profitable cultivation of Virginia tobacco in Gujarat. The green leaf at Amreli and Jagudan, though of excellent quality in appearance, failed to cure effectively. The ratio of cured leaf to green was 1 to 6 and income to cost of production 1 to 5.75.

(ii) THE GANDEVI SUGAR CANE SCHEME—This is a six years' scheme aiming at the development of growers' cane supply association round Gandevi factory, and the general improvement of the standard of cane cultivation. To organise the association, the services of a co-operative organiser were obtained on loan from the United Provinces. Farmers are encouraged to grow more and better cane by concessions in irrigation rates, by trade advances and loans for manures, fertilisers and seeds and by transport improvement.

The new water lifting station on the Ambica river, which will irrigate 750 bighas, was completed. The Gandevi factory has taken on lease the whole area for 25 years for intensive cane cultivation. These efforts at development have been so far successful that the company could get during the year 4.15 lakh maunds of local cane against 2.5 lakhs in the preceding year.

225. PREVENTION OF SOIL EROSION—There is much loss from soil erosion which goes on unchecked in Gujarat and Kathiawad, from sheet erosion on farmer's fields or by gully (Kotar) erosion on the denuded sources of streams and along the banks of the larger rivers, like the Sabarmati and the Shetrunji. To educate the people to the seriousness of this loss and discover the best ways of checking the evil, the Government established a separate organisation with a special soil conservation officer under the control of a committee consisting of the Sar Suba, the Commissioner of Agriculture, the Chief Engineer and the Conservator of Forests. Funds have been provided for preliminary operations

- (a) at the head waters of the Shetrunji river, south of Dhari,
- (b) in the area to the west of Dhari—Amreli road, and
- (c) at Hirapura, as typical of the area bordering the Sabarmati.

In the Dhari section operations were started in an area of about two square miles, containing eroded cultivated land, denuded forest areas, over-grazed gaucher and many ravines. Grazing was closed; cultivated area of about 200 bighas was provided with contour terraces; the forest area was prepared for replanting by rough contour trenching and construction of bunds; and the plugging of minor kotars started.

In the Hirapura area it was decided to contour terrace an area of about 1,600 bighas of cultivated land now falling away to the river, to acquire all areas at the head of the kotars and to start operations to prevent their advance into the open country. The opposition of Hirapura villagers prevented effective progress and apart from contour bunding of some 200 bighas and the work at the head of the kotars, little could be done.

The work was also taken up by the Government farms and contour terracing effectively demonstrated on the Amreli, Jagudan and Deodarda farms and pamphlets on the subject were distributed. There are indications that the cultivator is becoming aware of the evil and about 300 bighas were contour terraced for cultivators on request and other applications for assistance have been received.

226. SEED ORGANISATION—Once a new variety has been established as superior by experiments at the farms and a popular demand

created by propaganda, the cultivator should be able to get the pure seed if the variety is to remain pure. To meet this need the department has built up a seed organisation. The seed farm supplies seed to a nucleus of growers who grow their seeds under close supervision for the farm depot. The farm depot distributes seeds to 'A' grade certified farmers, whose produce in its turn will pass out to unions of growers and hence, through the seed depots, to the ordinary cultivator. Such organisations have been built up for cotton 1027 A. L. F. in Navsari, B. D. 8 and B. 9 in Baroda, Wagad 8 in Mehsana, C. 520 in Amreli, for Pusa 4 and Pusa 52 wheats, A. H. 32 and A. H. 25 ground nuts, P. O. J. 2878 and C. O. 419 sugar cane, Jagudani bajri, paddy types T. 1 and T. 21, and Kolam 79 and Kolam 226. The 1027 A. L. F. stores were so adequate that it was possible to prohibit all other cotton in the Navsari district.

The following figures show the expansion in the seed organisation :—

1935-36	4.6 lakh lbs. issued	} Almost entirely purchased from Bombay Entirely raised in the State
1939-40	13.77 lakh lbs. issued	
1940-41	36.43 lakh lbs. issued	

C. Veterinary

227. VETERINARY RELIEF—Two more dispensaries were added during the year, making the total number 37. The number of cases treated was 58,529 against 66,239 in 1939-40. The daily average attendance per dispensary, however, increased from 13.4 in the preceding year to 14.19 and the expenditure per case decreased from As. 10.5 to As. 8.5 during the year.

The number of reported cases of outbreaks of contagious disease was 241, as against 305 in the previous year. These were attended to by the veterinary surgeons, and 1,17,581 animals were protected from rinderpest and haemorrhagic septicaemia by vaccination or inoculation as against 89,636 in 1939-40. During the year 3,282 animals were castrated as against 3,164 animals in 1939-40 by means of Burdizzo castrator.

228. LIVE STOCK IMPROVEMENT—There were three schemes in operation for the improvement of live stock :—

- (a) Rabari colonisation scheme.
- (b) Kankrej breeding farm scheme.
- (c) The premium bull scheme.

(a) *The Rabari colonisation scheme*—The objects of the scheme are three:—

- (i) the controlled improvement of grass lands and livestock;
- (ii) the elimination of the conflict between the cultivators and the Rabaris due to the depredation of the cattle of the Rabaris; and
- (iii) the general uplift of the community.

The need of the Rabaris for pastures is met by establishing Rabari colonies on cultivable waste lands, on condition that along with the raising of cattle they will grow fodder crops; and secondly, by controlled improvement of grass. The settlements are at first being tried in the Mehsana district where the problem is most acute.

The year was devoted primarily to consolidation of the colonists and settlers on the two colonies and five settlements. These cover an area of 4,735 bighas on which 113 families have been settled. The Belasar area of 1,640 bighas was cleared and fenced and provided with huts and water supply. The colony will eventually consist of 30 families, eighteen of whom have already settled. The colony will pay rent of its land and irrigation by raising three murrah buffalo bulls per family every year, which will be available free of cost to Government for grading up the Mehsana buffalo. For the use of the colonies, 18 selected murrah calves have been brought from the Punjab and more will be imported every year.

As there were clear indications that the community has begun to appreciate the value of these schemes—79 applications from 16 villages have been received—a general survey was carried out for the selection of other suitable waste lands for expansion of the scheme. As a result, areas in 117 villages have been earmarked for the purpose and three Rabari settlements and one Thakarda were being organised.

(b) *The Kankrej breeding farm*—This scheme has been developed to supply pure bred Kankrej bull to be used for improving the village and rabari cattle. It is worked in co-operation with a local land owner at Khoraj in the Kadi taluka. The Government placed on loan 50 cows, a bull and 25 young bull calves and gave the owner assistance in building sheds and improving water supply. The owner will raise male calves produced by the herd for purchase by Government. During the year there were 35 calves, progeny of the foundation animals, of which 16 were males. Due to bad management however only five were considered fit for purchase by Government.

(c) *The premium bull scheme*—According to this scheme six gir bulls are to be introduced every year in six villages of Kodinar for four years. The total number of bulls now in service is 14, which

during the year served 448 cows. The progeny of these bulls are noticeably superior to the local breed. Besides these, there were 13 Kankrej premium bulls in service during the year, mostly at the Rabari colonies and settlements. These covered 306 animals.

229. **MAKARPURA DAIRY**—The strength of the herd during the year was 185 as against 160 in 1939–40. During the year 1,15,006 lbs. of milk were produced as against 1,68,289 lbs. in the preceding year. The expenditure and receipts of the dairy were Rs. 32,947 and Rs. 11,053 respectively as against Rs. 33,138 and Rs. 15,385 in 1939–40.

D. Poultry

230. **POULTRY DEVELOPMENT**—During the year poultry centres with flocks of pure bred Rhode Island Red birds were started at the farms at Amreli, Dabhoi and Vyara, and at the rural reconstruction centre at Karjan and the Deodarda Thakarda boarding school. There were thus eight centres including the three older centres of Makarpura, Baroda and Kosamba. These issued during the year 163 cocks and 1,510 eggs for hatching.

Batches of young men are trained in poultry keeping and established as poultry farmers in their villages, which it is expected, will become centres of poultry development for the neighbourhood. These men are given scholarships during training and subsidies from the Diamond Jubilee Trust fund. There were 16 such centres during the year and they had between them 1,800 birds. All except one chicken farmer hatched more than 100 chickens during the season, and 126 cocks were distributed in 43 villages and 3,000 eggs were sold for hatching.

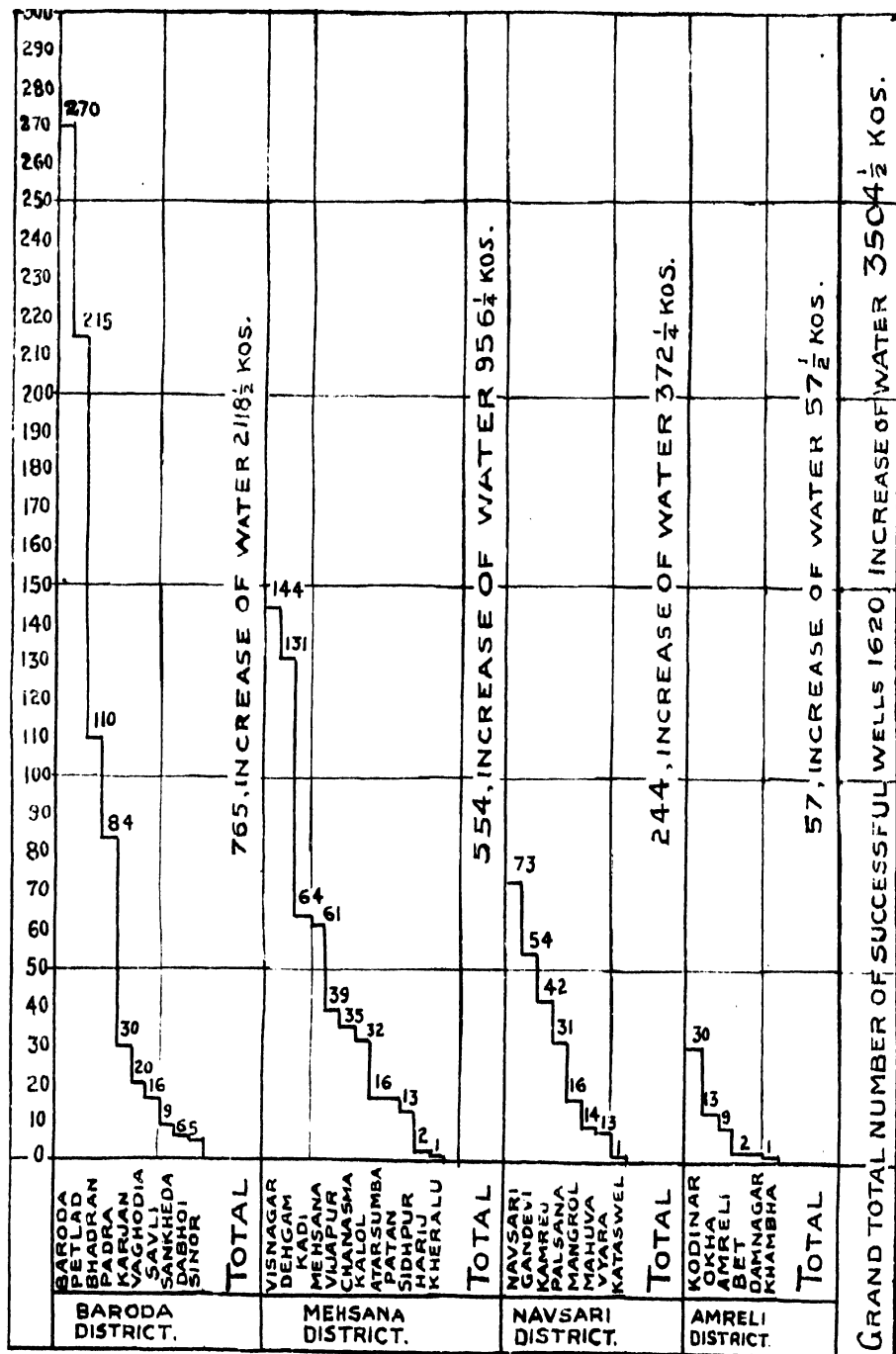
E. Horticulture

231. **NURSERIES**—Kodinar and Dhari hold possibilities of becoming important fruit growing centres in Kathiawad. The Government, therefore, laid out a nursery plot at Dhari in 1937–38 intending it to become the centre of fruit growers' association, and announced several important concessions, such as easy terms for securing land for orchards. The nursery is now fully established and local farmers are beginning to get interested. The association has now 29 members. During the year 2,700 plants were sold.

Similarly, at Kodinar a small plot of 20 bighas was started in 1938–39 as a joint enterprise with the Kodinar Banking Union. Seedlings of papaya, lemon and mango are now ready for sale.

The Gandevi nursery has an area of about 37 bighas. It was established in 1938–39 to act as a nursery and an experimental station

TOTAL NUMBER OF SUCCESSFUL WELLS BORED IN
EACH TALUKA FROM 1911 TO 1940-41.



for fruit growing for Gandevi which is one of the most important fruit growing centres in Gujarat.

232. **ORCHARD EXPANSION**—The substantial progress in fruit farming—an increase of 3,750 bighas in the area under fruit—noted in the preceding year was kept up. Over two hundred thousand Basrai banana suckers were planted in the Baroda district during the year and 6,271 fruits plants and over 500 Kew pine apple suckers were sold from the department orchards. Tangelo, Malta and Naval oranges, Italian lemons and grape fruits have been introduced and are doing well.

233. **FRUIT PRESERVATION**—Regular classes and demonstrations in fruit preservation are held at the Baroda farm laboratory. In the villages of Karjan centre the demonstrations were given which were attended by 150 women.

F. Agricultural engineering

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

- (i) *Boring*:—Of the 72 applications for boring 58 were taken up, 30 bores completed successfully, 19 were incomplete and the remaining given up. The increase in supply of water was 53 kos.
- (ii) *Well blasting*:—The number of wells drilled and blasted was 242, yielding an increase of 171 kos of water. The high price of materials and the difficulty in getting pipes are responsible for the falling off in the number both of bores and wells.
- (iii) *Tractor ploughing*:—In the Baroda and Navsari districts 2,454 bighas were ploughed and disced by tractors under contract.
- (iv) *Education*:—The oil engine class and the tractor class had 32 and 15 students respectively during the year. In all 592 students have taken advantage of these classes.

G. Marketing

235. **MARKETING OF COTTON**—The scheme for better marketing of 1027 A. L. F. cotton continued to operate in co-operation with the Indian Central Cotton Committee. Its object is to secure a price for the cotton commensurate with its quality as compared with mixed Surti and selection A of the Navsari district. The bales were graded and marked under the Agricultural Produce (grading and marking) Act. The purity of the bales is guaranteed by a large field staff which controls and supervises the growing of the cotton in the field, its ginning and baling.

The marketing of the crop was financed by a loan of Rs. 5 lakhs secured from the Bank of Baroda. The loan enabled the advance payment upto 70 per cent of the value of the kapas on delivery at the pooling centre. The Government again sanctioned Rs. 15,000 free of interest, as recoverable imprest, for advance to societies and groups as against ginning, pressing and insurance charges. There were seven pooling centres at which 19 societies and 35 groups pooled their crop as against 16 and 19 respectively in 1939-40 and 5 and 4 respectively in 1938-39. The total number of bales thus graded was 5,575 as against 6,750 in 1939-40 and 2,760 in 1938-39. The decline of 18 per cent was due entirely to the poor crop. The average premium per candy on the total sales was Rs. 13-11-2 as against Rs. 10-6-9 in 1939-40 over the local Surti cotton and Rs. 23-14-0 over selection 1 A. The total premium received was Rs. 32,623 as against Rs. 34,716 in the preceding year.

The appreciation of 1027 A. L. F., when available under certificate of purity, is steadily rising and it is a matter of satisfaction that this marketing scheme enables the producer to take the whole premium due to certified quality.

The B. D. 8 cotton crop suffered from seasonal condition and this year only 208 bales were sold under departmental certificate and stamp as against 862 bales in the preceding year. The average premium per candy for certified B. D. 8 over uncertified was Rs. 19.

236. GRADING—Four ghee grading stations operated during the year. The total quantity of ghee graded was 69,372 lbs. valued at Rs. 51,970 as against 4,21,508 lbs. valued at Rs. 2,74,000 in 1939-40. Shortage of ghee of specific standard and high cost of tins have been mainly responsible for the decline in the amount of ghee graded.

An egg-grading centre was started at Anaval in the Navsari district in January 1941 and 32,671 eggs valued at Rs. 985 were graded and Agmarked. The grading has led to an increase in the return of 2 to 5 pies per egg.

237. BODELI COTTON MARKET—The number of bhars of kapas brought to the regulated cotton market at Bodeli was 47,467 as against 43,531 in 1939-40. The income and expenditure were Rs. 8,680 and Rs. 4,820 as against Rs. 6,376 and Rs. 1,934 respectively in the previous year. Arrangements are in progress to open a similar market at Amreli.

238. EXPENDITURE—The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 6.41 lakhs as against Rs. 6.18 lakhs in the preceding year. Besides this, the Diamond Jubilee Trust Fund contributed Rs. 65,011 and the

Sayajirao Memorial Trust Rs. 25,340 for financing the following schemes:—

- (i) Thakarda boarding house at Deodarda;
- (ii) Cotton boll-worm eradication;
- (iii) Rabari colonisation;
- (iv) Poultry improvement;
- (v) Soil conservation;
- (vi) Supply of agricultural implements and seeds at concession rate to backward agriculturists.

The following schemes continued in operation with financial aid from the I. C. C. C. and the I. C. A. R. :—

	Annual contribution of the I. C. C. C. & the I.C.A.R.
	Rs.
Cotton root rot	10,888
1027 A. L. F. cotton seed distribution	5,189
B. D. 8 cotton extension	2,963
Plant-puller propaganda	6,604
Dholleras cotton improvement	3,698
Better marketing of 1027 A. L. F. cotton	3,796
Investigations of suitable types of canes for Gujarat	2,160
Paddy research scheme	2,000
	37,298

239. SCHEMES UNDER CONSIDERATION—Proposals have been submitted to the Indian Central Cotton Committee for sanctioning the following schemes:—

- (i) scheme for a cotton marketing survey of the area covering Gujarat, the adjoining agencies and States of Kathiawad and South Rajputana;
- (ii) B. 9 cotton seed storage scheme for light (gorat) soils in the areas north of the Mahi river.

Extension proposals have been submitted to the Indian Central Cotton Committee in respect of (a) Cotton root rot scheme, and (b) Dholleras cotton improvement scheme.

Scheme for co-ordinated research on millets and pulses is being submitted to the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research, and extension of the scheme of suitable types of cane for Gujarat has been applied for.

The Government have sanctioned

- (i) the establishment of an anti-rinderpest goat-virus vaccine laboratory in Baroda, and
- (ii) a boarding school for backward class boys at Dabhoi to be run on the same lines as the Thakarda boarding school at Deodarda.

240. ACTS AND RULES—The following Acts and rules were sanctioned and brought into operation:—

- (i) The Cotton Control Act (1941) for 1027 A. L. F. cotton in the Navsari district.
 - (ii) The Baroda State Agricultural Pests and Disease Act of 1940 was applied to Kodinar taluka and necessary notification issued to eradicate and prevent spread of the parasite *Cuscuta* found widely spread in lucerne.
 - (iii) The Agricultural Produce (grading and marking) general rules.
 - (iv) The Agricultural Produce (grading and marking) ghee rules, 1938.
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CHAPTER XV

CO-OPERATION

241. MAIN FEATURES—In the development of co-operation, the department continued to follow the policy of consolidation and of expansion of the scope of the movement to include “better produce, better sale and better living,” so that the societies should become centres of village reconstruction. The main features of this development are:—

Firstly, the active reconditioning of weak societies: A thorough inquiry is made into the financial condition of societies, which have failed to repay their loans to the central banks, and of their members. For societies which are solvent and give hope of improvement, programmes of repayment are drawn up on condition that members pay the instalments regularly. On the other hand societies in which reconstruction is not likely to be successful are taken into liquidation.

Secondly, the introduction of the controlled credit system, under which loans advanced are for the purposes of agricultural operations, and are limited to a proportion of the value of the produce calculated according to fixed rates on the area cultivated, and the repayment assured by insisting that the produce should be sold through the society. During the year 13 new and 19 established societies were induced to adopt controlled credit.

Thirdly, insistence on the quality of the movement in respect of future extension: New rural credit societies are only registered, when the need is clearly established, and they have succeeded in enlisting the co-operation of disinterested workers.

Fourthly, the organisation of multi-purpose societies: The department devoted considerable attention to the extension of co-operation to various forms of non-credit work, so as 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 large expansion of co-operative sale of cotton is a notable development of recent years.

Fifthly, education in co-operative methods: The Baroda Central Co-operative Institute regularly holds classes for training secretaries in the principles of co-operation, rural economics and accounts. During the year thirty six secretaries were trained.

The measures which the Government have taken to ensure efficiency on the part of the auditors are:

- (i) Auditors on appointment are given four months' training in the department, before being entrusted with an independent charge;
- (ii) Every year some auditors are sent to Gurdaspur or Poona training classes. The Government have recently sanctioned a special training class for auditors in Baroda.

242. GENERAL SURVEY—The total number of societies increased by 6 from 1,297 to 1,303, but of these 228 or 16 per cent were under liquidation, and 1,075 were working as against 1,097 in the previous year. There were 905 credit societies working during the year, of which 12 were central, 716 agricultural and 177 non-agricultural. Of the 170 non-credit societies working, 125 were agricultural and 45 non-agricultural.

Of 716 agricultural societies working during the year, 613 societies were classified, and 68 or 9.5 per cent of these were placed in class A (thoroughly good), 202 or 28.2 per cent in class B (defaulters and mistakes in accounts), 191 or 26.7 per cent in class C (not falling under class A, B or D) and 152 or 21.2 per cent in class D (bad and liable to be liquidated if they fail to come under class C in two years). The percentage of D class societies fell from 26 per cent in the previous year to 21.2 per cent and of A and B rose from 8.9 per cent and 22.1 per cent to 9.5 per cent and 28.2 per cent respectively.

The total membership increased from 65,920 to 67,953 or by 3 per cent. The average membership per society was 52.1 as against 50.8 in the preceding year. It is estimated that the movement directly affects 12 per cent of the population—the agricultural societies about 6 per cent of the village population and the non-agricultural about 14 per cent of the town population.

The financial position showed a slight improvement. The working capital increased from Rs. 101.9 lakhs to 109.8 lakhs or by 8 per cent. The share capital increased from Rs. 12.3 lakhs to Rs. 13.5 lakhs, the deposits from members from Rs. 30 to 34 lakhs and from non-members from Rs. 20 to 22 lakhs and the reserve funds from Rs. 17.6 to Rs. 18.6 lakhs. Of the reserve funds, 21.6 per cent was invested outside the ordinary working funds. Owned capital formed 60 per cent of the working capital as against 59 per cent in the previous year, loans and deposits 37 per cent and debentures 3 per cent.

The loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 29.6 lakhs as against Rs. 27.2 lakhs in the previous year. The repayments

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

1934-35 TO 1940-41.

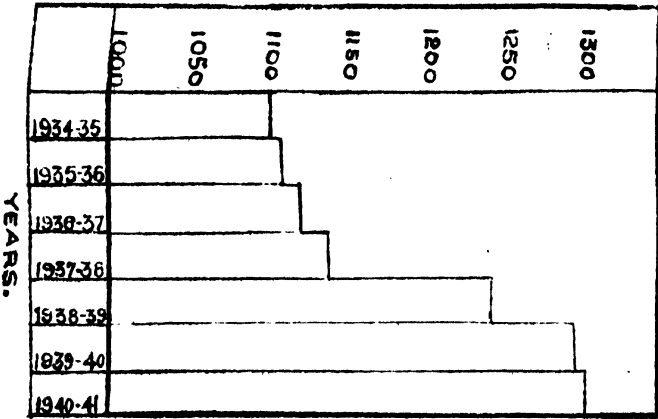
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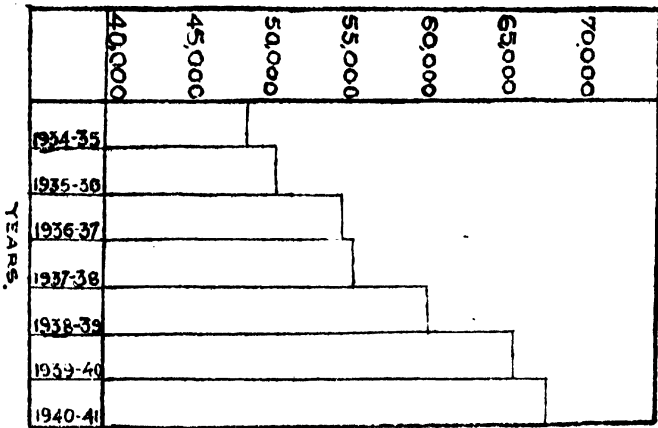
3 AVERAGE MEMBER-
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NUMBER OF MEMBERS.



AVERAGE MEMBERSHIP PER SOCIETY.

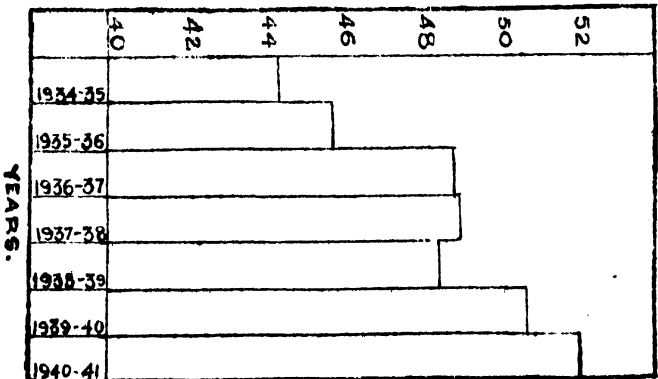
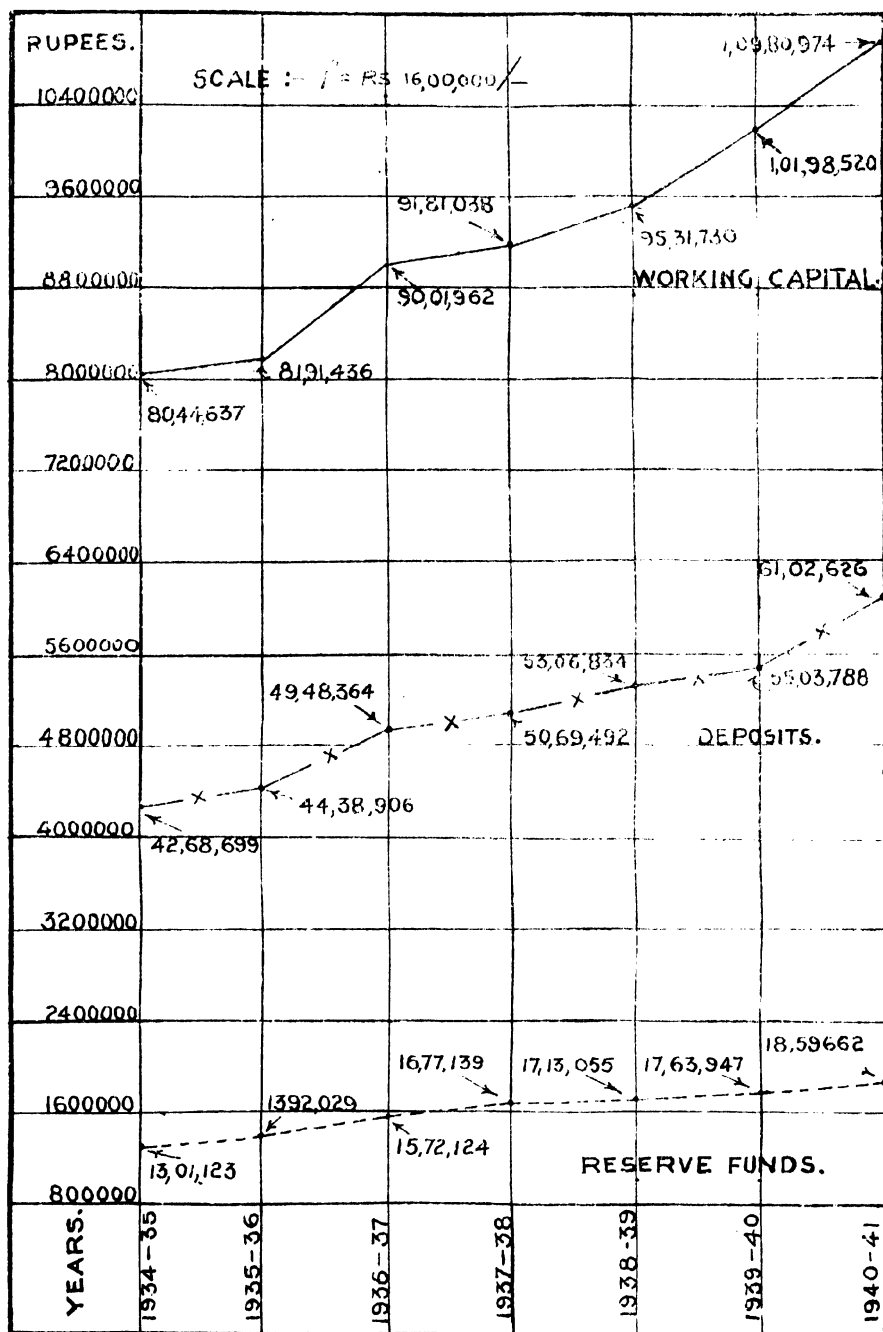


CHART SHOWING THE FINANCIAL POSITION OF CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETIES IN THE BARODA STATE

1934-35 TO 1940-41.



were Rs. 30 lakhs as against Rs. 28.4 lakhs, and the outstanding loans, at the end of the year, were Rs. 65.6 lakhs as against Rs. 66 lakhs. The overdues at the end of the year were Rs. 16.1 lakhs or 24.5 per cent of the outstanding loans as against Rs. 15.3 lakhs or 23.3 per cent. The increase of overdues is attributed to the unfavourable season in the Mehsana and Amreli districts.

The total value of non-credit work declined during the year, mainly on account of the poorer cotton crop, from about Rs. 20 lakhs to Rs. 15 lakhs. The value of the seeds and produce bought or sold on behalf of members by agricultural credit societies was Rs. 1.2 lakhs and by agricultural banks, central banks sale societies etc. about Rs. 14 lakhs. Compared to the total average value of the agricultural produce of the State estimated at Rs. 6.5 crores, this forms about 2 per cent.

243. LAND MORTGAGE BANKS—There were two land mortgage banks in the State.

The Baroda Land Mortgage Bank continued operations all over the Baroda district, except in the Petlad and Bhadran talukas. Its share capital increased by 6.2 per cent from Rs. 1.13 lakhs to Rs. 1.20 lakhs. Only one series of debentures has been floated, for Rs. 3 lakhs, to be redeemed after ten years. The investment in the debentures redemption fund amounted to Rs. 0.27 lakhs at the end of the year. The working capital of the Bank increased from Rs. 6.57 lakhs to Rs. 7.33 lakhs.

Fresh loans amounting to Rs. 0.95 lakhs were advanced to 54 persons. The total amount advanced, since the beginning of the bank in 1933, amounted to Rs. 7.80 lakhs for liquidation of debts amounting to Rs. 9.35 lakhs, the debts having been scaled down through conciliation by Rs. 1.55 lakhs. All instalments due during the year were repaid, the total amounting to Rs. 0.78 lakhs. The outstanding loans at the end of the year were Rs. 6.20 lakhs. The bank's rate of interest on loans remained unchanged at 6 per cent. The net profit during the year was Rs. 19,632 as against Rs. 19,234 in the preceding year.

The Navsari Land Mortgage Bank, which began its work in the preceding year in six talukas of the Navsari district, extended its operations to the rest of the district. Along with this, the Debt Conciliation Act was extended to the whole district. The share capital of the bank increased from Rs. 37,500 to Rs. 39,745. The bank issued in 1939-40 its first series of debentures for Rs. 3 lakhs at 3½ per cent. Of these, debentures worth Rs. 1.5 lakhs were purchased by the public, their called up value being Rs. 1.0 lakh. The Government have agreed to purchase the remaining debentures, and have made available to the

bank a special loan of Rs. 1·0 lakh for advancing loans to the Raniparaj societies, to enable their members to redeem their debts. The working capital increased from Rs. 0·81 lakhs to Rs. 1·43 lakhs.

The Bank advanced loans to the extent of Rs. 0·78 lakhs out of which Rs. 0·23 lakhs were given for purchase of land. The total loans advanced by the bank, during the two years of its working, amounted to Rs. 1·0 lakh. Out of this, Rs. 0·77 lakhs were in liquidation of debts amounting to Rs. 0·95 lakhs, the debts having been scaled down by Rs. 17,500. No instalments of loans have yet become due. The net profit of the bank was Rs. 215.

The Government give the following concessions to these banks:—

- (i) The repayment of the principal and interest of the debentures is guaranteed.
- (ii) 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.

244. CENTRAL BANKS—During the year the Damnagar taluka bank was taken into liquidation and the Gandevi urban bank converted into a taluka bank. At the end of the year there were eight institutions actually working with 831 societies affiliated to them. These institutions finance only affiliated societies, but the Baroda and the Mehsana Central banks have been permitted for three years to finance individuals, so that they may utilise their surplus funds. The Baroda bank thus advanced Rs. 40,800 in loans to individual share-holders.

The working capital of these institutions increased from Rs. 16·03 lakhs to Rs. 16·92 lakhs or by 5·6 per cent. The share capital increased from Rs. 3·32 to Rs. 3·38 lakhs, the reserve funds from Rs. 2·76 to Rs. 3·02 lakhs, deposits from societies by Rs. 0·25 lakhs from Rs. 4·22 to Rs. 4·47 lakhs and other deposits from Rs. 5·53 to Rs. 5·58 lakhs. The banks at Baroda, Navsari, Mehsana, Damnagar and Petlad are allowed a cash credit of Rs. 4·30 lakhs by the Government. The Government have also sanctioned a deposit of Rs. 0·40 lakhs for 5 years to the Kodinar Banking Union.

The loans advanced during the year decreased from Rs. 4·17 to Rs. 3·87 lakhs. The decrease was due to the policy of refusing loans to societies under reconstruction, except under exceptional circumstances. The recoveries amounted to Rs. 4·65 lakhs and formed 42·3 per cent of the demand as against 42·0 per cent in the preceding year. The outstanding loans at the end of the year were Rs. 10·3 lakhs as against Rs. 11·0 lakhs at the end of 1939–40.

Non-credit work of central banks—The Mehsana Central Co-operative Bank, the Damnagar Bank and the Kodinar Banking Union continued the business of joint purchase of the needs and sale of the produce of agriculturists. The Mehsana bank sold 250 mds. of cumin seeds worth Rs. 2,490 and supplied household requirements worth Rs. 3,014. The Kodinar Banking Union sold 20,392 mds. of seed-cotton worth Rs. 64,993 of 23 societies, and 1,151 mds. of bajri worth Rs. 1,423 of 10 societies, 1,126 mds. of ground-nut worth Rs. 1,412 of 60 societies, and other commodities worth Rs. 460. Besides this, the Union supplied artificial manure, cotton and ground-nut seeds to its members. The Damnagar Bank sold 2,322 mds. of cotton of 23 members for Rs. 5,805.

245. **AGRICULTURAL BANKS**—The four agricultural banks of Bhadran, Amreli, Vyara and Songadh advanced loans to societies as well as to individuals. Their total working capital amounts to Rs. 7.67 lakhs, share capital Rs. 1.77 lakhs and reserves Rs. 1.01 lakhs. The lending rate of interest of the Bhadran Bank was 6 per cent and that of others $6\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. These banks are allowed cash credit to the extent of Rs. 10,000 by the Government.

The banks advanced loans to the extent of Rs. 0.55 lakhs during the year as against Rs. 0.88 lakhs and recovered Rs. 1.16 lakhs or 30.4 per cent of the demand as against 25.8 per cent in the preceding year. The outstanding loans at the end of the year were Rs. 2.65 lakhs as against Rs. 3.26 lakhs at the end of preceding year. The Amreli and Vyara banks continued joint purchase of the needs and sale of agricultural produce of their members and affiliated societies. The Amreli bank purchased and supplied to the members of various societies ground-nut (1,199 mds.) and cotton seeds (360 mds.). The Vyara bank purchased and supplied 120 mds. of cotton seeds to 96 agriculturists, and sold 62 mds. of grain of its members.

246. **SUPERVISING UNIONS**—The Vyara and the Mangrol supervising unions continued their activities. The total number of societies affiliated to the Vyara Union was 50 with a membership of 1,772 and a working capital of Rs. 1.66 lakhs. The Mangrol Union has 52 societies, with a membership of 1,302 and a working capital of Rs. 2.50 lakhs affiliated to it. Each of these unions maintains three supervisors. The total expenditure of the unions was Rs. 1,272.

The Vyara Union sold 270 bhars of cotton of its members for Rs. 35,100 which was 33 per cent less than the preceding year. Both these unions helped their members in better farming by supplying better seeds, and looked after sanitation of the villages and provided medical help in their areas.

247. **AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES**—The number of societies was 1,026 but of these 185 or 18 per cent were under liquidation. The

number of societies working during the year was 841 as against 862 in the previous year. Of these, 716 were credit societies as against 717 in the previous year. That the number was maintained was mainly due to the organisation of 22 new thrift societies. The non-credit societies declined from 145 to 125 mainly because of the liquidation of 22 societies for the consolidation of scattered holdings and 4 for rural reconstruction. The membership rose from 36,450 to 37,268 or by 2.5 per cent and the average membership per society to 36.2 from 35.5.

The working capital increased by Rs. 1.5 lakhs from Rs. 38.4 to Rs. 39.9 lakhs. Of this increase, Rs. 0.76 lakhs were due to increase in deposits from non-members.

The share capital was Rs. 1.8 lakhs, the deposits from members Rs. 7.2 lakhs and reserve funds Rs. 12.68 lakhs. These showed an increase of 4 to 7 per cent. Loans from the Government (Rs. 0.50 lakhs) and banks and societies (Rs. 10.3 lakhs) showed a slight decline as compared to the preceding year. The decline in the loans from banks during the year is slight, but compared to 1938-39, it amounts to 10 per cent, and possibly indicates a tendency to arrange for finances independently of the banks. The lowered rates of interest on loans advanced by societies were continued.

During the year loans of the amount of Rs. 11.75 lakhs as against Rs. 10.1 lakhs in the preceding year were advanced. As against this, loans amounting to Rs. 11.85 lakhs or 29.9 per cent of the total demand were repaid. The total outstanding loan at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 27.98 lakhs. The overdues increased from Rs. 8.98 to Rs. 10.98 lakhs and formed 35.7 per cent as against 31.9 per cent of the outstanding loans. The deterioration is ascribed to failure of commercial crops and fall in prices.

248. RECONSTRUCTED SOCIETIES—Since 1938, when the policy of reconstructing societies was adopted, 168 societies have been reconstructed of which 8 societies were reconstructed during this year. Of these, 139 societies were indebted to banks and 29 societies worked with their own capital.

The dues of these reconstructed societies from members were Rs. 5.69 lakhs principal and Rs. 2.11 lakhs interest.

The instalments falling due during the year came to Rs. 70,454 principal and Rs. 24,145 interest, against which Rs. 56,375 as principal and Rs. 27,393 as interest were recovered during the year. The collection of principal was 80 per cent of the demand. The repayments from members in the Baroda and Navsari districts were good, while those in the Mehsana and Amreli districts were poor, due to failure of crops. The societies wrote off Rs. 1,787 in principal and

Rs. 13,563 in interest due from members, who paid their instalments according to the terms of reconstruction.

249. PROVIDENT FUND—The provident fund scheme was availed of by 2,250 members of 143 societies during the year, and their funds increased from Rs. 1.05 lakhs to Rs. 1.20 lakhs or by 14 per cent. Some societies are taking advantage of co-operative insurance scheme and have adopted bye-laws permitting the payment of premiums from the interest of the provident fund and compulsory savings.

250. NON-CREDIT WORK OF CREDIT SOCIETIES—Agricultural credit societies continued their activities to introduce better kind of seeds, new varieties of crops, and increased use of artificial manure. They purchased 7,998 maunds of pedigree cotton seeds for 1,333 members and 12.5 maunds of paddy seeds for 6 members; 2,685 maunds of artificial manure for 16 members and implements for 12 members. Besides this, 4 resource societies supplied household goods worth Rs. 23,253 to their members with a net gain of Rs. 1,469.

251. B. D. 8. COTTON ORGANISATION—The propaganda for the cultivation of B. D. 8 cotton through the societies was continued and four new societies were organised during the year. The number of societies working at the end of the year was ten. These are situated in the Dabhoi, Sankheda and Tilakwada mahals. They distributed 746 maunds of B. D. 8 cotton seeds to their members. The area under cultivation of this cotton increased by about 30 per cent over the preceding year and is now 6,151 bighas.

In the Karjan taluka, resource societies distributed 450 maunds of B. D. 8 cotton seeds to 124 members estimated to sow 4,500 bighas, an increase of 50 per cent.

Crop loans are given at 4 per cent, on condition that the produce is sold through the society. The scheme is under the supervision of an independent auditor.

252. THRIFT SOCIETIES—Agricultural thrift societies increased from 67 to 89. Of these, 2 were men's societies with 40 members, and the remaining women's societies with 1,760 members. The societies in the Raniparaj area worked well.

There was a general increase in membership, working capital and savings as the following statement will show:—

	Societies	Members	Savings	Reserve fund	Working capital
			(in rupees)		
1940-41	89	1,800	15,316	790	17,316
1939-40	67	1,458	12,502	681	14,292

253. SOCIETIES FOR SUPPLY OF HOUSE-HOLD GOODS—There were five village supply societies. The Vankal society (with its branch at Umarpada) and the Mangrol society worked well. The membership of Vankal society rose from 944 to 1,048. It supplied house-hold goods worth Rs. 39,260 and made a profit of Rs. 4,137. The Mangrol society had 63 members and supplied goods worth Rs. 15,620, making a profit of Rs. 252. The Chalala stores supplied goods worth Rs. 106 to its members. The Vyara and Aloda stores did not work during the year.

254. CO-OPERATIVE GINNING—There were two ginning associations. A new ginning factory was registered and a ginning association was cancelled during the year. The Baben factory ginned 5,166 bhars of cotton and made a profit of Rs. 7,552. Its ginning charge per bhar was Rs. 3-5-0 for members and non-members, but it gave a rebate of Re. 0-2-0 per bale to its members. The Kosamba factory ginned 3,646 bhars of cotton and made a profit of Rs. 4,305. Its ginning charge per bhar was Rs. 4-8-0 for members and Rs. 5 to 7 for non-members. A feature of this factory was that most of the cotton it ginned, belonged to co-operative societies. There was an appreciable decline in the quantity of cotton ginned by these two gins and in the profits made as compared to the preceding year—8,812 bhars as against 15,306 and Rs. 11,857 as against Rs. 24,454. Both these gins have now their own presses.

255. PUMP SOCIETIES—There were eleven water-works and power pump societies but one was cancelled during the year. During the year 204, as against 169 members, irrigated their lands but the area was only 642 bighas as against 1,033 bighas in the previous year. The number of hours of the working of the pumps also decreased from 12,800 to 9,000 hours. The irrigation charges varied from eight annas to one rupee six annas per hour.

The Government gives loans to these societies; the outstanding dues at the end of the year were Rs. 8,926.

256. PRODUCTION AND SALE SOCIETIES—The production and sale societies increased from 41 to 45. Out of these, 37 societies were for sale of cotton, two of groundnuts, one of sugar cane, two for pure milk and ghee and three for sale of other agricultural produce.

257. COTTON—The cotton sale societies collected 10,348 bhars of seed-cotton belonging to 2,371 members. Of these, 9,683 bhars were ginned and 665 bhars were sold unginned. Out of 7,680 bales of cotton 6,936 bales were sold for Rs. 10.82 lakhs while the unginned cotton was sold for Rs. 0.80 lakhs. The total realisations from the sale of cotton amounted to Rs. 11.62 lakhs. The prices of cotton fluctuated widely during the year, and in anticipation of higher prices

some societies held over their stock, which remained unsold at the end of the year. Three societies did no work during the year. The turnover was about 40 per cent less than in the preceding year, both in the quantity of cotton collected and the sale price - 10,000 bhars as against 17,000 and Rs. 11.6 lakhs as against Rs. 20 lakhs.

258. SUGAR CANE—The Gandevi Sugar cane Growers' Association worked well during the year. There were 644 members on the register and it sold 4.15 lakh maunds of cane to the Gandevi Sugar cane factory. The association received Rs. 1,631 as contribution from its members and the factory. It supplied cane seed and manure worth Rs. 1,402 and advanced crop loans to its members.

259. GROUNDNUT—Of the two groundnut sale societies, one at Ubhel had collected 3,600 maunds of groundnuts but held over the stock as the prices were low. The other society did not work during the year.

260. MILK—Of the two milk supply societies, only the Nizampura society worked during the year. It supplied 19,632 lbs. of milk worth Rs. 850 to the Baroda City. The Hathuran society did not work during the year.

261. CONSOLIDATION OF SCATTERED HOLDINGS—There were 71 societies for consolidation of holdings at the beginning of the year. Of these, 22 societies were cancelled and 13 were under liquidation. Most of the remaining societies are stagnant and no appreciable work is being done.

262. DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATIONS—Of the 31 development associations three were under liquidation. Only the associations at Pipodra and Vankal did useful work like carding, spinning, weaving, distributing pure seed etc. These associations are losing their importance as multi-purpose societies are being organised.

263. NON-AGRICULTURAL SOCIETIES—The number of registered societies was 263 but of these 43 or 16 per cent were under liquidation. The number of societies working was 220 as against 225 in the previous year. Of these, 179 were credit societies and of the remaining, 21 were students' stores and 20 housing societies. The membership was 26,679, an increase of 1,100 members.

The share capital rose from Rs. 5.8 to Rs. 6.7 lakhs, an increase of 15.5 per cent; the deposits from members from Rs. 23.2 to Rs. 26.7 lakhs, an increase of 3.5 lakhs. The deposits from non-members remained practically stationary at Rs. 6.6 lakhs; the loans from banks and Government declined a little. The reserve fund was Rs. 2.5 lakhs as against Rs. 2.6 lakhs in 1939-40. The total working capital rose from Rs. 40.4 lakhs to Rs. 44.4 lakhs or by 10 per cent.

Loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 12·2 lakhs as against Rs. 11·6 lakhs in the preceding year, raising the total outstanding to Rs. 33·3 lakhs. Repayments improved by Rs. 1·2 lakhs from Rs. 11·9 to Rs. 13·1 lakhs so that, inspite of the increased lending, the loans due were Rs. 20·1 lakhs as against Rs. 21·0 lakhs and those overdue were Rs. 2·9 lakhs as against Rs. 3·7 lakhs at the end of the preceding year. The percentage of over dues decreased from 17·6 to 14·5 per cent.

264. URBAN BANKS—There were 28 urban banks with a membership of 13,270 and a working capital of Rs. 31·35 lakhs of which share capital was Rs. 4·1 lakhs, deposits Rs. 25·8 lakhs, and reserve fund Rs. 1·45 lakhs. The loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 9·0 lakhs and loans repaid to Rs. 9·71 lakhs and outstanding loans to Rs. 15·05 lakhs.

265. GOVERNMENT SERVANTS' SOCIETIES—There were 13 Government servants' societies with a membership of 3,987 and a working capital of Rs. 3·85 lakhs of which share capital was Rs. 0·91 lakhs, deposits Rs. 2·75 lakhs, and reserve fund Rs. 0·19 lakhs. The loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 2·47 lakhs and loans repaid to Rs. 2·05 lakhs and outstanding loans to Rs. 2·86 lakhs.

266. WEAVERS' SOCIETIES—There were 59 societies with a membership of 902 and a working capital of Rs. 0·33 lakhs. The loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 0·08 lakhs and loans repaid to Rs. 0·11 lakhs and outstanding loans to Rs. 0·26 lakhs.

267. CHAMARS' SOCIETIES—There were 30 societies with a membership of 460 and a working capital of Rs. 0·18 lakhs. The loans advanced during the year amounted to Rs. 0·07 lakhs and loans repaid to Rs. 0·07 lakhs and outstanding loans to Rs. 0·16 lakhs.

268. BHANGIS' SOCIETIES—There were 20 societies with a membership of 1,046 and a working capital of Rs. 0·53 lakhs. The loans advanced during the year amounted to 0·23 lakhs and loans repaid to Rs. 0·24 lakhs and outstanding loans to Rs. 0·41 lakhs.

269. FLOOD RELIEF SOCIETIES—The Government had advanced loans to flood relief societies specially organised to enable members to rebuild their houses after the floods of 1927. The members belong to the poorer classes who earn their living by daily labour. The total loans advanced amounted to Rs. 5,46,491. The outstanding loans due from 23 societies without interest at the beginning of the year were Rs. 34,410 of which during the year Rs. 16,696 were recovered, leaving Rs. 17,714 to be realised.

270. THRIFT SOCIETIES—Non-agricultural thrift societies increased from 13 to 18, of which 4 with 73 members were men's societies. They showed a slight but general improvement. Their membership rose from 352 to 619, savings from Rs. 8,389 to Rs. 9,071, reserve fund from Rs. 388 to Rs. 529 and working capital from Rs. 9,021 to Rs. 9,659.

271. URBAN STORES—There were 6 urban stores working during the year. The Pustakalaya Mandal, the Baroda City milk depot, the Okha Port stores and the Karjan supply stores did good work. The Pustakalaya Mandal sold books worth Rs. 48,400 and earned a profit of Rs. 12,577. The Okha Port stores sold household goods worth Rs. 13,000 and made a profit of Rs. 247. The Baroda City milk depot sold milk worth Rs. 20,795 and made a profit of Rs. 534, while the Karjan taluka stores supplied goods worth Rs. 5,479 to its members and earned a profit of Rs. 263.

272. STUDENTS' STORES—Twenty students' stores worked during the year. Their membership fell from 1,772 to 1,435 but their working capital increased from Rs. 3,735 to Rs. 4,589 and the value of the materials supplied from Rs. 4,835 to Rs. 4,855.

273. CO-OPERATIVE ELECTRICITY SUPPLY SOCIETY—The co-operative electricity supply society was registered with the object of undertaking the supply of electricity to Vyara and Kanpura villages for lighting and agricultural purposes. The subscribed share capital amounted to Rs. 34,150. The society has been unable to procure machinery on account of the war.

274. CO-OPERATIVE INSURANCE SOCIETY—The co-operative insurance society accepted 129 proposals for insurance for Rs. 66,200 during the year. The society had in force in all 373 policies for Rs. 2.02 lakhs at the end of the year. The premium received was Rs. 10,078. As a result of the amendment in the insurance law, co-operative insurance societies are debarred from having shareholders. This society had therefore to issue debentures worth Rs. 30,000 at 4 per cent for the necessary deposits with the Registrar, Insurance Companies. They were taken up by co-operative societies. All the share holdings in the society, except those of the directors, were liquidated. Only one case came up for settlement. Claims worth Rs. 1,145, including refund of premium in non-medical cases, were settled during the year.

275. HOUSING SOCIETIES—There were fifteen housing societies and one was newly registered during the year. Out of these, 11 are in the Baroda City, 3 in the Navsari district and 2 in the Mehsana district. Four of these have completed building houses and twelve have not been able to acquire land.

276. CO-OPERATIVE INSTITUTE—The central co-operative institute continued its work as usual. Its membership rose from 782 to 1,081, out of which 600 are societies and 481 are individuals. The total amount of fees received from the members was Rs. 2,324. The institute conducted two classes for training secretaries of societies of the Navsari and the Amreli districts. Lectures with magic lanterns were delivered in 52 villages. The society continued to edit 'Gram Jivan,' a monthly magazine dealing with co-operation, agriculture, and other topics of rural interest. The Government paid Rs. 3,500 towards the expenses of the institute during the year. In order to make its work more effective in the districts, 9 taluka institutes affiliated to the central institute were organised.

CHAPTER XVI

COMMERCE

Development of Port Okha

277. PORT OKHA—The port was established in 1926, and since then has developed from a small fishing village of 78 inhabitants in 1921, into a spacious town with excellent port facilities, a safe harbour and a well laid out civil station.

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

Item	Revenue		Expenditure	
	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40
PORT :				
Port office	2·28	2·86	1·14	1·16
Harbour Engineer- ing office	0·21	0·30	1·04	1·32
Total	2·49	3·17	2·18	2·48
Customs at Okha including sub- ports	26·74	28·62	0·74	0·76

Cargo paying duty to the extent of Rs. 4·18 lakhs was in bond at the end of the year against Rs. 11·43 lakhs at the end of the preceding year.

279. CAPITAL EXPENDITURE—The capital expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 0·93 lakhs and the receipts from capital works Rs. 0·19 lakhs. The main items of expenditure were buildings and an additional warehouse. The total capital expenditure upto the end of the year amounted to Rs. 46·64 lakhs.

280. SHIPPING AND TRADE—The war and the export and import restrictions have adversely affected the shipping and trade of the Port. Coasting steamers ceased to call regularly and their number dropped

from 226 in 1938-39 and 59 in 1939-40 to 25 in the year under report. The number of ocean-going steamers that called during the year decreased by half, from 97 in the previous year to 51.

The total cargo handled was 1,64,351 tons as compared to 2,37,408 tons in the previous year. The export of salt and the import of coal showed considerable decline: salt from 58,684 tons to 29,510; coal from 27,653 tons to 7,102. The export of cement increased from 73,248 to 81,263 tons. The assembly plant for Studebaker cars at Okha increased their output—116 cars and 12 trucks were assembled and despatched as against 17 cars in the previous year.

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				
1940-41	853	4,420	20,091	24,511
1939-40	827	3,001	18,007	21,008
COASTING STEAMER				
1940-41	25	2,891	1,918	4,809
1939-40	59	5,493	6,381	11,874
OCEAN-GOING STEAMER				
1940-41	51	35,642	99,388	1,35,030
1939-40	97	75,961	1,28,565	2,04,526
Total				
1940-41	929	42,953	1,21,398	1,64,351
1939-40	983	84,455	1,52,953	2,37,408

281. **IMPORT TRADE LICENSES**—The import trade control scheme came into effect from 20th May 1940, but licenses were issued from August 1940. The number of licenses so issued were 54 and the value of the goods to be imported Rs. 2.33 lakhs.

Development of Commerce

282. **TAX-FREE ZONES**—A systematic plan for constituting tax-free zones, at centres where municipalities levy octroi, has been adopted; and during the year schemes were sanctioned for constituting such zones for Baroda, Chanasma, Vijapur, Unjha and Kheralu.

283. WEIGHTS AND MEASURES—The enforcement of the Weights and Measures Act, which was to come into operation on 1st of August 1941, was postponed to 1st February 1942, as the verification and stamping of weights and measures had not been completed. The inspectors verified and stamped 23,504 beam scales, platform machines, weigh bridges etc. The vahivatdars also verified and stamped a large number of weights and measures. The total income from verification fees was Rs. 37,700.

284. ELECTRIFICATION—The Vyara co-operative society has raised the necessary capital but has not been able to get suitable electric plant. The electrification of Sankheda and Bahadarpur was sanctioned during the year. Applications for electrification of Dehgam and Tilakwada were received and were under consideration of the department.

285. PATENTS AND DESIGNS—During the year 2 new patents were sealed and 23 renewed or extended. The total number of patents in force at the end of the year was 44, as against 54 in the previous year. The patents were mostly for improvements in machinery.

286. THE STATE ECONOMIC BOARD—The Board consists of a Naib Dewan who is the president, heads of the Revenue, Public Works, Railway and Police departments, and members representing trade, industry and agriculture. The Board is charged with the following functions:—

- (i) to advise the Government on all questions relating to the economic development of the State;
- (ii) to co-ordinate the activities of the district economic boards, and advise Government on schemes submitted by them;
- (iii) to assist the development departments in working out important schemes, and in making intensive studies of important questions;
- (iv) to advise the Government on all questions relating to programmes of road construction, new railway projects, telephone installations, etc.;
- (v) to undertake surveys of trade, centres of production, existing market routes and conditions of marketing agricultural and other products of various localities;
- (vi) to consider the question of providing markets at suitable centres for the disposal of the agricultural and other products and for distributing trade.

In each district there is an economic board constituted on lines similar to the Central Board. These boards held 22 meetings and dealt with 68 questions regarding issue of licenses to motor vehicles plying for hire, construction of roads and bridges, conveniences for railway passengers, agriculture, etc. The State Economic Board held 7 meetings and considered 68 questions, including 62 recommendations made by the district economic boards.

CHAPTER XVII

INDUSTRIES

287. **GOVERNMENT POLICY**—The policy of the Government is to assist in starting new or developing existing industries. There are three main directions, in which the State gives assistance:

Firstly, surveys and scientific experiments and investigations are carried out. The information collected is supplied to interested parties; grants are also made in aid of surveys, experiments etc. conducted by private persons or institutions.

Secondly, the State participates in the financing of pioneer industries, by subscribing a portion of the share capital or by giving loans.

Thirdly, concessions are granted like acquisition of lands under the Land Acquisition Act, limitation of octroi duties so as not to hinder trade, supply of power where available, etc.

288. **RESEARCH**—Research, in co-operation with the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research of the Government of India, on sulphonation of Indian vegetable oils was in progress.

Experiments to determine the cost of manufacture of bitumen emulsion for roads were conducted.

The preparation of superior quality type-metal from pie-metal, for the use of the State Press, was successfully undertaken and 7,500 lbs. prepared.

The manufacture of printing ink and of textile materials, such as textile-size, glaze paste and stamping ink was undertaken on semi-commercial scale, and tests were carried out in different mills.

Samples of articles such as type-metal, inks, ores, effluents etc., received from different departments as well as the public, were analysed at the Technological Institute.

289. **CONCESSIONS**—The department received 53 applications during the year, as against 32 in the preceding year, for concessions for the development of industries. Out of these, 39 were sanctioned and three disallowed. Seven applications were for acquisition of land for factories, and twenty-four for loans for industrial purposes. During

the year the Government sanctioned 17 loans to industrial concerns of an aggregate amount of Rs. 1,31,400.

The Government agreed to participate in financing to the extent of 20 per cent of the cumulative preference shares of the following pioneer industries :—

- (i) a paper factory in the Navsari district, with an authorised capital of Rs. 30 lakhs;
- (ii) a factory for manufacture of asbestos and paints, with an authorised capital of Rs. 5 lakhs.

The Gandevi Sugar Works Co. Ltd. was reorganised with a capital of Rs. 6 lakhs, the Government undertaking to purchase a third of the shares and take up debentures worth Rs. 50,000.

290. MINING—Two approval certificates for preliminary survey were granted and six were renewed.

Major industries

291. TEXTILE—The textile industry continued to show progress under the impetus of the conditions created by the war. The cotton mills increased their production by 20 per cent and the woollen mill more than doubled the value of its produce as compared to the preceding year. Two mills, which had ceased to work for a number of years, were reconstructed.

Cotton mills : There were sixteen cotton mills as in the previous year, of which seven were in the Baroda, six in the Mehsana and three in the Navsari districts. Their consumption of cotton increased by 20 per cent, from 99,000 bales in 1939-40 to 1,20,000 bales during the year. Of this, 75 per cent was Indian as against 66 per cent in the previous year. The number of looms and spindles decreased slightly, but the capital invested increased from Rs. 317 lakhs to Rs. 384 lakhs, the persons employed from 20,200 to 22,726, and the yarn produced from lbs. 332 lakhs to lbs. 398 lakhs.

Woollen mill : Shree Dinesh Mills Ltd. was engaged in the execution of orders for war supplies and manufactured 6.4 lakhs yards of cloth. The value of its output increased from Rs. 8.85 lakhs in 1939-40 to Rs. 18 lakhs in 1940-41.

292. CHEMICAL—The Tata Chemicals Ltd. was started in 1939 with a paid up capital of Rs. 125 lakhs, for the manufacture of heavy chemicals—soda ash, caustic soda, bleaching powder etc. On account of the war, there has been delay in obtaining the necessary plant, but it is expected that production will commence next year. The Tata

Chemicals Ltd. have taken over (i) the Okha Salt Works and (ii) the Pioneer Magnesia Works. The Okha Salt Works produced 44,859 tons of salt during the year, as against 33,700 tons in the previous year. The Pioneer Magnesia Works continued to produce magnesium chloride, potassium chloride and epsom salts.

The Alembic Chemical Works Co. Ltd. manufactures pharmaceutical drugs, fine chemicals, etc. The Government sanctioned for the company a grant, to carry out semi-commercial experiments for the manufacture of alkaloids, such as strychnine, caffeine etc.

There were two other chemical works: The Petlad Chemical Works and the Baroda Chemical Works. Both manufacture mainly sulphuric acid.

293. MANUFACTURE OF IRON AND STEEL IMPLEMENTS—The Sayaji Iron Works and the engineering section of the Alembic Chemical Works Co. Ltd. manufacture agricultural implements, centrifugal pumps, cast iron articles like pipes and sluice valves, machines for road building such as concrete mixers, stone crushers, mortar mills, and bleaching machines for textile mills, paper cutting machines, and steam traps. Their production has increased steadily during recent years.

The Baroda Bolt and Engineering Works manufacture bolts, nuts, dogspikes, rivets etc.

294. SUGAR—The extension of sugar cane cultivation in Gandevi taluka, as a result of irrigation schemes executed by the Government, enabled the factory to show further improvement in its working. During the year the factory crushed 4.98 lakhs Bengal maunds of sugar cane, as against 4.0 lakhs in 1939-40 and 1.06 lakhs in 1938-39. The production amounted to 40,416 Bengal maunds of sugar and 16,388 maunds of molasses. The excise duty realised by the State was Rs. 92,858 as against Rs. 49,318 in 1939-40 and Rs. 9,800 in 1938-39.

295. MATCHES—The Datar Match Factory at Petlad produced 4,77,482 gross matches in 1940-41 as compared to 5,97,448 gross matches in 1939-40. The Billimora Match Factory produced 899 gross matches and 15,632 Bengal lights as compared to 47,945 gross matches and 23,689 Bengal lights in the previous year. The total excise duty levied on these matches amounted to Rs. 6.96 lakhs as against 7.42 lakhs in the previous year.

296. CHINA CLAY—The China Clay Works at Ransipur refined 840 tons of china clay during the year, as compared to 1,413 tons, and paid a royalty of Rs. 2,522, as against Rs. 3,162 in the previous year.

297. OTHER CONCERNS—Among other industrial concerns the following may be mentioned:

- (i) The works at Navsari started the manufacture of textile auxiliaries such as bobbins, shuttles etc., and produced articles of the value of Rs. 1.5 lakhs during the year.
- (ii) A factory has been set up in Baroda, for manufacturing moulded rubber articles of different kinds used in machinery.
- (iii) Two powerloom weaving factories have been started, one at Pattan and the other at Billimora, for making silk yarn from silk waste goods.

298. NEW CONCERNS—Several new concerns were started during the year. The more important of these are :

- (i) The Pankaj Products at Baroda, with a capital of Rs. 0.25 lakhs, for the manufacture of textile auxiliaries, anti-gas mixture, sanitary materials, soft soap, perfumes and essential oils, type metal etc.
- (ii) The Hindusthan Colour, Chemical and Manufacturing Co. Ltd. at Kathwada (Dehgam), with a capital of Rs. 15 lakhs. It will manufacture modified starches such as dextrine, quellin, British gums, hydrogen peroxide and other bleaching agents, disinfectants, sulphuric and hydrochloric acids etc.
- (iii) The Brass Rolling Mill, with a capital of Rs. 0.5 lakhs, for manufacture of brass and copper sheets from waste materials, and bichromate of potash, chrome, alum litharge and lead acitas.
- (iv) The Vijaya Enamel Works, with a capital of Rs. 1 lakh, for manufacture of enamel wares and sanitary articles.

299. WAR EFFORT—The industries of the State are taking their share in supplying articles required for the war by the Supply Department of the Government of India. Woollen blankets and khaki cloth of various kinds, mosquito nets and sewing thread, rubber and ebonite articles such as stoppers, packing-case shooks, bobbins and other stores for textile and jute mills and ginning factories are some of the more important articles supplied by the industries of the State.

300. TECHNICAL TRAINING—Arrangement was made for training of war technicians such as mechanics, fitters, turners, electricians, mill wrights, at the Kala Bhavan and the G. B. S. Railway Workshop at Baroda, and the Tata Industrial School at Navsari. Out of about 740 applications received, 57 candidates were admitted for training in the Kala Bhavan, 18 in G. B. S. Railway Workshop and 16 in the Tata Industrial School at Navsari.

Forest Industries

301. FOREST INDUSTRIES—The possibilities of starting forest industries were investigated, and licenses have been given for ten years, to develop the following industries on large scale:—

- (i) The manufacture of katha (catechu) was started in the preceding year, in the ranges of the Navsari district. During the year about 700 persons were employed and 9,100 maunds manufactured, yielding a royalty of Rs. 10,265.
- (ii) Preliminary arrangements for the manufacture of lac, and the collection of *tinuru* leaves for *bidis* in the Navsari forests were completed by the licensee during the year, and the work is expected to begin in the next season.

Cottage Industries

302. COTTAGE INDUSTRIES—For the development of cottage industries in the State, the Government maintain the Diamond Jubilee Cottage Industries Institute in Baroda, and in the villages, a large number of training classes, where scholarships are given to students. The Government also give grants-in-aid to private institutions, which promote the development of cottage industries, and loans for starting them.

303. DIAMOND JUBILEE COTTAGE INDUSTRIES INSTITUTE—The Institute was organised in 1936 to co-ordinate and further the efforts of the Government to introduce cottage industries in the State.

The industries, which the Institute is intended to encourage, are those that can be taken up

- (i) as whole-time occupations by men with small capital, belonging to the middle or artisan classes, or
- (ii) as part-time subsidiary occupations by agriculturists.

The functions of the Institute are to take up industries, which can usefully employ these classes of people, teach such industries

through classes and demonstrations, carry out investigations for simplifying processes and for the use of power and mechanical devices, introduce new designs, finance schemes started by trained persons and study marketing of finished products. The Institute pays special attention to the revival of such well known arts as the Visnagar brass work and the Sankheda lacquer work.

During the year there were in the Institute 53 students, 9 learning calico printing, 7 block engraving, 8 Sankheda lacquer work, 10 in the metal class, 8 in the leather class and 11 in the Visnagar brass work and wood engraving class.

The assistance of a demonstrator was continued to Shri Chimana-bai Stri Udyogalaya for training middle class women in dyeing and calico printing. Scholarships worth Rs. 40 per month were given and about twenty women received training. An aerograph printing machine and the necessary equipment were given on loan to the institute.

The sales depot, organised at the Institute in the previous year, to provide marketing facilities for the products of different cottage industries in the State, did useful work. Orders for curtains, table-cloths, napkins, table mats, towels, shirting, coating, mashru, pottery, lacquer-work, leather goods, metal work, wood carving and printed materials were executed. The total value of the sales was Rs. 5,429.

304. DEMONSTRATION IN THE VILLAGES—Demonstration classes in hand-loom weaving were held at three centres at which 68 students were trained. New designs and new kinds of articles were introduced at Patan, Damnagar and other places. Demonstrations were given free of cost to the local organisations at Sankhari and Bagwada. Woollen blankets were prepared for supplying to the Government of India for war purposes, but they were not found economical.

Demonstration classes in carding and spinning were held at four centres, and 289 persons were trained.

The calico printing class worked at Sankhari, Ranuj, Navsari and Patan for short periods. Altogether 125 students were trained. The assistance of a demonstrator was given to Mahila Ashram at Navsari.

Improved methods of bark tanning were demonstrated to chamars at eight centres. About 7,053 skins and hides worth Rs. 3,003 were tanned at these centres. The class, started in the previous year, for training chamars in the preparation of ordinary

leather articles like chumpals, purses etc., worked at Ladol and Ramol for short periods.

The eri silk demonstration classes at Devli and Kachhiawadi were continued. One hundred and thirty-three persons were supplied with eri eggs. They reared 1,35,186 cocoons weighing 108 lbs. and cocoons worth in all Rs. 59-6-0 were sold to the Punjab Government and others.

Government aid to cottage industries

305. GRANTS-IN-AID—The khadi karyalaya at Chalala was given a grant of Rs. 1,075 for engaging families of trained spinners and weavers from Maharashtra. It also receives a subsidy of one anna per yard of khadi produced. During the year it produced khadi worth about Rs. 22,000 (42,363 yards) and distributed Rs. 20,209 as wages among 765 persons in the State. The development of such subsidiary industries in the Amreli district is of special importance as the district is subject to periodic failure of monsoon.

The khadi centre at Visnagar, working under the supervision of the All India Spinners' Association, provided work mostly to poor Muslim women and Harijans. The centre distributed about Rs. 1,634 as wages to 804 persons, mostly spinners. The Government gave a grant of Rs. 481 to defray the expenses of the centre.

306. SARVODAYA MANDIR—This institute has been started with the object of developing village industries. It runs a tannery and manufactures various articles of leather. A grant of Rs. 600 a year for a period of three years has been sanctioned, to enable the institution to train village people for preparing leather articles. The institute trained 19 students during the year.

307. SANKHARI GRAM SUDHARANA SAHAKARI MANDAL—This co-operative society has been established for effecting general improvement in the village and organising cottage industries. The Government sanctioned Rs. 2,000 as a grant to the society and half the cost of implements used for cottage industries. Besides these, the Government gave as grant-in-aid Rs. 620 to four different institutions which promote subsidiary industries.

308. LOANS—The sum sanctioned for loans to cottage industries was Rs. 28,000. These loans are given free of interest and are recovered by small monthly instalments. Loans amounting to Rs. 17,295 were granted to chamars and weavers of the State, for buying raw materials and implements, as against Rs. 28,000 during the previous year. Instalments amounting to Rs. 17,704 were recovered out of the total amount of Rs. 43,898 and instalments amounting to Rs. 26,194 remained outstanding at the end of the year.

Industries Board

309. 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. Government officers and gentlemen from the public are appointed on these sections, which together constitute the Board.

During the year the Board started the manufacture of printing inks on a semi-commercial scale and experimented with the manufacture of electric fans. The Board also sanctioned experiments for extraction and canning of mango pulp, and a scheme for grading eggs in the Navsari district.

The total amount sanctioned for these experiments and investigations was Rs. 5,860.

Factories and Labour

310. FACTORY OPERATIVES—The number of factories working and coming under the Factories Act was 148 as against 140 in the previous year. The total number of operatives employed in these factories is given in the following table :—

Year	Number of operatives	Engaged in industries		Men	Women	Children (including youths of admissible age)
		Cotton	Other			
1940-41	41,104	33,609	7,495	34,708	6,075	321
1939-40	37,143	31,047	6,096	31,039	5,789	315

311. FACTORY INSPECTION—Out of the 45 factories working, 38 was inspected more than once and 7 once. Out of the 112 seasonal factories, only 103 worked this season. Out of these, 96 were inspected, while 7 could not be inspected as they worked for a very short time. Two factory owners were prosecuted and convicted, and thirty-five warned for breaches of factory regulations.

312. ACCIDENTS—The total number of accidents during the year was 297, out of which 278 were minor, 16 serious and 3 fatal, as compared to the total of 249 of the previous year of which 202 were minor, 45 serious and 2 fatal.

313. NIGHT SHIFT—Out of 45 perennial factories working, 21 worked on night shift almost throughout the year, as against 13 during

the previous year. Some of the seasonal factories worked on night shift for parts of the season.

314. **SANITATION**—General sanitation and the arrangements for drinking water were satisfactory.

315. **TRADE UNIONS**—There were four trade unions in the State, all registered during the preceding year. The Baroda union had 1,021 members, the Petlad union 2,328, the Kalol union 1,792 and the Kadi union 528. The membership of these unions formed 13 per cent of the total factory labour.

316. **LABOUR DISPUTES**—There were no serious strikes during the year. The dispute for dearness allowance, which in June 1940 had led to a general strike in the textile mills of the State and had been referred to an arbitrator, was finally settled by his award given in February 1941. The wages were raised by nine to ten pies in the rupee per day.

There were a few strikes in cotton mills at Kadi, Kalol and Petlad but they were quickly settled.

317. **APPRENTICE SCHEME**—A scheme for training boys, educated in the boarding houses maintained by the State for the Raniparaj and other backward people, in textile mills, had been put into operation in the preceding year and was continued. The apprentices receive a stipend of Rs. 10 a month for a period of six months, after which the mills have agreed to engage them on regular wages. A sum of Rs. 3,000 a year was sanctioned from the Diamond Jubilee Trust Fund. The response has been discouraging. Only 13 students took advantage of this during the year.

318. **ECONOMIC STUDY OF THE TEXTILE MILLS**—A detailed economic inquiry of the textile mills of the State, begun in the preceding year, was completed by the Labour Officer.

319. **PAYMENT OF WAGES RULES**—The Bombay Payment of Wages Rules were applied to the State from February 1941 with necessary modifications.

During the year ten applications were received regarding dismissal or irregular payment of labourers, out of which six cases were decided in favour of the labourers and the remaining against them.

320. **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.

There was only one application for compensation and it was not disposed of during the year under report. During the year 26 memoranda of agreement were received and 19 registered. During the year compensation amounting to Rs. 6,509 was paid to workers for accidents in factories, as against Rs. 6,403 paid in the previous year.

321. MATERNITY BENEFIT—The total amount of maternity benefit paid to factory female operatives during the year was Rs. 3,036, as against Rs. 2,567 paid in the preceding year.

322. BOILERS ACT—The number of boilers on the register was 611, as against 597 in the previous year. But of these, 260 had been removed or scrapped. All the remaining boilers were inspected during the year. Two owners of perennial factories were fined for breaches of the Act.

CHAPTER XVIII

DEPARTMENT OF STATISTICS AND INSURANCE

Commercial intelligence and statistics

323. RETURNS AND STATEMENTS—The following statistical 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.	
5	Returns of woollen mills.	Annual
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 31st August 1940.	
11	Statistical abstract.	1939-40

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In order to have an accurate record of prices of agricultural commodities in different centres of the State, a new scheme has been adopted, under which the Statistics department will publish monthly prices with index numbers in the Government gazette. The scheme will be put into operation after the Weights and Measures Act comes into force.

Joint stock companies and benevolent societies

324. REGISTERED COMPANIES—There were 150 registered companies—132 public companies and 18 private—of which 18 companies were in liquidation at the end of the year. Of the 150 companies, 87 were incorporated in the State and the remaining 63 were foreign companies. Of the indigenous companies, 23 were cotton mills including 4 in liquidation, 10 were electric supply companies, 9 for chemical and allied trades, 4 life insurance companies and the remaining were agencies and miscellaneous companies. Of the 63 foreign companies, 51 were insurance companies.

325. NEW COMPANIES—During the year 14 new companies were registered. These may be classified as follows :—

	State	Foreign
(a) Transit and transport		
Motor traction dealing and manufacturing.	0	1
(b) Trading and manufacturing		
Printing, publishing and stationery	1	0
Chemical and allied trades	1	1
Public service	1	0
Clay, stone, cement, lime, and other building and constructing materials.	1	0
Agencies	2	0
Others	1	1
(c) Mills and presses		
Cotton mills	1	0
Gins and presses	2	0
Others	1	0
Total	11	3 = 14

326. CAPITAL OF THE COMPANIES—The paid-up capital of companies incorporated in the State increased by Rs. 50 lakhs, and of companies, other than insurance companies, incorporated outside the State by Rs. 42 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:—

At the end of the year	Number of companies on the register	Capital. (Rupees in lakhs)				
		Authorised	Subscribed	Paid up		
				Companies incorporated		
				in the State	outside the State	Total
1940-41	99	2776·6	1249·3	295·3	868·7	1164·0
1939-40	93	2752·2	1245 8	245·2	826·0	1071·2
Increase during the year	6	24·4	3·5	50·1	42·7	92·8

327. BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES—There were 105 societies on the register under the Benevolent Societies Act, and 7 new societies were registered during the year, making a total of 112. One was struck off the register as it stopped working, leaving 111 societies on the register at the end of the year. More than two-thirds of these were societies for promoting education, libraries etc., 10 were merchants' associations, 12 for sanitary and medical relief and the remaining for miscellaneous purposes. Out of the 111 societies, 71 were in the Baroda, 21 in the Mehsana, 15 in the Navsari and 4 in the Amreli districts.

328. RECIPROCITY UNDER THE INSURANCE ACT—The Insurance Act, 1938, was amended to enable the Government to enter into reciprocal arrangements with regard to any section of the Act, with the Government of India or other Indian States; and reciprocal arrangements regarding lodging of deposits and investment of assets were concluded with the Government of India during the year under report.

329. INSURANCE COMPANIES—There were 3 companies registered in the State under the State Insurance Act, 1938, at the end of the previous year and 17 more were registered during the year, making a total of 20 insurance companies on the register at the end of the year. Of these, 16 were foreign and the remaining 4 were companies incorporated in the State. Besides these, there were 3 foreign provident insurance societies working in the State.

330. PARTNERSHIP FIRMS—The number of partnership firms on the register under the Partnership Act was 652, to which 65 new firms were added during the year, making a total of 717. Of these, 6 were dissolved, leaving a total of 711 firms on the register at the end of the year.

331. CERTIFIED AUDITORS—There were 37 auditors on the register at the end of the year, of whom 3 were put on the register during the year.

Insurance of State servants

332. COMPULSORY INSURANCE OF GOVERNMENT SERVANTS—The scheme for compulsory insurance of all Government servants was put into operation in the preceding year. It applies to persons who join service after 1st August 1940, and to those already in service on that date, unless they were over forty years of age or drew a salary of Rs. 20 or less per month, or were insured for the prescribed amount. The Director of Statistics is in charge of this department.

During the year, 1,485 proposals for insurance were accepted, 125 rejected and 15 postponed. The annual premium, for the cases accepted upto the end of the year, was Rs. 81,652.

CHAPTER XIX

ELECTRICITY

333. THE CITY ELECTRIC SUPPLY—The City electric supply undertaking was maintained in a satisfactory working condition. The output of energy increased by about 2 per cent to 3.97 million K. W. The demand amounted to 3.23 million K. W. as against 3.15 million K. W. in the preceding year. Of these, 53.4 per cent were used for domestic purposes, 35 per cent for industrial and 11.6 per cent for pumps, gardens and municipal sewage station. The number of consumers was 4,727.

Three miles of new over head lines were laid in the city. Supply mains were extended and five new pumping sets installed in the rural area around Baroda.

The working expenses of the City supply undertaking amounted to Rs. 2.19 lakhs as against Rs. 1.92 lakhs in the preceding year. The cost per unit generated was 0.69 anna and per unit sold 1.08 annas.

The total revenue amounted to Rs. 6.56 lakhs as against Rs. 6.51 lakhs in the preceding year. The surplus over working expenses amounted to Rs. 4.37 lakhs. The surplus, after allowing Rs. 0.91 lakhs for depreciation, represents a net profit of 12.5 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 27.67 lakhs. After deducting Rs. 1.10 lakhs for the Government first charge, the surplus transferred to reserve fund amounted to Rs. 2.35 lakhs. The depreciation and reserve funds at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 31.54 lakhs — Rs. 11.16 and Rs. 20.38 lakhs respectively.

334. PETLAD ELECTRIC SUPPLY—The Petlad electric supply undertaking was maintained in a satisfactory working condition. The number of units generated was 183 thousand and the number of units sold was 132 thousand. Of these, 33 per cent were for domestic purposes, 50 per cent for industrial and 27 per cent for street lighting. The number of consumers increased during the year from 362 to 454.

The revenue amounted to Rs. 0.31 lakhs, and the working expenses to Rs. 0.14 lakhs, leaving a gross surplus of Rs. 0.17 lakhs over working expenses. After deducting the depreciation of Rs. 6,329, the net surplus represents a profit of 5.3 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 1.96 lakhs.

335. **GANDEVI ELECTRIC SUPPLY**—The power house at Gandevi continued to supply power to the Manekpura pumping plant. Supply mains were laid in Gandevi town for street and house lighting and connections will be given in the next year. The output was 79,152 units and the consumption 60,294 units. The gross revenue was Rs. 8,192 and the expenditure Rs. 9,015.

The work of laying the high tension line from Gandevi to Umra for the lift irrigation scheme made satisfactory progress during the year.

336. **OKHA ELECTRIC SUPPLY**—The power house at Okha is under the Harbour Board. It supplied electricity to the Port workshop and other industrial concerns and for lighting. The output was 1,80,426 units all of which was sold — 43,742 units for lighting and 1,36,684 units for industries.

337. **VIJAPUR TUBE WELL PROJECT**—Orders for the plant and machinery have been placed and contract for running 48 miles of H. T. line was given. The construction of the power house and other buildings was also taken in hand.

Besides these Government undertakings, there were ten electric supply concerns operating in the State.

Telephone

338. **TELEPHONE EXCHANGES IN THE STATE**—The telephone system in the State has been extended in recent years. Besides the Baroda City, there are automatic telephone systems at Navsari, Petlad, Dabhoi, Kalol and Mehsana. All these have been or are being connected with the trunk telephone system. During the year new telephone exchanges were opened at Kalol and Navsari with junction lines to Ahmedabad and Surat respectively.

Schemes to extend the telephone system to Patan, Sidhpur, Harij, Kadi and Bhadrans have been postponed as materials are not available due to war.

339. **FINANCIAL RESULTS**—The gross earning of the Baroda telephone system amounted to Rs. 0.59 lakhs and the working expenses to Rs. 0.19 lakhs. After allowing Rs. 0.13 lakhs for depreciation, the surplus represents a profit of 9 per cent on the capital investment of Rs. 2.94 lakhs.

The gross earning of the Dabhoi telephone exchange was Rs. 6,977. The working expenses were Rs. 2,504. After allowing Rs. 1,862 for depreciation, the surplus represents a profit of 5.8 per cent on the total capital investment of Rs. 44,804.

340. RADIO LICENSES—The number of *radio licenses increased* from 1,054 to 1,420. The revenue realised amounted to Rs. 15,093 as against Rs. 11,020 in the previous year.

341. BROADCASTING STATION—The work of studio building and of laying the underground cable lines made satisfactory progress, but on account of the war, it has not been possible to make arrangements for a transmitter.

CHAPTER XX

FISHERIES

342. MARINE FISHERIES—Fishery surveys were made and biological materials collected. A biological research party under Prof. H. K. Mukerji of the Calcutta University visited Port Okha and surrounding areas.

343. PEARL AND CONCH FISHERIES—The window-pane oyster pearl fisheries were leased for 1940-41 for Rs. 410. The right to collect shanks from Okhamandal seas during the year was also leased for Rs. 925.

344. INDUSTRIAL EXPERIMENTS—Industrial experiments and demonstrations were continued at the stations established in the preceding year at Madhwad and Vanchi-Borsi. Demonstrations were given in fish manure conservancy and fish oil extraction.

At Okha a laboratory for fish oil was established, where shark liver oil was treated and converted into medical oil with 2,000 international units of Vitamin A and 400 units of Vitamin D per gramme.

345. SHARK LIVER OIL INDUSTRY—The scheme for the commercial manufacture of shark liver oil, prepared in the preceding year, was put into operation. Only 400 gallons of oil could be collected. Unsettled weather conditions were largely responsible for this. The oil was found to contain 3,600 international units of Vitamin A and 400 of Vitamin D per gramme. It is expected that with more experience it will be possible to develop a useful shark liver oil industry. The scheme will be worked in the next year on new lines. The fishing and collection of livers will not be done directly by the department but a launch, nets and tackles will be given on loan to reliable fishermen who will be paid by results. The department will be in charge of extraction and subsequent processes necessary for preparing the oil for the market and its marketing. The Government have placed Rs. 15,000 at the disposal of the department for this purpose.

346. FRESH WATER FISHERIES—Cultural operations and studies were continued and Gourami and Pearlsport were stocked in the Timbi tank and the new Baroda park aquarium.

347. SOCIO-ECONOMIC WORK AMONG FISHERMEN—The fishermen's co-operative society at Navsari continued to work. A new society for the Badelas of Beyt island was established during the year. Its members were given fishing tackle on hire-purchase system and supplied shark livers to the department. It has been decided to establish colonies in which enterprising fishermen will be induced to settle. These colonies, besides being a source of regular supply of fish livers for the fish liver oil scheme, will be centres where fishermen will be taught improved and scientific methods of fishing, fish oil extraction, fish manure conservance and other industries. As in the case of rural reconstruction centres the activities of the colony will be developed as far as possible on co-operative lines, with the primary aim of creating a desire for a higher standard of living—the will to live better—and of bringing into existence in the colonies enthusiastic workers with qualities of leadership and enterprise. The first colonies are to be established at Madhwad or at Kotdah. The Government will give the colonists concessions and facilities such as the provision of a motor launch, grant of lands for huts, curing and drying yards and for cultivation, exemption from fees and duties and facilities for supply of salts.

348. STATISTICS AND INFORMATION—Fishery statistics and trade data were collected and supplied to the public as usual and a large number of articles on fish, its uses and pisciculture were prepared and published.

CHAPTER XXI

FORESTS

349. **FORESTS**—The forests of the State, which cover 712·8 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. These forests are of immense value both in preventing soil-erosion and covering the catchment areas of local natural water courses and as producing valuable timber. A cautious policy directed towards conserving and exploiting the forests has been adopted. Plans for silviculture, research, management of forests and utilisation of their produce are being carefully revised and modified according to the recommendations of the forest expert engaged from the Government of Bombay in 1938-39.

A. Silviculture

350. **SYSTEMS**—In the timber forests of the Navsari district, the system of selection-cum-improvement with fixed girth limits for the main species has been introduced in place of the coppice-with-standards worked on a forty year rotation. Girth limit for teak in the main felling has been provisionally fixed at 30". The scrub forests of Sankheda were worked under "modified clear fellings" with a rotation of thirty years.

The fuel forests were worked under the simple coppice system, the trees being so cut as to stimulate regeneration in the form of coppice shoots.

The total area exploited during the year was 21,598 bighas as against 14,264 in the previous year.

351. **REGENERATION**—The rainfall in the forests of the Navsari district was 70 inches. All the principal species seeded well, and plant survival from natural seed and growth of coppice shoots in the felled coupes was satisfactory.

Natural regeneration from fallen seeds was supplemented by artificial sowings under the 'rab' method.

Selected blanks in the freshly worked coupes were clear felled, the debris systematically stacked and burnt and the plot sown with teak and other seeds. The total area thus sown was 87 bighas.

Besides this, 99,500 stump plants of teak were put in the intervening space between 'rabs' and in parts where sowings had failed, and 6,187 nursery plants of various valuable species were planted.

The artificial regeneration was satisfactory except in Gir and Okha ranges, where owing to deficient rainfall plantations have suffered.

352. RESEARCH—Sample plots at different places in the forests have been laid to determine the girth and height increments of the principal species.

Trials with *Sesbania* species to act as hosts for sandalwood were undertaken.

Trials for the cultivation of pyrethrum and derris ferruginea, two exotic insecticide yielding plants, were laid.

B. Utilisation

353. MAJOR FOREST PRODUCE—The timber market showed an improvement and the income from the sale of timber increased by Rs. 0.40 lakhs from Rs. 2.88 to Rs. 3.28 lakhs in the year.

The total area exploited was 21,598 bighas as against 14,264 bighas in the preceding year, but the timber extracted was 631 thousand as against 642 thousand cubic feet, and the fuel extracted 606 thousand as against 872 thousand cubic feet in the preceding year. The average realisation per bigha declined from Rs. 19.9 to Rs. 15.6.

Besides this, Rs. 0.48 lakhs were realised from sale of trees uprooted by the cyclone of October 1940, and Rs. 8,000 from sale of trees standing on lands exchanged for cultivated lands.

354. 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. 1.02 lakhs as compared with Rs. 0.40 lakhs in the previous year, but 1939-40 was a sub-normal year, as large remissions were granted in grazing fees owing to the failure of rains.

The grazing fees amounted to Rs. 46,500 as against Rs. 5,300 in the preceding year; bamboos brought in Rs. 13,200 as against Rs. 16,600; stone from Songir quarries Rs. 4,800 as against Rs. 3,600; timru leaves Rs. 3,200 as against Rs. 2,900; lac Rs. 1,370, and miscellaneous revenue was Rs. 32,500. In the miscellaneous revenue a new

item of Rs. 9,221 was the royalty for the exploitation of catechu begun during the year.

355. **FOREST INDUSTRIES**—In the preceding year cultivation of lac was expanded in the forests of the Navsari district on scientific lines.

A lease for the development of katha (catechu), lac and timru leaves industries in these forests has been granted. The details will be found in the chapter on Industries.

Portable charcoal kilns were given on hire to contractors for manufacture of charcoal.

Logs of kalam, papdo kakad, bondaro and moddal were sent to the utilisation officer, Forest Research Institute, Dehradun, for opinion on their suitability for manufacture of ply wood, for use as splints and veneer for match industry. Bamboos of various kinds were also sent to the Director, Technological Laboratory, Indian Central Cotton Committee, to determine the quality of alfacellulose.

356. **MISCELLANEOUS**—To relieve fodder scarcity in Okhamandal, the department supplied 14,28,000 lbs. of grass from the forest bids of Gir.

People of the Navsari forest areas are allowed to take from the forests, free of cost, materials for huts. During the year materials worth Rs. 44,400 were taken.

C. Forest Administration

357. **FOREST ROADS ETC.**—The income from forest cess amounted to Rs. 41,200 during the year as against Rs. 29,200 in the preceding year. The income is utilised for the construction of forest roads. During the year, 14 miles of fair weather roads were completed and 10.75 miles were under construction. The amount spent from the forest cess during the year on these roads was Rs. 49,077 as against Rs. 36,076 in the preceding year. The expenditure on maintenance of roads was Rs. 1,832, and of buildings and wells Rs. 3,595.

358. **FOREST OFFENCES**—The number of forest offences was 62 as against 117 in the preceding year, a decrease of nearly 47 per cent. Owing to failure of rains, the number of offences under unauthorised grazing was abnormally high in the preceding year - 60 as against 5 during the year.

359. **PROTECTION FROM FIRE**—The area burnt by fire during the year was 7,509 bighas or 0.9 per cent of the total area as against 4,778 bighas in the previous year. The expenditure on fire protection was

Rs. 4,699 or Rs. 6-9-7 per square mile as against Rs. 5-12-9 in the preceding year.

360. PROTECTION FROM CATTLE—Under the new system adopted on the recommendation of the forest expert, felled coupes were thrown open to grazing in the sixth year instead of the tenth after felling. The closure is now limited to areas which after felling have been put under regeneration and those with young plantations. There was accordingly a decrease in the area closed from 18.2 per cent to 14.5 per cent.

During the year 90,231 animals grazed as against 1,03,969 in the previous year. The revenue realised under this head was Rs. 35,379 as against Rs. 2,857 in the previous year. The increase was due partly to adjustment of accounts and partly to remissions amounting to Rs. 16,200 given in the preceding year in Okhamandal, Gir and Atarsumba ranges.

The incidence of grazing in the reserved forests was 7.4 bighas per animal during the year as against 6.6 bighas in the previous year.

361. DESTRUCTION OF VEGETATION—According to the working plan, in one-eighth of the area of each range creepers are destroyed every year. In addition, coupe contractors are required under their agreements to cut climbers in their coupes. During the year climbers were destroyed in 85,000 bighas as against 75,000 in the preceding year.

362. REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE—The total revenue for the year was Rs. 5.05 lakhs (including Rs. 41,000 of forest cess) as against Rs. 3.74 lakhs in the preceding year. The increase was due to Rs. 48,000 realised from trees uprooted by the cyclone of October 1940, Rs. 9,200 from katha royalty and the increase of Rs. 41,000 under grass and grazing. The expenditure decreased by Rs. 41,000 from Rs. 1.66 lakhs to Rs. 1.25 lakhs. This was due to the unusual expenditure incurred in the preceding year as a result of adjustment of accounts and on the supply of grass for Okhamandal.

CHAPTER XXII

PUBLIC WORKS

363. IRRIGATION—The following irrigation schemes were under execution or investigation:—

- (i) *The Vijapur tube well irrigation scheme in the Mehsana district* : To test the sub-soil supply of water, forty tube wells were sanctioned in the previous year. Eleven of these have been completed. Eight have proved successful, yielding between twenty to thirty thousand gallons of water an hour, three proved failures as they yielded less than 18,000 gallons an hour, and work on six tube wells was in progress. Engines and pumps have been installed on five wells and irrigation channels are under construction. The erection of power house has also been started.
- (ii) *The Zankhari river irrigation project in the Navsari district* : The scheme with the opinion of the two experts, who were invited to submit report on it, is now under consideration of the Government.
- (iii) *The Sabarmati river irrigation project in the Mehsana district* : The report on this scheme has been submitted to the Government and is under consideration.
- (iv) *The Shetrunji river irrigation project in the Amreli district* : The preliminary survey has been completed.
- (v) *Mithikhadi storage tank in Okhamandal* : The scheme, which is intended to serve as an additional storage to supplement the Bhimgaja tank for supply of drinking water to Mithapur and Okha as well as for irrigation, was taken up in the preceding year as famine relief work. Its estimated cost is Rs. 91,200. The work is in progress.
- (vi) *Dharusana system* : It is proposed to effect improvements in the system preparatory to linking it with the Sabarmati project. The survey has been completed.

(vii) *The Piplana storage and drainage scheme* : The object is to improve the salt areas in the Harij taluka. The survey has been completed and proposals are being formulated.

(viii) *Umra scheme* : This is a scheme for improving irrigation facilities in the Gandevi taluka for growing sugar cane. It has been sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 1·6 lakhs. The work is in progress.

The existing irrigation works irrigated 9,290 bighas yielding a revenue of Rs. 35,027. The net return was Rs. 3·7 per bigha as against Rs. 3·1 in the previous year.

364. FIELD DRAINS 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. For these works a provision of Rs. 0·95 lakhs was made.

In the Baroda district, 7 miles of new channels were cut, 8 miles of drains were repaired and 288 miles of main drains were maintained.

The bunding of the kotar at Mujpur in the Baroda district was completed, and of Ranapura kotar was in progress.

365. 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 Pratapura, the filter beds at Nimetta and the mains outside municipal limits are the charge of the department. These were maintained in working order at a cost of Rs. 35,775 during the year.

The water-works at Ranoli and Methi were completed during the year at a cost of Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 2,033 respectively. Besides these, a number of schemes for supplying water to towns were either in progress or under investigation. In all these schemes the Government bears half the cost.

(i) *Dharmaj* : The scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 1·06 lakhs. The work is in progress.

(ii) *Navsari* : To improve the water supply of the town two bores have been taken up for the present. They have been sunk to a depth of about 175 feet and have yielded 15,000 gallons of water per hour, but they have yet to be re-gauged. The sump well is nearing completion. The scheme is estimated to cost Rs. 0·94 lakhs.

- (iii) *Billimora* : One well of 12' diameter was sunk and estimates for two more have been sanctioned. It is expected that these will meet the needs of the town.
- (iv) *Songadh* : A scheme of water supply for Songadh town has been sanctioned at an estimated cost of Rs. 18,000. The work will be taken in hand during the next year.
- (v) *Mehsana* : A ten inch bore has been sunk to a depth of 625 feet, but as it has encountered sand, it is proposed to carry it further with eight inch pipes. For this scheme Rs. 0.51 lakhs have been sanctioned.
- (vi) *Amreli* : His Highness gave a gift of Rs. 10 lakhs for the water supply scheme. The work on the wells is in progress.
- (vii) *Dwarka* : The scheme for water supply at Dwarka has been worked out by the sanitary engineer and is under consideration of the Dwarka municipality.
- (viii) *Dehgam* : The work of the water supply scheme for the town was in progress.
- (ix) *Patan* : A scheme for increasing the supply for the town was in progress.
- (x) *Beyt* : Two wells have been sunk in the bed of Dhingeshwar tank at Beyt and the feeder of the Ranchhodsar tank has been improved. A survey is being made to ascertain whether the catchment area of the Dhingeshwar tank can be enlarged.

366. DRAINAGE WORKS—The Baroda City drainage works including storm water drains were maintained in good order at a cost of Rs. 39,768. New drainage lines were laid in Nawapura, Pratapganj and in other parts of the city.

Drainage works at the following towns were either in progress or completed during the year :—

- (i) *Bhadran* : The main work is completed. The work of additional drainage lines is in progress. The power house and plant have been erected.
- (ii) *Sankheda* : The work of constructing open drains was sanctioned. It is estimated to cost Rs. 38,000.
- (iii) *Navsari* : The work of Navsari town drainage was completed. A scheme for drains in Madhomati area is sanctioned and

work is in progress. The extension of underground drainage to the mill area near Navsari station was sanctioned. It is estimated to cost Rs. 60,000.

- (iv) *Visnagar* : The work of additional lines and the erection of the power house plant is in progress.

The total expenditure on these schemes, it is estimated, will be Rs. 11·09 lakhs. The expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 0·49 lakhs.

367. **ROADS**—The following roads were under construction during the year :—

- (i) Bombay—Ahmedabad road : the work on the portion between Bhadran and the Mahi river, 26 miles in length, in the Baroda district;
- (ii) Padra—Dabhasa road : the metalling of this road, 4·5 miles in length, in the Baroda district;
- (iii) Kathore—Kim—Velacha—Mangrol road, 17 miles in length, in the Navsari district;
- (iv) Mahuva—Anawal road, 18 miles in length, in the Amreli district.

The Kalyanpura—Lalsingpura road, 3·87 miles in length, in the Amreli district and the Arambhada—Adatra road, 2 miles in length, were completed during the year.

The high level bridge over the Tapti near Kathore was completed at a cost of Rs. 4·20 lakhs. The causeway on the Shingoda river in the Amreli district was being constructed.

The total estimated expenditure on these works is Rs. 9·18 lakhs and the expenditure incurred during the year was Rs. 1·79 lakhs.

368. **FOREST ROADS**—In the forest of the Navsari district the following fair weather roads were either in progress or were completed during the year. The expenditure on these is met from the forest local cess :—

- (i) Karad to Adgam road, 9·75 miles in length;
- (ii) Umarpada—Khant road, 4·62 miles in length;
- (iii) Kashi—Vijapur—Nanchal border road, 5 miles in length;
- (iv) Baoli—Ukai road, 3·25 miles in length;

(v) Valotha—Amaina road, 7 miles in length;

(vi) Umparpadha—Chokhawada road, 3.87 miles in length.

The total expenditure on these roads during the year was Rs. 49,077.

369. BUILDINGS—The following public buildings were completed or work on them was in progress during the year :—

- (i) *Hospitals*: the tuberculosis hospital at Baroda, the children's ward at Shri Sayaji General Hospital, maternity home and dispensary at Sojitra, the Shri Sayaji Hospital at Petlad and the Dwarka hospital;
- (ii) *School buildings*: high schools at Sojitra and Patan, and dormitories on the Baroda model farm;
- (iii) *Military buildings*: barracks, miniature range and workshop for the 1st Infantry, bungalows for officers of the 1st Infantry and barracks at Warashia;
- (iv) *Other public buildings*: the broadcasting studio building at Baroda, a strong room for the Raj treasury at Baroda and municipal offices at Patan.

The expenditure on public buildings incurred during the year was Rs. 12.69 lakhs.

370. FURNITURE FACTORY—The factory was run successfully during the year.

371. EXPENDITURE—The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 40.48 lakhs as against Rs. 37.37 lakhs in the preceding year. Of these, Rs. 14.16 lakhs were on new works, Rs. 7.76 lakhs on repairs, Rs. 4.20 lakhs on establishment and Rs. 9.72 lakhs were deposit contribution.

CHAPTER XXIII

STATE RAILWAYS

372. STATE RAILWAYS—The total mileage of the railways owned by the State, including Bodeli Chhota-Udaipur Railway, was 723 miles of which, 21·42 miles were broad-gauge, 345·85 metre-gauge and 355·73 narrow-gauge. The Anand-Tarapur line, 21·42 miles, was worked by the B. B. & C. I. Railway, the Okha Railway, 37·21 miles, by the Jamnagar and Dwarka Railway, and the remaining 663·96 miles by the State.

The arrangements for the working of the Anand-Tarapur line, after the B. B. & C. I. Railway is taken over by the Government of India, are under consideration of the Government.

The mileage worked by the State was as follows :—

	<i>Main lines</i>	<i>Sidings</i>
	miles	miles
(a) Narrow-gauge	355·73	57·99
(b) Metre-gauge	308·23	40·44
Gaekwar's Mehsana	255·12	
Khijadia-Dhari	37·46	
Prachi Road-Kodinar.	15·65	
Total	663·96	98·43

373. NEW PROJECTS—Engineering survey for the alternative route of the Khalipur-Radhanpur Railway was carried out and the final alignment was being decided. The line will be so located as to serve the Kankrej taluka situated in the Banaskantha Agency. The undertaking has been postponed on account of the war.

374. IMPORTANT WORKS—A number of important works for the comfort of passengers and the improvement of the railways were either completed or were in progress at the end of the year. Additions and alterations were made to station buildings at Patan, Harij and Manund Road and waiting rooms provided at Manund Road and Naswadi and electric pump and lights at Kadi. A crossing loop at Panchot and a second loop line at Kaledia were provided and the dead-end at Adraj-moti station was converted into a loop. Additional works to stop

future damage by floods on Khijadiya-Dhari and on Prachi Road-Kodinar Railways were undertaken.

375. **GROSS EARNINGS**—The gross earnings for the year amounted to Rs. 61.12 lakhs. Of these, Rs. 52.27 lakhs were from narrow-gauge and metre-gauge lines managed by the State, and Rs. 8.84 lakhs were from the Anand-Tarapur and Okha sections managed by foreign railways. The gross earnings of the metre-gauge railways as compared to the preceding year increased by 6.9 per cent from Rs. 23.91 lakhs to Rs. 25.57 lakhs and that of the narrow-gauge lines by 6.7 per cent from Rs. 25.02 lakhs to Rs. 26.70 lakhs.

The coaching and goods earnings on both the narrow-gauge and metre-gauge sections increased by Rs. 6.33 lakhs, as compared to the average of the previous ten years.

376. **WORKING EXPENSES**—The working expenses of the State managed railways, excluding depreciation, amounted to Rs. 26.19 lakhs as against Rs. 25.18 lakhs and of the Anand-Tarapur and Okha Railways to Rs. 4.19 lakhs as against Rs. 3.84 lakhs in the preceding year. The increase was mainly due to higher cost of materials, increased freight charges on coal and repairs to lines damaged by heavy rains. The ratio of working expenses to gross traffic receipts again improved: on the metre-gauge from 60.12 to 60.03 per cent and on the narrow-gauge from 66.91 to 62.83 per cent. Excluding contribution to the depreciation fund, the ratio on the metre-gauge was 50.91 as against 50.34 per cent and on the narrow-gauge 49.35 as against 52.52 per cent in the preceding year.

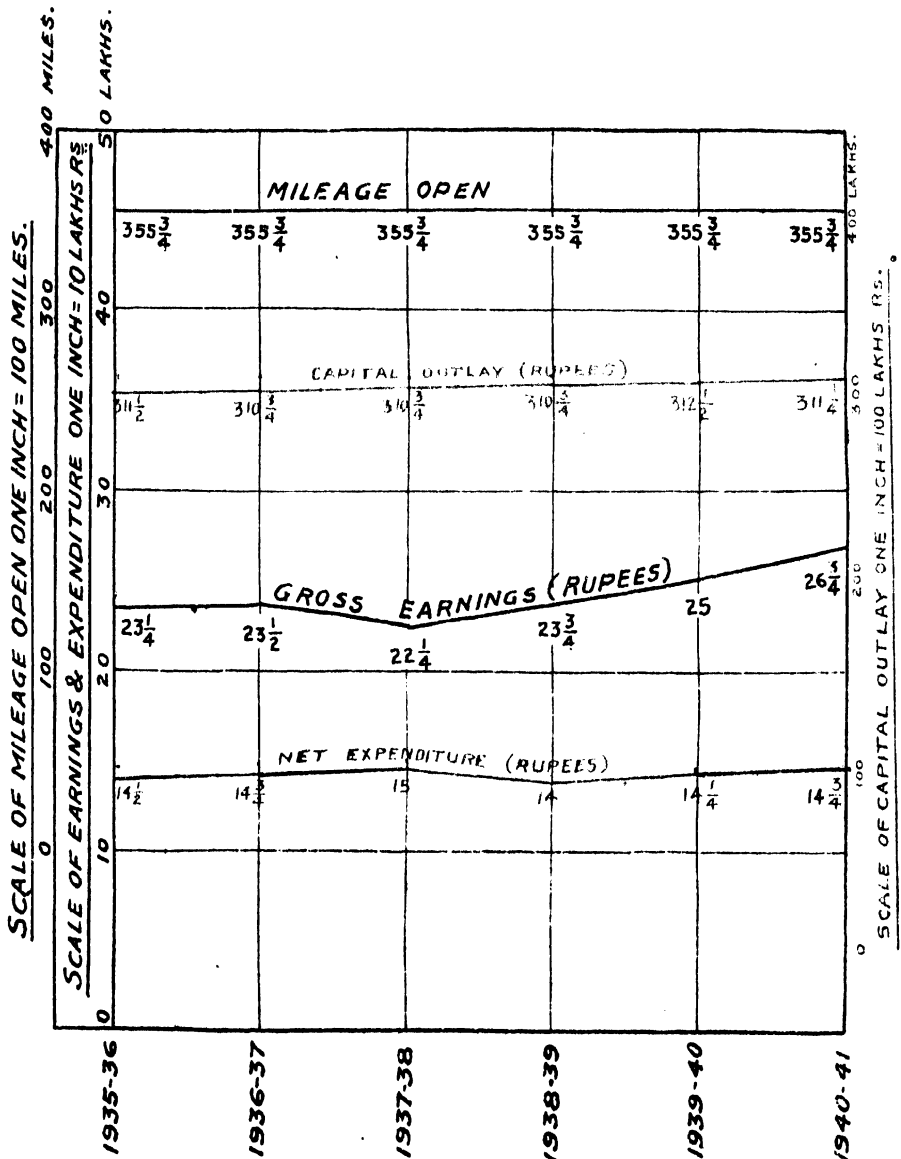
377. **NET EARNINGS**—The net earnings of the railways amounted to Rs. 24.80 lakhs, yielding a return of 4.44 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 558 lakhs. The following statement shows the details of the financial working of the railways:—

Name of Railway	Year	Capital invested (Rs. in lakhs)	Gross earnings (Rs. in lakhs)	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)	Net earnings (Rs. in lakhs)	Working percentage	Percentage of return on capital	Length in miles	Cost per mile	Working expenses per mile
Narrow Gauge	1941	311.34	26.70	16.78	9.92	62.83	3.19	355.73	87,521	4,715
	1940	312.42	25.02	16.74	8.28	66.91	2.65	355.73	87,824	4,707
	1939	310.8	23.83	16.64	7.19	69.81	2.31	355.73	87,384	4,677

NARROW GAUGE RAILWAY

DIAGRAM SHOWING

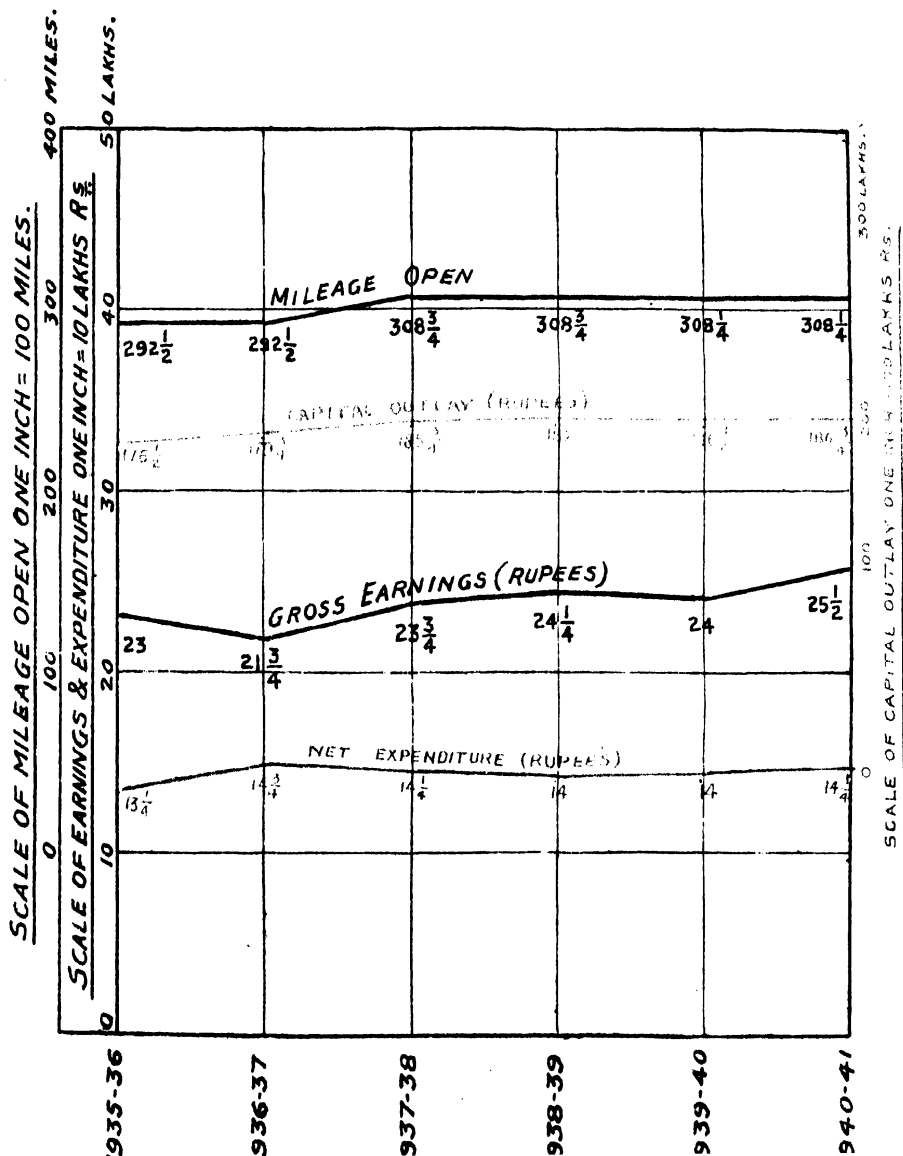
THE MILEAGE, CAPITAL OUTLAY, GROSS EARNINGS & WORKING EXPENDITURE



METRE GAUGE RAILWAY

DIAGRAM SHOWING

THE MILEAGE, CAPITAL OUTLAY, GROSS EARNINGS & WORKING EXPENDITURE.



Name of Railway	Year	Capital invested (Rs. in lakhs)	Gross earnings (Rs. in lakhs)	Expenditure (Rs. in lakhs)	Net earnings (Rs. in lakhs)	Working percentage	Percentage of return on capital	Length in miles	Cost per mile	Working expenses per mile
Metre Gauge	1941	186.84	25.58	15.36	10.22	60.03	5.47	308.23	60,617	4,981
	1940	186.58	23.91	14.37	9.54	60.12	5.11	308.23	60,531	4,663
	1939	186.95	24.14	15.26	8.88	63.21	4.75	308.68	60,567	4,944
Anand Tarapur	1941	14.6	4.72	2.23	2.49	47.30	17.03	21.42	68,195	10,423
	1940	14.6	4.27	2.23	2.04	52.20	13.99	21.42	68,195	10,416
	1939	14.6	4.40	2.40	2.00	54.51	13.71	21.42	68,195	11,206
Okha	1941	45.81	4.13	1.96	2.17	47.38	4.74	37.21	1,23,109	5,256
	1940	44.96	3.36	1.61	1.75	47.96	3.90	37.21	1,20,822	4,339
	1939	42.5	3.42	2.00	1.42	58.53	3.33	37.21	1,14,239	5,773

The contribution to the depreciation fund is calculated on the basis of 1.25 per cent of the total capital at charge at the end of the previous year. It works out at Rs. 3.60 lakhs for narrow-gauge and Rs. 2.33 lakhs for metre-gauge. Thus during the year Rs. 5.93 lakhs were credited to the depreciation fund as in the preceding year. The amount charged to the fund was Rs. 1.70 lakhs in case of narrow-gauge and Rs. 1.16 lakhs in case of metre-gauge. Thus the closing balances increased by Rs. 1.90 lakhs and Rs. 1.17 lakhs to Rs. 22.13 lakhs and Rs. 6.23 lakhs for narrow-gauge and metre-gauge railways respectively.

378. RESERVE FUND—In addition to the depreciation fund, there is a railway reserve fund, which is credited with the surplus of net earnings, deducting interest on the capital outlay at four per cent. This fund is intended for

- (i) meeting the deficiency of gross earnings to defray working expenses, should such a contingency arise in any year, and
- (ii) providing funds for further capital expenditure.

The balance in the fund at the end of the year was Rs. 17.75 lakhs.

379. **TRAFFIC FIGURES**—The following table compares the traffic receipts in details with those of the previous year:—

(Figures in lakhs of rupees)

	Narrow-gauge		Metre-gauge	
	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40
Coaching	11·84	11·14	15·63	14·50
Goods	13·38	12·46	9·36	8·93
Miscellaneous	1·47	1·42	0·58	0·47
Total	26·69	25·02	25·57	23·90

The table below gives comparative figures of cotton traffic, which is the principal item of goods traffic:—

Year	Number of full pressed bales	Number of half pressed bales	Kapas in wagon loads
	NARROW-GAUGE		
1940-41	1,09,988	15,838	1,702
1939-40	1,26,721	20,545	1,004
1938-39	1,26,844	22,123	1,031
	METRE-GAUGE		
1940-41	40,045	2,857	762
1939-40	36,926	...	156
1938-39	89,762	1,618	1,072

380. **WAGON POOL**—The wagon pool, introduced by the Railway Board for metre-gauge railways in 1939, continued in operation.

381. **RAIL-ROAD COMPETITION**—Under the control of the State Economic Board, the rail-road competition department organised motor bus services on several roads, opened out-agencies where necessary, and flag stations for public convenience, and introduced additional fast trains both on the narrow-gauge and metre-gauge railways. The results of these efforts were satisfactory and were being closely watched.

A number of meetings with merchants, members of the district boards and municipalities and others were arranged to ascertain the requirements of the public.

382. **SCHEMES OF ELECTRIFICATION**—Few persons have taken advantage of the electric installations at Sandhasal and Jarod, completed in the preceding year. At Sandhasal 28 connections have been given and at Jarod one.

383. **LOCAL AGENTS AT FLAG STATIONS**—Local agents have been appointed at four flag stations. The system has worked well and the earnings at these stations have almost doubled.

384. **TICKETLESS TRAVEL**—Measures were taken to improve the system of ticket examination. Surprise squad checking system was introduced to replace the existing crew system, which was continued only on isolated sections. The effect of this change is being carefully watched.

385. **MEDICAL SERVICE**—Railway dispensaries in charge of full time medical officers have been established at Goya Gate, Dabhoi and Mehsana. At other places on isolated branch lines, arrangements have been made with the Medical department to attend to the needs of the staff.

Two travelling nurse midwives appointed as a tentative measure—one for narrow-gauge and the other for metre-gauge lines—were confirmed. They have proved useful to the out-station staff.

386. **SANITARY COMMITTEES**—Sanitary committees have been established at several stations both on the narrow-gauge and the metre-gauge railways. They are functioning well.

387. **CO-OPERATIVE CREDIT SOCIETY**—The society had 1,189 members during the year as against 1,161 in the previous year. The members held 12,984 shares as against 12,789 in the previous year. The working capital was Rs. 85,084, working expenses Rs. 1,299 and the net profit Rs. 3,952. The society, since its establishment in 1922, has been rendering useful service to the railway staff.

388. **RECREATION FOR STAFF**—The railway institutes at Goya Gate, Baroda City and Dabhoi were popular. Membership of the institutes is compulsory for the staff stationed at those places. The institutes are managed by committees elected annually by the members.

389. **COLLECTION OF TERMINAL TAX**—The terminal tax on goods and parcel traffic collected by the railways on behalf of Baroda and

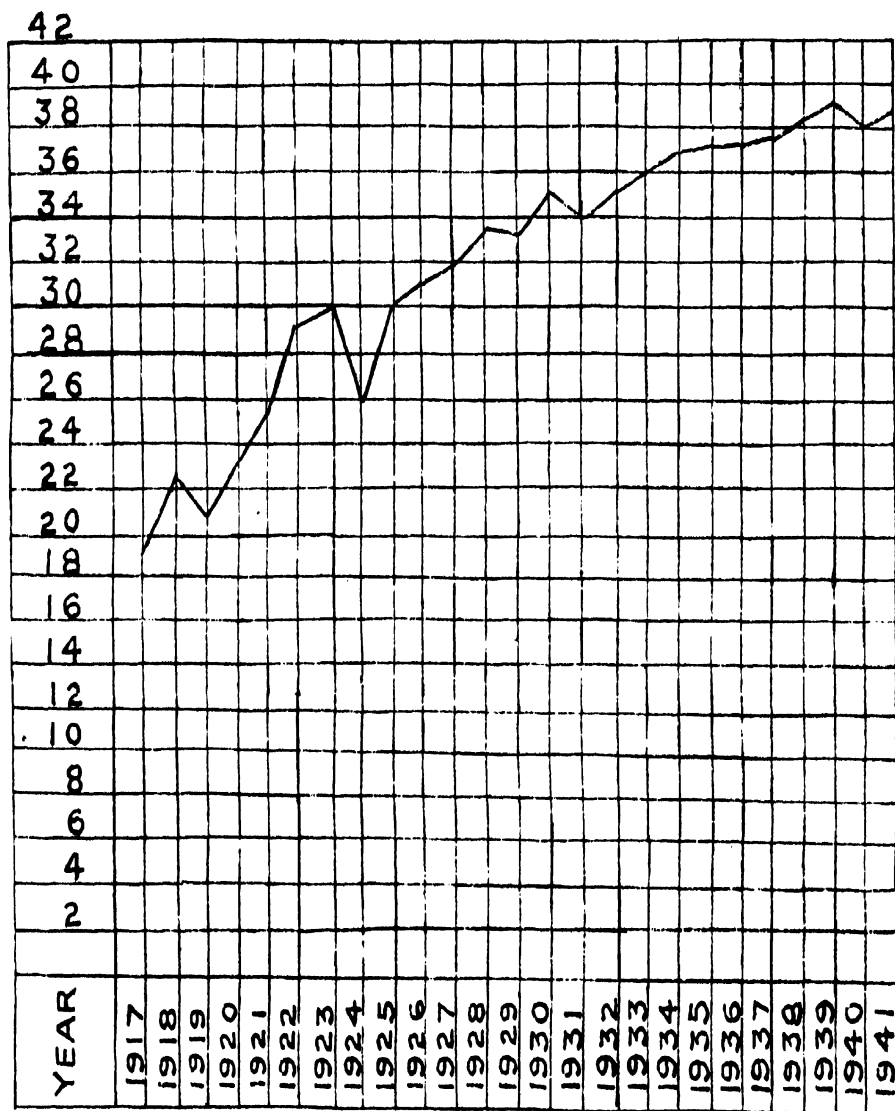
Petlad municipalities at Goya Gate, Vishvamitri and Petlad stations amounted to Rs. 42,288 – Rs. 42,245 for Baroda municipality and Rs. 43 for Petlad municipality.

390. DAMAGE TO LINES DUE TO RAIN—The heavy rains of July 1941 caused breaches on almost all the sections of the narrow-gauge lines and Mehsana-Taranga and Kalol-Bechraji sections of the metre-gauge lines. Repairs were taken in hand immediately and the traffic restored with little delay.

On Motipura-Tankhala section six arches of the Men river bridge and one pier of Aswan river bridge were washed away. As it was not possible to rebuild the damaged bridges immediately, a section of about seven miles on this line is temporarily closed.

The cost of the repairs of breaches is estimated at Rs. 1.36 lakhs and of bridges Rs. 0.66 lakhs.

DIAGRAM SHOWING FLUCTUATIONS IN EDUCATIONAL EXPENDITURE IN LAKHS OF RUPEES.



CHAPTER XXIV

EDUCATION

391. GENERAL PROGRESS—Satisfactory progress was maintained in all branches of education, and important measures of reorganisation to improve the quality were adopted during the year. The expenditure of all institutions was reviewed by committees specially appointed for the purpose, and orders passed on their reports.

The measures adopted by the department to reduce wastage and stagnation were reviewed during the year. These measures relate to the enrolment of children of school going age in the beginning of each year, securing regular attendance, improvement in the training of teachers, facilities and scholarships for training women teachers, bonus and special promotions to encourage good teaching, improvement of schools by amalgamation of single teacher schools with larger schools of the neighbourhood and raising the quality and frequency of inspection. These measures have led to an improvement, and reduced stagnation and wastage during the last ten years, from 72 per cent to 50 per cent. As a result of the inquiry during the year, the Government ordered that examinations in primary schools, except in classes V and VII, should be conducted by headmasters instead of by deputy inspectors. The effect of this change will be to make promotions dependent on a pupil's progress during the year, rather than on the result of a single examination at the end.

Orders were also passed for the reorganisation of men's training school. The number of classes were increased and all the untrained men teachers under 35 years of age were ordered to be trained in two batches in the next two years. After that is done, admissions to the school will be on the results of an admission examination, special places and scholarships being reserved for Muslims and backward classes.

Thirty thousand rupees have been set aside for publication of a new reading series in Gujarati, to be written specially for the primary schools of the State. These readers will contain lessons related to the life, history and problems of the State and Gujarat.

The Government have been devoting considerable attention to the health of the children in schools. In 1938, they decided to introduce gradually compulsory physical education in all the primary and secondary schools of the State. The same year the first step was

taken, and physical education was made compulsory in schools of the Baroda City and taluka. In 1939-40, compulsory physical education was extended to the whole of the Baroda district. A large number of teachers were trained in physical education for the Navsari and the Mehsana districts and during the year it was possible to extend compulsory education to all the schools of the State. During the year 879 teachers were given training in physical education, making the total number of trained teachers 2,695 of whom 321 were secondary school teachers.

With the object of enlisting the co-operation of the educated women in education of their little children, children's gatherings are held once or twice a week under the guidance of teachers and educated women of the villages at which games, dialogues and dramas are arranged. At the end of the year, there were 120 such classes attended by 2,742 children and 739 ladies were taking part in them.

392. SCHOLARSHIPS—The State has a fairly comprehensive scheme of scholarships specially for the backward and poor communities. In the college, besides merit and other special scholarships, there are 28 scholarships for students of backward communities and 10 per cent of the students are given freeships. Of these, ten are for Muslims and ten for the Scheduled classes. In the Kalabhavan, there are 64 Government scholarships of the value of Rs. 8,185 per year, of which 22 are for backward classes and 30 for artisans. For medical studies there are five scholarships, two for agriculture, two for veterinary and one for commerce and economics. In secondary schools, there are Government scholarships worth Rs. 18,017 a year. Besides this, 20 per cent students in all secondary schools are free and there are additional freeships for Muslims and backward classes. To encourage education of girls, 25 to 45 per cent, varying with the districts, of the girls studying in secondary schools are awarded freeships.

393. EDUCATION OF THE ROYAL CHILDREN—The Motibag school was reorganised into senior and junior and kindergarten classes. The work of the senior class was entrusted to Mr. Young who has been appointed tutor to Shrimant Yuvraj. Special attention was paid to physical training. Gardening was introduced in the senior class and history and geography in the junior. The progress made by the pupils was satisfactory.

Shrimant Yuvraj takes keen interest in cricket and the boy scouts movement. He was invested as Chief Cub by His Highness the Maharaja at the sixth State Rally in January 1941. He also took part in number of excursions and was deputed by His Highness to attend several State functions.

394. INSTITUTIONS—There were 2,320 primary schools in the State, of which 2,207 were Government and 113 aided schools. These had on the register 2,67,068 pupils or 87·3 per cent of the population of school-going age.

The number of secondary schools was 139 – 37 high schools and 102 A. V. schools. Of these, 19 high schools and 73 A. V. schools were private institutions.

The Baroda College had 1,539 students in June 1940 and over 1,700 in June 1941.

Technical education is imparted at the Kalabhavan and the vocational high school at Baroda, the district industrial schools at Amreli and Patan and the J. N. Tata Hunnershala at Navsari. There were altogether 919 students in these institutions.

For the training of teachers, the State maintains a secondary teachers' training college and two training schools for primary teachers. In the former there were 175 students and in the latter 662.

Besides these, there were five music schools, seven Sanskrit schools, two schools for defectives and twelve boarding houses for the depressed and other backward communities. The total number of such special institutions was 45, with 4,745 pupils attending them, of which 818 were girls.

I. The Baroda College

395. THE BARODA COLLEGE—The College, founded in 1881, became a full-fledged Arts and Science College affiliated to the University of Bombay. Since 1900 it has been recognised for post graduate studies. Twenty-four members of the college staff are at present recognised as University teachers for post graduate instruction which is given in all the important subjects, Arts as well as Science. In 1936, the Jubilee Institute of Science with its well equipped laboratories was opened and the entire science teaching was transferred to it.

The number of students in the college was 1,539, as against 1,336 in the previous year. Of these, 139 were lady students. Additional classes were opened and lecturers appointed to meet the need of the additional students. The number of students belonging to the State was 1,051 or 68·2 per cent compared to 64·5 per cent in the previous year. There were 69 students from other Indian States and 419 from British India.

About 160 students were accommodated in the three separate hostel blocks attached to the college.

The examination results were on the whole good. Of the eight students who took their M. A. degree, four were placed in second class. Ninety-six students took their B.A. degree, of whom three were placed in first class and twenty-three in second class. Of the fifty-seven students who were successful at the B.Sc. degree examination, four (two with distinction) were placed in first class and thirty-two in second class.

396. RESEARCH WORK—Prof. C. V. Joshi published the second volume of Saddhamma-Pakasini and the sixth volume of Historical Selections from Baroda State Records. He contributed an article “The Gaekwads in Kathiawad” to the New Indian Antiquary of March 1941.

Dr. D. V. Gogate contributed a paper on “Degeneracy in Non-Relativistic Bose-Einstein Statistics” to the Indian Journal of Physics.

397. SEMINAR FOR THE COMPARATIVE STUDY OF RELIGIONS—The seminar which was established in 1935 was reorganised and continued for three years. A committee was appointed to guide the Director. Dr. Ali, who was continued as Director, was also entrusted with the translation of Mirate-Ahmadi into English.

398. RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURE —The following table shows the receipts and expenditure of the college and the average net cost per each pupil during the last three years:—

Year	Receipts	Expenditure	Net cost per pupil
	(in lakhs of rupees)		Rs.
1940-41	1.57	2.54	55.7 .
1939-40	1.27	2.38	83.2
1938-39	1.08	2.45	121.0

II. Secondary education

399. GENERAL—The policy of Government is to encourage private bodies by giving grants-in-aid to open and maintain English schools and classes. The response has been encouraging.

Of the 37 high schools in the State, 19 are private institutions, and of the 102 A. V. schools, 73 are under private management. The Government practising school at Baroda was converted into a high

school and new private high schools were opened at Baroda, Sidhpur and Vyara.

The number of pupils in secondary schools was 26,365 as against 24,896 in the previous year. Out of these, 10,715 including 1,648 girls were in Government schools, 7,780 including 622 girls in aided schools and 7,870 including 283 girls in other recognised institutions. The increase in the number of girls studying in secondary schools was maintained. The number was 1,989 in 1938, 2,389 in 1939 and 2,554 in 1940. Till recently the Maharani High School was the only girls high school in the City but now two A. V. schools have been started.

400. GRANT-IN-AID INSTITUTIONS—The total number of schools and institutions that received grant-in-aid from Government was twenty—13 high schools and 7 A. V. schools. A special grant-in-aid of Rs. 720 was given to the manual training classes attached to the A. J. High School, Vaso, and the Kadi Sarva Vidyalaya High School. The total grant given to privately managed institutions during the year was Rs. 47,382 as against Rs. 48,325 in the previous year.

401. BOARDING HOUSES—There are four hostels, maintained by the Government, attached to the Maharani Girls High School, Baroda, and to the high schools at Patan, Visnagar and Mehsana. The Government bears the major portion of the expenditure of these hostels. Besides these, there were 8 private hostels. Government have discontinued giving grants-in-aid to such hostels, except in case of communities or areas which are educationally backward.

402. MATRICULATION RESULTS—The matriculation results of all the high schools were below the University average of 51 per cent pass. The average percentage of passes for the Government high schools was 52.2, for private high schools 43.8 and for all high schools 47.8.

403. 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 untrained teachers, training centres were opened and camps organised.

404. MANUAL TRAINING—The value of education through handicrafts is now recognised. Manual training and Sloyd classes have, therefore, been attached to the high schools at Mehsana, Patan, Visnagar, Padra, Petlad, Bhadran, Kathore, Gangadhara, Amreli and Dwarka. The students show considerable interest in the work.

405. EXPENDITURE AND RECEIPTS—The expenditure on secondary education during the year was Rs. 5.45 lakhs and the receipts Rs. 2.05 lakhs, as against Rs. 5.23 lakhs and Rs. 1.99 lakhs in the preceding year.

III. Primary education

406. SCHOOLS AND PUPILS—As a result of the steady efforts of the department to amalgamate weak schools with larger ones, the number of Government primary schools has been reduced during the year from 2,294 to 2,207. The increase in the number of pupils however was maintained, and there were 2,67,068 pupils in the schools as against 2,61,857 in the previous year. Of these, 1,54,442 were boys and 1,12,626 girls as against 1,52,471 boys and 1,09,386 girls in the previous year. The percentage of boys and girls under instruction to the male and female population was 13.1 and 9.6 respectively. The total number of students attending primary schools formed 87.3 per cent as against 86.7 per cent in the previous year. This was largely due to the stricter enforcement of compulsory education.

The average daily attendance during the year under report was 82.3 per cent as against 84.3 per cent during the previous year. This drop in the attendance percentage is attributed to the suspension of the recovery of compulsory fines in some districts of the State because of the failure of monsoon.

407. TRAINING OF TEACHERS—The efficiency of teaching depends to a large extent on the qualities and training of the teachers. Steady efforts have been made to train all primary school teachers in the department, and improve the training given. Admissions to the training schools have been increased from time to time and during the year the two schools had 662 teachers under training. The course has also been extended to two years for all teachers. As a result of these efforts there has been an improvement in the proportion of trained teachers and in their quality. During the year out of the total of 6,496 teachers in primary schools, 4,985 or 76.7 per cent were trained teachers. Of the remaining 1,511, the majority were either new teachers or teachers with more than 15 years' experience.

408. GIRLS SCHOOLS—The total number of girls schools was 283, of which 276 were Government and 7 private institutions. The number of girls attending these schools was 44,548. Besides these, there were 68,078 girls attending mixed schools. Thus the total number of girls attending schools during the year was 1,12,626 as against 1,09,386 in the previous year, showing an increase of 3,240. There was a Zanana class in Petlad with 59 women on the roll.

409. KINDERGARTEN SCHOOLS—The total number of kindergarten schools was 29 with 1,638 pupils. Of these, 24 with 1,265 pupils were private institutions. To encourage private efforts in this field, the Government have increased the amount of annual grant from Rs. 1,800 to Rs. 5,000 and reduced the fees from Re. 1 to As. 8 per month per pupil.

410. **EXPENDITURE**—The total expenditure on primary education was Rs. 22.24 lakhs as against Rs. 22.18 lakhs in the preceding year.

411. **ADULT LITERACY CAMPAIGN**—The adult literacy campaign started in May 1939 was continued. The sum of Rs. 10,000 sanctioned for the purpose was devoted half for maintaining classes in backward areas and half for classes in areas selected for intensive efforts. A bonus of Rs. 50 per each batch of fifty adults rendered literate was offered to each centre. Honorary workers doing good work were given prizes of Rs. 50 to Rs. 250 per year.

From the beginning of the literacy campaign till the end of July 1941, the total number of classes conducted was 1,795. In all 26,457 adult illiterates attended these classes and of these 9,861 attained literacy. Of the remaining 16,596 adults, 12,978 left the classes without attaining literacy. Every effort was made to enlist the co-operation of the public, but the response was poor. Means of securing increased co-operation are being devised. Suitable literature for those who have passed these classes is also under preparation.

The number of classes during the year was 569 and the number of adults attending them 6,623 or on an average 11 per class. Of these, 1,274 attained literacy and 1,731 left without completing the course.

IV. Education of special classes and communities

412. **BACKWARD CLASSES**—The Government continued to provide special facilities to members of the communities which are backward in education: Antyaj, Raniparaj, Thakardas, Waghers and Muslims. Poor students of these communities are given freeships in all secondary schools and there are special freeships for them in the Kalabhavan and the Baroda College and special scholarships in all Government educational institutions. There are also special primary schools for them with special deputy inspectors for these schools. Besides this, the Government maintain a number of hostels and boarding schools for the children of these classes.

413. **THE ANTYAJ**—The number of Government Antyaj schools was 60 with 4,189 (2,411 boys and 1,778 girls) pupils against 64 schools with 4,241 pupils in the previous year. There were also 7 private Antyaj schools with 194 pupils. Besides these, 16,618 Antyaj children were attending Gujarati and other mixed schools. There were 16 Antyaj boys in the Baroda College and 252 Antyaj pupils in secondary schools. In Kalabhavan there were 10 and in training schools 37. The total number of Antyaj pupils under instruction was 21,316 or 10.5 per cent to the total Antyaj population, as against 20,361 in the previous year.

The Government have provided extensive facilities for the education of the Antyaj. Preference is given to students of this community for admission to all Government educational institutions. The Government supply books and other school requirements to the children free of charge. Thirty scholarships are awarded in primary and seventeen in secondary schools. Poor students are given free studentships in all Government institutions. There are special scholarships in the Baroda College for Antyaj students. Antyaj boarding houses are maintained by Government at Baroda, Patan and Amreli. These had 50, 26 and 12 boarders respectively during the year.

A sum of Rs. 15,000 was donated some years ago by Sheth Jugal Kishor Birla to encourage religious education among the students of the depressed classes. From the income of this fund preachers are engaged for propaganda work among this class, for exhorting them to reform their habits and educate themselves.

414. THE RANIPARAJ—The education of boys and girls of the Raniparaj and other forest tribes, living in sparsely populated places with hardly any centres of habitation, is a problem of peculiar difficulty. Compulsion proved unsuccessful. As the schools were few and far from the residence of pupils, attendance was very poor. 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 Act, and a scheme of grant-in-aid schools introduced instead. The result was, however, not very encouraging and in 1933-34 it was decided to re-enforce compulsion.

For the benefit of boys and girls belonging to Raniparaj areas, Government boarding houses are maintained at Songadh, Vyara, Mahuva, Vankal, Anaval and Amroli. The number of boarders in these boarding houses was 82, 82, 28, 43, 50 and 50 respectively or 335 in all. There is also a boarding house for girls at Songadh with 58 girls. Model farms are attached to the boarding houses at Songadh and Vyara for practical training in agriculture.

In order to train teachers from the community, it was decided to send every year ten boys and five girls to the training schools at Baroda. Thirty-six students of this community were studying in the training schools, of whom 18 were men and 18 lady students. Five students were studying in the Kalabhavan.

415. MUSLIMS—The number of Government Urdu schools was 60 with 7,724 pupils (4,965 boys and 2,759 girls) as against 65 schools with 7,542 pupils (4,899 boys and 2,643 girls) in the previous year. There were 15 private Urdu schools with 1,726 pupils (881 boys and 845 girls) as against 19 private schools with 2,063 pupils in the

previous year. Besides this, there were 12,157 Muslim children in other primary and 1,250 in secondary schools. There were 37 boys in the Baroda College, 11 in the Kalabhavan and 30 in the training schools. The total number of Muslim pupils under instruction was thus 22,857 as against 22,808 in the previous year, or 12·5 per cent to the total Muslim population as compared with 12·4 per cent in the previous year.

416. **THE WAGHERS**—The education of the 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 and training in agriculture at the farm attached to the institution. The number of boarders at the end of the year was 65. Special scholarships are sanctioned for students of this class studying in the Kalabhavan and the Baroda College.

417. **THE THAKARDAS**—The boarding school for the Thakardas of the Mehsana district which had been opened in 1936 to commemorate the Diamond Jubilee of His Highness the late Maharaja was reorganised on lines which may well become the model for similar institutions. The school aims primarily at three things, viz.,

- (i) to teach good agriculture,
- (ii) to instil among the boys "the will to live better", and
- (iii) to train leaders.

The school is managed by the Agriculture department and fuller details will be found in the chapter on Agriculture.

418. **SCHOOLS FOR DEAF AND BLIND, AND ORPHANAGE**—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, with 33 and 65 pupils as against 34 and 61 respectively in the previous year. The pupils are taught drawing, tailoring, carpentry, wood-carving, cane work, tape weaving and music, besides reading and writing, with a view to make them self-supporting and useful to society. The total expenditure incurred on these institutions was Rs. 16,0+6 as against Rs. 16,8+6 in the preceding year.

The orphanage at Amreli was established in 1901. It had 21 inmates as against 25 in the previous year. Most of them attend the Amreli industrial school. There is also a special class for tailoring.

V. Training of Teachers

419. **SECONDARY TEACHERS' TRAINING COLLEGE**—The college prepares students for the B. T. and the diploma in teaching of the Bombay University. It takes 75 students for the B. T. and 100 for the diploma course.

Of all the training colleges of the Bombay University, the college had the best results at the B. T.—74 students appeared and all passed. There were 11 students in the post graduate classes.

The total expenditure on the college was Rs. 33,000 as against Rs. 38,260 and the receipts Rs. 25,482 as against Rs. 18,017 in the previous year.

420. TRAINING SCHOOLS FOR PRIMARY TEACHERS—For the training of primary teachers the Government maintain separate training schools for men and women. A scholarship of Rs. 10 a month is paid to every teacher who is sent for training.

In the training school for men, the number of students was 392 as against 332 in the previous year. Of these, 214 were living in the hostel.

In the training school for women, there were 270 students as against 269 in the previous year. Of these, 140 were accommodated in the hostel.

The total expenditure on these training schools was Rs. 1.01 lakhs as against Rs. 1.11 lakhs in the previous year.

VI. Technical education

421. THE KALABHAVAN—The central technical institute known as the Kalabhavan was established in 1890. The work of the institution is divided into nine different departments of study, each under a qualified head. The workshop attached to the institution is run on semi-commercial lines. The institute offers diploma and certificate courses. Instruction in diploma course is given in English while in the certificate course it is given in Gujarati.

The number of students attending the Kalabhavan in each of the different departments was as under:—

Branch of study	Number of students in		
	1940-41	1939-40	1938-39
Mechanical engineering	137	131	123
Electrical engineering	91	80	83
Civil engineering	94	88	88
Chemical technology	95	88	76
Weaving technology	69	61	59
Drawing and painting and photography	52	41	37
Architecture	78	67	52
Commerce	42	49	40
Type writing and shorthand*	17	...	...
Total	675	605	558

*Started in 1940-41.

The number of Baroda State students studying in the Kalabhavan has steadily risen from 20 per cent in 1919 to 65 per cent in 1938-39 and 67 per cent in 1940-41.

A vocational high school attached to the Kalabhavan was started three years ago. It prepares students for foreman's work. It had 37 students on the roll.

The total expenditure on the Kalabhavan was Rs. 1.45 lakhs as against Rs. 1.56 lakhs in the previous year. The total income was Rs. 0.29 lakhs as against Rs. 0.24 lakhs in the preceding year.

422. DISTRICT SCHOOLS—The school at Amreli taught carpentry, weaving and tailoring and was fairly successful. There were 74 students in this school. The total expenditure during the year was Rs. 7,788 as against Rs. 7,698 in the preceding year.

The Sheth Punamchand Kotawala industrial school at Patan offers industrial courses in turning, fitting and smithy, carpentry and wireman's course. During the year there were 37 students in the school. Total expenditure was Rs. 5,881 as against Rs. 5,809 in the preceding year.

The J. N. Tata Hunnarshala at Navsari offers courses in mechanical engineering and cabinet making. There were in the school 59 students as against 54 in the previous year. It receives a fixed grant of Rs. 3,400 per year from the Government.

VII. Libraries

423. THE CENTRAL LIBRARY—The department is organised into two sections :

- (i) the Central Library for the Baroda City, and
- (ii) the district library branch including the travelling libraries for the rest of the State.

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 1,38,959 of which 4,342 were added during the year. Of these, 45,243 were Gujarati, 33,761 Marathi and 53,827 English. During the year 1,28,129 books were circulated as against 1,36,781 in the preceding year. The number of readers was 4,585 as against 4,819 in the previous year.

The number of books circulated through the mahila (women's) library was 8,271 as against 7,536 and the number of readers was 459 as against 277 in the previous year.

The library possesses a fine children's section and playroom. The number of children who took advantage of it was 40,743 as against 44,815 in the preceding year. The average daily attendance was 150.3

About 50 readers used the reference department every day.

424. DISTRICT LIBRARIES—The following table shows the number of libraries in the State :—

Year	District and town libraries	Village libraries	Mahila libraries	Children libraries	Reading rooms		Total
					Towns	Villages	
1940-41	46	1,270	18	12	4	152	1,502
1939-40	46	1,219	18	11	20	202	1,516
1938-39	46	1,200	17	11	21	222	1,517

One hundred and seventy-seven libraries have their own buildings including twelve which were erected during the year.

The following statement gives some details about these libraries:—

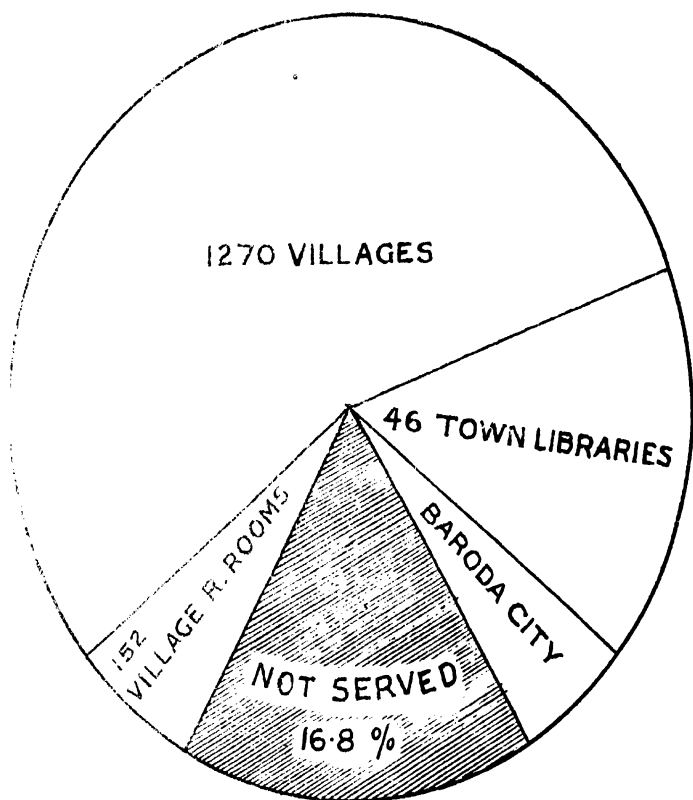
Year	Stock	Circulation	Readers
1940-41	9,83,309	9,01,230	1,77,713
1939-40	9,69,271	9,12,378	1,88,524
1938-39	9,47,266	8,25,067	1,71,676

In the travelling libraries' section there were 27,069 books. The section circulated 17,850 books among 8,840 readers by sending out 565 boxes.

Inter-lending unions have been started in 69 towns to supplement the work of the lending library.

Much attention is being devoted to strengthen the movement and improving the library service. The principal weakness of the movement is the disproportionate amount spent on newspapers to the neglect of books. Persistent propaganda is resulting in improvement in this respect. A system of co-operative budgets has been introduced so that small amounts for book purchase may cover as wide a field as possible.

POPULATION SERVED BY LIBRARIES & READING ROOMS.



□ POPULATION SERVED BY LIBRARIES

▨ " NOT SERVED BY LIBRARIES

TOTAL POPULATION 28,55,010

		SERVED	23,73,850	83.2
		NOT SERVED	4,81,160	16.8
TOWN		SERVED	6,44,242	100.0
VILLAGE		"	15,67,363	78.8
		NOT SERVED	4,81,160	21.2

425. **LIBRARY ASSOCIATION**—A concomitant to the district library movement is the State library association. The association assists in inspecting libraries, organising training classes for librarians and holding library conferences. It publishes a monthly journal "Pustakalaya" relating to the libraries and containing lists to guide libraries and readers in the selection of books. It has undertaken the collection of folk songs with the help of the libraries. Training classes were held at different centres. The institution receives an annual grant of Rs. 1,200 from the Government.

VIII. Scouting

426. **SCOUTING**—The Scout movement has been in existence in the State for the last twenty-two years and is daily gaining more support from the public. During the year the number of troops and cub packs was 97 and 520 respectively and the total number of scouts and cubs rose from 17,090 to 17,441, an increase of 351.

A large number of elderly scouts, rovers and scout masters have joined the civic guards both in the Baroda City and in the districts.

Eight training camps were held. A training camp was conducted at the Thakarda boarding house at Deodarda at which scouting was linked to rural reconstruction. The scouts helped in the organisation of entertainments in aid of war funds, and rendered useful service at the fairs of Sidhpur and Bechraji, in organising library conferences, and co-operative and sanitary weeks.

The girl guide movement was started in the State in 1935-36. It has made steady progress. The number of guides and blue birds rose during the year from 1,530 to 1,800. They also rendered useful service in various conferences and social functions.

An annual training camp was held at Ubhrat where a large number of guides were given intensive training.

The expenditure on these movements was Rs. 20,439.

IX. Oriental Institute

427. **ORIENTAL INSTITUTE**—In the institute there were 12,350 printed books and 13,977 manuscripts. During the year 272 books were added. There were 248 registered readers and 2,255 books were issued during the year.

428. **GAEKWAD ORIENTAL SERIES**—Ninety-one books have so far been published in the Gaekwad Oriental Series. Twenty were in the press and 26 were under preparation. The important publications in the year were *Anekañtajayapataka* of Haribhadrāsuri with his own commentary and *Pippānaka* by Munichandra, the Guru of Vadideva

Suri, Vol. I, edited by H. R. Kapadia; *Sastradipika Tarkapada*, the well-known Mimamsa text, translated into English by D. V. Venkataramiah of Mysore; *Saktisangama Tantra*, an interesting work on psychic science, edited by the general editor; *Sakoddhesatika*, a Buddhist ritualistic work of Naropa, edited by Mario Garelli.

429. TRANSLATION BUREAU—The translation bureau prepares and publishes volumes in the two series – Shri Sayaji Sahityamala and the Balajnanamala – for which purpose Rs. 2,00,000 were endowed by His Highness the late Maharaja Sayajirao III. The bureau has so far published 275 books in Sahityamala and 168 in Balajnanamala series. These translations made the treasures of other peoples accessible to the Gujarati knowing public. Owing to the dearth of good books in Gujarati, dealing with problems of rural reconstruction, it has been decided to devote the income of the fund for publication of such books and the new series will be called Shri Sayaji Grama Vikasmala.

The total expenditure of the Oriental Institute amounted to Rs. 33,773 as against Rs. 32,511 in the previous year.

X. Museum and Picture Gallery

430. THE MUSEUM AND PICTURE GALLERY—Both the institutions were reorganised and their exhibits rearranged. Important exhibits have been acquired for both the institutions during the year, including a number of interesting modern Indian paintings.

The total number of visitors to the two institutions during the year was 2,73,171 as against 2,59,292 in the previous year. Two educated ladies have been appointed to explain the exhibits to women visitors on the zanana day set apart for pardah ladies.

Among the distinguished visitors were His Highness the Maharaja and Sir Maurice Gwyer.

On the occasion of the meeting of the Indian Historical Records Commission in Baroda, an exhibition was arranged in the Oriental section of the Picture gallery and important historical documents, firmans, letters and manuscripts lent by the different Governments and private individuals were exhibited.

The total expenditure on the two institutions was Rs. 27,791 as against Rs. 30,274 in the previous year.

XI. Archæology

431. ARCHÆOLOGY—During the year 376 monuments in the Mehsana district were listed. They are of the late medieval period. Those archæologically and historically important were selected for

protection under the Ancient Monuments Act. The Sahasralinga reservoir at Patan and the frescoes of the Tambekar wada in the Baroda City were declared protected under the Ancient Monuments Act.

Seventy inscriptions were secured during the year. The earliest of these records is dated in the Vikram year 1167 (1110 A. D.) and is votive in character. It is incised on the pedestal of a nude marble image of the first Jain Tirthankara, Rishabhanath, recently found at Pij in the Petlad taluka. Another interesting inscription is engraved on the pedestal of an image of the Jain Tirthankara, Neminatha.

The old site of the Sahasralinga reservoir constructed by Siddharaja Jayasinha was further explored and old channels of the reservoir exposed.

Memoir of Dabhoi, entitled "The Ruins of Dabhoi or Ancient Darbhavati," by Dr. Hiranand Shastri was published during the year.

The total expenditure during the year under report was Rs. 21,852 as against Rs. 24,374 in the preceding year.

XII. Encouragement to Sanskrit learning

432. SHRI RAJKIYA SANSKRIT MAHAVIDYALAYA—In the year 1915, His Highness the late Maharaja 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. A number of scholarships are given at the institution.

The institution had 20 classes with 159 students. Out of 135 students that appeared at the annual examination, 101 were successful.

The total expenditure on this institution amounted to Rs. 15,627 as against Rs. 15,633 in the previous year.

433. DISTRICT SANSKRIT SCHOOLS—There were six Government Sanskrit schools with 141 pupils and seven private Sanskrit schools with 173 pupils in the State.

There are also classes for preparing purohits at Baroda, Petlad, Mehsana, Sinor, Dehgam and Amreli. The period of the course has been extended from 6 to 12 months. During the year 78 candidates appeared for the purohit examination as against 127 in the previous year and 61 were successful.

434. SHRAVANMAS DAKSHINA EXAMINATION—The diplomas and titles conferred upon candidates in Shravanmas Dakshina examinations are valued all over India, and pandits from distant places appear

for these examinations. During the year 183 candidates appeared and 134 passed, as against 169 and 115 respectively in the previous year. To encourage Sanskrit learning, prizes worth Rs. 5,000 are distributed to persons passing examinations in different shastras.

XIII. Indian music

435. MUSIC SCHOOLS—There were besides the central school of Indian music at Baroda, 4 district music schools and 20 classes. The number of pupils in the school of Indian music at Baroda was 244. The music schools at Dabhoi, Navsari, Patan and Amreli had 79, 109, 47 and 30 pupils respectively. Music classes are attached to primary and secondary schools. The number of students attending these classes was 3,518 as against 3,388 in the previous year.

The total amount spent on music schools was Rs. 12,773 as against Rs. 12,767 in the preceding year.

XIV. The Ayurvedic Mahavidyalaya

436. PATAN AYURVEDIC MAHAVIDYALAYA—The Ujamsi Pitambar Ayurvedic Mahavidyalaya at Patan, started in 1922, is conducted on a grant-in-aid basis. It imparts instruction both theoretical and practical in Ayurved, the course being of four years. Students are taught botany, anatomy, physiology, surgery, midwifery etc., on modern lines. Practical training is given at the dispensary and a ward for indoor patients is also maintained. There were 125 students under instruction, of whom 24 lived in the hostel attached to the institute. During the year diplomas were granted to 12 students. The institution has so far turned out 160 successful candidates.

CHAPTER XXV

PUBLIC HEALTH

A. Medical Relief

437. MEDICAL INSTITUTIONS—The total number of medical institutions, hospitals and dispensaries, is 117 or 1 for every 24,400 persons. For further development two measures have been adopted :—

- (i) subsidising medical practitioners, M.B.,B.S. and L.C.P.S., who will be given a monthly allowance of Rs. 30-50 and a grant for medicines, if they settle in villages and on condition that they treat the poor free;
- (ii) to increase the facilities now available for medical aid for women and children, a separate Trust has been created which is associated with the name of Her Highness the Maharani.

438. NUMBER OF PATIENTS—The facilities available are fully availed of. There are 797 beds in the hospitals of the State. The number of indoor patients was 15,791 as against 14,532 in the previous year. The number of out-door patients increased from 11·10 lakhs to 11·90 lakhs, the average daily number increasing from 14,336 to 16,043. The number of surgical operations (major and minor) rose from 96,324 to 1,18,043. The six ayurvedic dispensaries treated 1,34,100 patients as against 1,36,000 in the preceding year. The statistics of patients and diseases, for which they were treated, are given below :—

	1940-41	1939-40
	(000 omitted)	
Diseases of the skin	108	191
Malarial fever	257	189
Diseases of the eye	86	91
" " throat	77	91
" " ear	76	60
Tuberculosis	4	4
Dyspepsia	51	50
Diarrhoea	31	27

439. **MEDICAL RELIEF FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN**—The extension of medical relief for women and children has been receiving constant attention of the Government. With the establishment of the Shri Maharani Shantadevi Trust, all efforts in this direction have been co-ordinated and have received a new impetus. During the year the Trust received donations of Rs. 33,250 for opening maternity wards in Vyara, Dhinoj, Chanasma and Sinor and the prant panchayats of Baroda and Amreli offered annual contributions of Rs. 1,500 each, and of Mehsana Rs. 1,000 for maternity homes in their districts.

Maternity wards at Dhari, Chanasma, Dhinoj, Sinor, Dwarka and Vaso were being constructed. The preliminary arrangements for construction of maternity wards at Kalol, Kodinar, Vyara, Karjan and Dabhoi were completed and the work will be taken up in 1941-42. A gynæcological ward and a children's ward with 24 beds were sanctioned and were being constructed in the Shree Sayaji General Hospital at Baroda. Maternity wards at Savli, Dehgam and Vadnagar were sanctioned during the year.

The Trust since its foundation in 1939 has sanctioned 17 maternity homes with 107 beds.

In the Baroda City there are three maternity wards attached to Shree Sayaji General Hospital and one to the Jamnabai dispensary. The total number of patients at these wards during the year was 3,787 as against 3,565 and the percentage of deaths to deliveries was 0.4 as against 0.5 in the previous year. Besides this, maternity and child welfare work is done by Shree Maharani Chimnabai Maternity and Child Welfare League. The League's lady doctor examined 2,617 ante-natal cases, and the health visitors 2,859 post-natal cases, and 2,006 children were treated in the baby clinic centres.

There were 14 maternity wards in the districts, of which six were opened during the previous year. The number of beds in these was 78. The number of patients admitted was 2,116 as against 2,917, the number of ante-natal cases treated was 2,816 as against 2,312 in the preceding year and the percentage of deaths to deliveries was 0.5.

Besides these maternity wards, there were 33 trained midwives. They attended 2,234 labour cases as against 2,171 in the previous year, 10,333 pre-natal and 7,514 ante-natal cases.

440. **ANTI-TUBERCULOSIS MEASURES**—Proposals under consideration in the State for dealing with tuberculosis received impetus when Her Excellency the Marchioness of Linlithgow inaugurated the campaign for the whole of India. The Baroda State Tuberculosis Association was registered and Rs. 2.11 lakhs, refunded out of the collections made in the State for expenditure on local schemes, were

transferred to it. In addition, donations worth Rs. 1.05 lakhs were received towards general wards and independent cottages.

The buildings contemplated consist of a central administrative block with pathological laboratory, an X-ray room and an operation theatre. There will be, besides these, two general wards, one for women and one for men, and single and double room cottages. For the present there will be accommodation for 80 patients. An open air pavilion, avenues and sheltered walks will be among the other amenities provided. The site and plans were approved by Dr. Frimodt-Møller, the Medical Commissioner of the Tuberculosis Association of India, and the foundation stone of the hospital and sanatorium was laid by Her Excellency Lady Linlithgow in January 1940. The buildings are rapidly approaching completion.

The anti-tuberculosis clinic, opened in 1937 from the King George's Thanks giving fund, continued its useful work of propaganda and treatment. During the year 1,120 new cases and 4,804 contacts were examined and 933 home visits made.

441. SHREE SAYAJI STATE GENERAL HOSPITAL—The central medical institution of the State is the Shree Sayaji State General Hospital. It is fully equipped and has special departments for bacteriology, radiology, dentistry, eye, and midwifery, each in charge of a specialist. Gynaecological and children's wards are now under construction.

In the hospital there are 302 beds and the number of indoor patients was 7,321 as against 7,117 in the previous year. The number of outdoor patients was 84,550 as against 82,820 in the previous year, giving a daily attendance of 977. The number of major and minor operations performed was 3,728 and 36,513 respectively. In the X-Ray department 17,021 patients were treated of whom 6,145 were indoor and 7,676 outdoor. The dental department treated 6,918 patients and the eye department performed 361 major operations. In the bacteriological department 17,029 specimens of pathological interest were examined.

The total expenditure on the hospital was 2.82 lakhs as against 2.55 lakhs in the preceding year.

442. MENTAL HOSPITAL—The Mental hospital had 100 patients as against 74 in the previous year.

443. LEPER ASYLUM—The Leper asylum treated 144 patients as against 167 in the preceding year.

444. OTHER INSTITUTIONS—The district headquarter hospitals and other medical institutions in outlying areas continued to do useful work.

445. VILLAGE DISPENSARIES—In order that each village may have a stock of such medicines as are commonly used, a scheme was started in 1937-38 by which, with the help of contributions from the people and the Government, village dispensaries may be started. The scheme has not progressed satisfactorily and the number of such dispensaries has decreased successively from 337 in 1937-38 to 232 in 1938-39 and 162 in 1939-40. During the year however the number rose to 198.

446. ANTI-RABIC TREATMENT—The number of patients who were given anti-rabic treatment at Baroda and at the three centres, opened at Patan, Navsari and Amreli during the previous year, was 752.

447. THE PATAN AYURVEDIC MAHAVIDYALAYA—This institution offers four years' courses and awards diplomas in ayurvedic medicine. The students are taught anatomy, physiology, botany etc., on modern lines and also given clinical training in the dispensary attached to the institute. There were 125 under training and diplomas were awarded to 12 students.

448. REGISTRATION OF MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS—Eighty-two practitioners including doctors, vaidyas, hakims and others were registered during the year under report as against 95 in the previous year.

449. INDIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY—During the year 46 new junior red cross groups were organised in schools, making a total of 368. There were 8,110 boys and 1,796 girls enrolled in them as against 3,694 boys and 1,487 girls in the preceding year.

Lectures on ambulance work, nursing, home hygiene and sanitation were delivered throughout the State. In all 648 candidates passed the examination in different subjects as compared to 227 in the previous year.

450. DAIS TRAINED—Dais were trained as usual in the class, maintained out of the Victoria Memorial scholarship fund at the Jamnabai dispensary.

451. NUTRITION DEPARTMENT—The department carried out diet surveys in a number of institutions, such as the nurses hostel of the Shree Sayaji State General Hospital, the deaf and dumb boarding house at Mehsana and boarding houses attached to the high school at Mehsana and Thakarda school at Deodarda. The effects of the diet introduced in the leper asylum, as a result of the diet survey carried out in the preceding year, were closely

watched. The department gave a number of magic lantern lectures and published a series of popular articles on food and nutrition to educate the public.

The study of the nutrition of school children was continued. During the year 1,675 boys and 670 girls were examined, and records of height and weight and other measurements taken, to compare children in the State with those in other parts of India.

452. EXPENDITURE—The total expenditure of the department was Rs. 7.9 lakhs as against Rs. 7.7 lakhs in the preceding year. This does not include the expenditure incurred from Maharani Shantadevi Trust.

B. Sanitation

453. GENERAL—Sanitation forms the principal function of municipalities in towns and of village panchayats in villages. The municipalities are assisted by sanitary committees consisting of municipal members and others. The village panchayats are guided by the district sanitary inspectors. The Sanitary Commissioner exercises general supervision.

454. WATER SUPPLY—Out of 42 municipal towns in the State, 13 have protected water supply works. The total cost of these works amounted to Rs. 92.54 lakhs, of which the Government grant was Rs. 75.86 lakhs. The steps taken for improving village water supplies are described elsewhere.

455. DRAINAGE AND CONSERVANCY—Three towns in the State—Baroda, Navsari and Bhadran—have underground drainage systems. Most towns have adequate conservancy staffs.

456. SANITARY SURVEYS—Sanitary surveys of all the important towns have been completed and programmes of improvements to be undertaken laid down.

457. MANURE HEAPS—Systematic steps are being taken to get manure heaps removed to a distance from village sites. In 70 villages; suitable sites were acquired for the purpose during the year.

458. 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 thirty villages under the Kosamba rural reconstruction centre. The unit is under a medical officer. A lady sub-assistant surgeon attends to ante-natal and post-natal cases.

Vital statistics

459. BIRTHS—The registration of births and deaths is compulsory in the State. The following table shows the number of births in the State :—

Year	Number of births	Ratio per mille of population
1940-41	1,07,047	37·4
1939-40	1,14,633	46·9
1938-39	98,166	40·3

460. DEATHS—The number of deaths increased by 6,703, being 67,138 as against 60,435 in the previous year. The epidemic of measles was severe in some parts of the State, and other diseases also showed slight increase. On the whole health conditions were not as good as in the preceding year, and the larger number of deaths is due to that.

461. INFANT MORTALITY—There were 16,333 deaths of infants under one year. The following table shows the ratio of infant mortality (ages 1-5) to 1,000 registered births in different parts of the State :—

District	1940-41	1939-40
Baroda City	218·1	216·9
Baroda	166·8	165·0
Mehsana	130·6	116·0
Navsari	153·4	138·8
Amreli	157·8	187·6
Okhamandal	232·0	169·6

Okhamandal recorded the highest and the Mehsana district, as usual, the lowest infant mortality during the year.

462. CAUSES OF DEATHS—The following table shows the number of deaths from different causes :—

Disease	Number of deaths		Ratio per mille of population	
	1940-41	1939-40	1940-41	1939-40
Fever	55,698	49,156	19·5	20·1
Flague	nil	nil	nil	nil
Cholera	192	nil	0·06	nil
Small pox	238	1,337	0·08	0·5
Dysentery & Diarrhoea	1,080	865	0·3	0·3
Pneumonia	452	439	0·1	0·1
Consumption	960	860	0·3	0·3
Typhoid	183	79	0·06	0·03
Measles	324	263	0·1	0·1
Other causes	8,011	5,313	3·0	2·2

The classification is not accurate as the deaths from diseases with the symptoms of fever are often registered under 'fever' as the registering staff is untrained.

463. VACCINATION WORK—During the year 1·52 lakhs of persons were vaccinated as against 1·43 lakhs in the preceding year. The number of primary vaccination was 93,926 as compared to 96,000 and of re-vaccination 58,052 as against 46,900 in the preceding year. A point of interest is that among those vaccinated there were as many women as men.

The percentage of successful primary vaccination was 95·9. The percentage of successful re-vaccination—32·7—shows the necessity of compulsory re-vaccination at the age of eight years.

Re-vaccination at the age of eight years or at the time of registering the names of children in schools for the first time is compulsory in the Baroda City and district, in Okhamandal and the Mehsana district.

The total expenditure on account of vaccination was Rs. 47,312 as against Rs. 45,656 in the preceding year. The average cost of each successful case was As. 6·2 as against As. 7·5 in the previous year.

464. PREVENTION OF DISEASES—Anti-malarial measures were conducted in the Baroda City, in 12 municipal towns and 435 villages in the State. For an intensive campaign against malaria in the worst affected areas, Rs. 20,000 a year for five years have been sanctioned.

Anti-guinea worm measures were carried on in 149 villages of the Mehsana and the Baroda districts.

Tuberculosis has been declared a notifiable disease in all municipal towns. During the year 224 fresh cases were registered, of which 158 were in the Baroda City.

465. EPIDEMICS—The State was free from plague during the year. The destruction of rats was continued in Petlad, Bhadran, Sojitra, Dharmaj, Billimora and other towns which are liable to plague.

There was an epidemic of cholera in 24 villages of the Navsari district. The number of cases reported was 355, of which 192 were fatal.

There were mild epidemics of small pox in all parts of the State. The number of cases reported was 829, of which 238 were fatal. The largest number of cases occurred in the Mehsana district and the least in the Baroda district.

The number of typhoid cases reported was 292, of which 50 were fatal. In the Baroda City there were 153 cases and 45 deaths.

There was a severe epidemic of measles, 486 cases and 173 deaths being reported.

466. PROPAGANDA—The department carried on propaganda with the help of cinema and magic lantern shows, lectures and exhibitions. Shows were held in 23 places and health and baby-weeks in five.

There are sanitary associations in Navsari, Amreli, Patan and Petlad. They do propaganda work, offer medical assistance and give help to expectant mothers.

467. PUBLIC HEALTH LABORATORY—The Foods and Drugs Act was applied during the year to Sidhpur and Navsari municipalities. The number of samples received from the municipalities where this Act has been applied was 635 of milk and 90 of ghee; and of these 67 per cent and 50 per cent respectively were found to be adulterated. The laboratory works in co-operation with the ghee grading centres of the department of Agriculture.

CHAPTER XXVI

CENSUS

468. ADMINISTRATION—The Census department worked for eight months of the preceding year and for the year under report.

In essentials the census operations followed the system in British India. In addition special inquiries, particularly in respect of size of families, were included in the general questionnaire.

In the last census, the enumeration process consisted of two stages, a preliminary and a final count with an interval of fifteen days. This time the interval between the preliminary and final count was eliminated and in the place of the night count on the final census day, two full days were given for final checking, beginning on the morning of the 1st March 1941 and ending on the evening of the following day.

This time there was no enumeration of travellers in railway trains. They were enumerated at their residences along with the house population. Persons travelling on the night previous, who were not likely to reach their destination before the census hour, were provided with enumeration passes, to prevent double enumeration.

The State was divided into 11,570 blocks, 1,162 circles and 96 charges. Blocks were in charge of enumerators, circles under supervisors and charges under superintendents. A 'house' was defined, as in the previous census, as the residence of one communal family i. e. by a number of persons living and eating together of food cooked on one 'choola' or in one mess. Altogether there were 9,30,832 houses as against 8,15,381 in the last census, an increase of 14.1 per cent. The total number of occupied houses was 6,18,014 as against 5,62,798, an increase of 9.8 per cent.

469. SPECIAL INQUIRIES—In addition to the inquiry into the general fertility of married females, conducted through the general census questionnaire, a detailed inquiry limited to sampled villages (selected 1/50) was conducted. Housing statistics of a general nature, collected from sampled villages (selected 1/50), were also compiled and published. The special tenement census, taken in the Baroda City in 1931, was extended in this census to the towns of Patan and Navsari. Village statistics were as usual in Baroda census compiled and published. As detailed information relating to villages - wells,

public institutions, markets, etc. — is available in the State Panchayat department, no special inquiry with regard to these was necessary. Similarly as the census of livestock had been carried out by the Agriculture department in January 1940, a new census was not undertaken.

470. PROGRESS OF WORK—The Imperial Tables were compiled and sent to the Census Commissioner for India by the end of May 1941. The State tables were prepared, and those required to be sent, were forwarded to the Census Commissioner for India by the end of July.

The total expenditure on the census up to the end of the year was Rs. 93,671 or Rs. 34 per mille of the population as against Rs. 46 per mille in 1931.

On this occasion in the State, as in British India, only a tables volume is prepared, with explanatory notes for each table and set of subsidiary tables. The Baroda volume is entitled "Some Results of the Census". The full tabulation and synoptic essays for each Province or State, formerly contemplated, have been postponed till after the war.

471. AREA AND POPULATION—The population of the State, including Pethapur, a tributary estate in direct relation with the Baroda State, is 2,855,010 (1,472,909 males and 1,382,101 females), and the average density for the whole State is 349. A summary table is given below showing the total population, its distribution and other details:—

Administra- tive division	Area in sq. miles	Population in 1941			Increase per cent over 1931 figures on same area	Percentage of females to 1,000 males
		Total	Males	Females		
Amreli district	1,071	206,543	105,417	101,126	+19·5	951
Okhamandal	281	42,587	22,279	20,308	+35·2	
Baroda City	11	153,301	84,666	68,635	+35·8	
Baroda district	1,922	806,115	424,129	381,986	+13·3	901
Mehsana district	3,068	1,175,097	597,108	577,989	+16·3	968
Pethapur	12	5,444	2,712	2,732	+ 3·2	
Navsari district	1,811	465,923	236,598	229,325	+15·2	969
The State	8,176	2,855,010	1,472,909	1,382,101	+18·6	938

472. TOWNS AND VILLAGES—The population of 2,855,010 persons is distributed between 2,896 villages and 64 towns, while in 1931

there were 2,920 villages and 50 towns. The villages have declined everywhere, showing a tendency of the people to migrate from the congested village-sites to the towns. The following table sets out the proportionate figures per class according to population of villages and towns to their total number:—

Class		Number of villages and towns	Percent to total	
			Number of villages and towns	Population
I	1,00,000 and over	1	0·2	5·3
II	50,000-100,000	...		...
III	20,000 - 50,000	6		5·8
IV	10,000 - 20,000	11	0·4	5·5
V	5,000 - 10,000	32	1·1	7·1
VI	2,000 - 5,000	187	6·3	18·6
VII	1,000 - 2,000	478	16·2	22·9
VIII	500 - 1,000	844	28·5	21·0
IX	Under 500	1,401	47·3	13·0
X	Unclassed	...	...	0·8

The number of villages with a population of less than 500 decreased from 1,580 to 1,401.

473. VARIATIONS SINCE 1891 IN THE CITY AND LARGE TOWNS—
The population and the variations in the City and six large towns are shown in the following table by taking 1891 population as 100 :—

City or town	Population in 1941	Variations since 1891 with 1891 as 100					
		1941	1931	1921	1911	1901	1891
Baroda City with Cantonment	153,301	132	97	81	85	89	100
Patan	36,549	112	91	83	87	96	100
Navsari	35,445	218	150	119	110	132	100
Amreli	25,485	163	129	114	111	115	100
Sidhpur	24,565	151	126	99·8	95	91	100
Petlad	23,928	154	124	98	96	98	100
Dabhoi	21,139	145	125	109	63	96·5	100

Other towns also show considerable increase at the expense of the countryside. Urban population (i. e. living in the towns classed as urban in 1941) shows an increase of 26.4 per cent, while in the rest of the inhabited places treated as villages, the population has increased only by 13.65 per cent. Billimora (15,460) and Kalol (17,879) have increased by 66 per cent and 91 per cent respectively owing entirely to the growth of industries. The population of Port Okha has gone up from 78 in 1921 to 5,000 in 1941, and with the establishment of Tata Chemicals Ltd. the population of the village of Suraj Karadi has increased from 207 to 5,238.

474. DISTRIBUTION OF POPULATION ACCORDING TO RELIGION —The population is divided into 2,565,000 Hindus (89.84 per cent), 224,000 Muslims (7.83 per cent), 47,000 Jains (1.64 per cent), 9,500 Christians (0.33 per cent), 6,900 Parsis (0.24 per cent) and 2,400 tribal (0.08 per cent). The Hindu population includes the Hindu tribal 370,800 (13.7 per cent). Hindus, Muslims and Christians and Hindu tribal all show a marked increase since 1931. Jains and Parsis show a slight decline and the tribal a decline of 94.7 per cent.

475. THE AGE-CONSTITUTION —The following tables show the age-constitution of the population. These percentages are based on sample of population (selected 1 in 50):—

The City

Year	Age period		
	0-15	15-60	60 and over
1921	31.5	62.7	5.8
1931	32.6	63.2	4.2
1941	34.4	62.4	3.2

Central Gujarat (Baroda district)

Year	Age period		
	0-15	15-60	60 and over
1921	36.7	58.7	4.6
1931	37.0	58.4	4.6
1941	39.2	55.8	5.0

North Gujarat (Mehsana district)

Year	Age period		
	0-15	15-60	60 and over
1921	39.8	55.9	4.3
1931	40.0	55.9	4.1
1941	39.5	56.7	4.8

South Gujarat (Navsari district)

Year	Age period		
	0-15	15-60	60 and over
1921	40.2	55.4	4.4
1931	40.6	55.5	3.9
1941	39.2	56.3	4.5

Kathiawar (Amreli district and Okhamandal)

Year	Age period		
	0-15	15-60	60 and over
1921	40·8	54·9	5·3
1931	41·8	54·1	4·1
1941	43·5	51·7	4·8

Almost everywhere, the effect of the increased birth rate is seen in the high ratios of the child population (aged 0-15). The better health conditions are evidenced generally in the higher ratios of those with ages of 60 and over, especially in North and South Gujarat. In Kathiawar the substantial increase in the birth rate occludes the fact that this area has gained through migration.

476. CIVIL CONDITION—Of the total population, 52 per cent are unmarried, 42 per cent married and 6 per cent widowed among males and 41, 46 and 13 per cent respectively among females. The result of 37 years of the operation of the Child Marriage Prevention Act is that marriages below the age of ten are practically non-existent. Child marriages below the penalised age now form 13 per cent of the total as compared to 33·2 per cent in 1916-20.

477. MAIN RESULTS OF THE OCCUPATIONAL RETURN—The following table based on sample, which collected 18,713 male and female independent workers and partly dependents, shows the proportions of workers in different occupations :—

Class	Means of livelihood	Male workers	Percent of workers	Female workers	Percent of workers
I	Agriculture and pasturage	9,527	61·89	2,223	66·98
II	Exploitation of minerals	23	0·15	8	0·24
III	Industry	2,253	14·63	221	6·66
IV	Transport	316	2·05	2	0·06
V	Trade	1,274	8·28	172	5·18
VI	Public force	321	2·08	...	...
VII	Public administration	262	1·70	15	0·45
VIII	Professional and liberal arts	599	3·89	76	2·29
IX	Living on income	95	0·62	56	1·69
X	Domestic service	198	1·29	117	3·53
XI	Insufficiently described occupations.	437	2·84	404	12·17
XII	Unproductive	89	0·58	25	0·75
	Total	15,394	100·0	3,319	100·0

These proportions do not disclose any marked change in occupational distribution.

At 1/50 basis, this works out at 769,700 male and 165,950 female working population. The remainder, 703,209 males and 1,216,151 females, would represent the wholly dependent or the non-working population.

478. LITERACY—There are now 652,975 literates (males 482,353, females 170,622) in the State, an increase of 50·2 per cent over the last census figures. The number of male literates has increased by 35·8 per cent, while literacy among women has increased by 114·2 per cent. There is even now great disparity among the sexes in the matter of education, the percentage of literates for males being 32·8 and for females 12·4.

CHAPTER XXVII

MISCELLANEOUS

(i) Religious and Charitable institutions

479. 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, Kedareshvar Khichdi and Gyarmi Karkhana, which distribute alms to the Hindu and Muslim destitutes in the Baroda City. These are under the control of the Comptroller of the Household. The properties of these institutions were valued at Rs. 22·01 lakhs as against Rs. 22·99 lakhs and the total expenditure was Rs. 0·78 lakhs as against Rs. 0·79 lakhs in the previous year.

480. FUNDS—Two funds have been constituted for the benefit of the institutions: (i) the general fund and (ii) the reserve fund. The general fund is created out of the net savings of the institutions and is intended for the religious and charitable objects of public utility. The fund increased from Rs. 6·83 lakhs to Rs. 7·04 lakhs during the year, after meeting an expenditure of Rs. 0·47 lakhs. The main grants paid out of this fund are shown below :—

Amounts paid Rs.	Names of the institutions to which the amounts are paid
12,000- 0- 0	Contributions to certain dispensaries in the Mehsana district.
3,000- 0- 0	The Patan Ayurvedic pathashala.
300- 0- 0	The Maharani Chimnabai maternity ward at Baroda.
6,976- 0- 0	The Baroda Rajkiya Sanskrit pathashala.
658- 8- 0	The Amreli Sanskrit pathashala.
2,380- 0- 0	Purohit classes.
3,450-10-10	Seminar for the comparative study of religions.

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. 0.05 lakhs and the balance at the close of the year Rs. 0.13 lakhs.

481. GRANT-IN-AID-INSTITUTIONS—The State exercises a 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 more are required, however, to get their quinquennial budgets approved by the Government.

There were 3,820 such institutions – 3,277 for Hindus and 543 for Muslims. The total grant to these institutions in the form of inami villages and cash payments amounted to 1.42 lakhs.

482. INSTITUTIONS FOR RELIEF OF PAUPERS ETC.—There are 19 institutions for the relief of the poor, one orphanage, two schools for the deaf and dumb and one leper asylum, all maintained by Government.

483. RELIGIOUS PREACHERS—Six itinerent religious preachers worked during the year at Amreli, Bechraji, Sidhpur, Kadi, Patan, and Chandod. They delivered simple lectures on the fundamental principles of religion and on the evils of untouchability.

(ii) Court of Wards

484. GENERAL—Under the law relating to wards, the Sar Suba is authorised to assume control over estates of minors and others, who are physically or mentally unable to manage them. A charge of 2½ per cent on the income is levied for supervision during the minority of the wards, and of 4½ per cent from estates which are continued under management after the wards have attained majority. Subas are guardians of wards in their districts.

485. ADMINISTRATION—The number of estates under the court of wards increased from 74 to 82 during the year and of wards from 88 to 96. The estates of 11 wards were taken under management and of 3 released during the year.

The value of properties managed was Rs. 43.98 lakhs, their income in the current year Rs. 1.89 lakhs and their expenditure Rs. 1.45 lakhs. Of the income of Rs. 1.89 lakhs, Rs. 1.69 lakhs were collected and Rs. 0.20 lakhs remained in arrears.

The debts due to the estates amounted to Rs. 5.42 lakhs and the debts which the estates had to pay to Rs. 1.96 lakhs. The total savings effected in favour of the estates at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 8.46 lakhs as against Rs. 7.38 lakhs in the preceding year. The savings are invested in approved securities.

486. EDUCATION OF THE WARDS—Twenty wards attend primary schools, 39 secondary schools and the remaining 37 wards were either too young or unfit for study.

(iii) The Press

487. PRINTING PRESSES—The number of printing presses at the beginning of the year was 80. Eleven new presses were started and six were closed. There were thus 85 presses actually working at the end of the year. During the year two dailies, one bi-weekly, six weeklies, one fortnightly, 40 periodicals, and 203 books and pamphlets were published from these.

488. PERIODICALS—Of the 40 periodicals, 9 were communal, 7 religious, 7 literary, 5 relating to physical culture, 2 commercial, one legal and 9 miscellaneous.

489. BOOKS AND PAMPHLETS—The books and pamphlets which were published during the year are classified below according to subject matter :—

Education	18	Novel	70
Religion	7	Biography	10
Poetry	25	Ethics	2
Drama	6	Philosophy	2
History	5	Commerce	1
Politics	6	Miscellaneous	51

Of the 203 books and pamphlets, 143 were in Gujarati, 8 in Gujarati and Sanskrit, 22 in English, 13 in Marathi and 5 in Hindi.

490. TOPICS DISCUSSED—The main topics discussed in the Press related to constitutional reforms and responsible government in Indian States, compulsory military training, the establishment of medical, law and engineering colleges in Baroda, the revision of the system of levying income-tax, the annawari (crop valuation), the abolition of cycle tax in the Baroda City and the relief measures in connection with the floods.

491. 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 the general political awakening on the local journalism was increasingly felt.

(iv) Government Press and Stationery

492. THE PRESS—All printing work for the State and the State railways and printing of vernacular text books is done at the State

Press. The Press also supplies all stationery to Government departments.

Work of the value of Rs. 2.71 lakhs was done at the Press during the year, as compared to Rs. 2.38 lakhs in the previous year. Besides this, composing and binding work of the value of Rs. 2,726 was got done through private agencies.

The Press employed 226 men, as in the preceding year. The monthly wages bill was Rs. 5,004 and supervision charges came to Rs. 2,548 per month.

The foundry continued to be run departmentally. It cast 10,106 lbs. of type during the year against 11,805 in the previous year.

493. STATIONERY—Stationery articles of the total value of Rs. 1.15 lakhs were supplied to Government offices.

(v) The Raj Daftardar

494. INSPECTION AND PUBLICATION OF RECORDS—The Raj Daftardar and his staff toured for 68 days in the Mehsana and the Navsari districts and inspected the records of 100 offices, including 19 in the Baroda City. The work of the records sections of these offices was satisfactory except in municipal offices.

The sixth volume of the Historical Selections was published during the year.

(vi) The Information Bureau

495. THE BUREAU—The information bureau is under a special officer. The bureau issued press notes giving information about important measures taken by the Government, and 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 bureau has organised a press room, which is kept well supplied with periodicals and books of reference. It has proved useful to representatives of the Press.

Summary of important features in the administration

WAR EFFORTS—His Highness' Government are pledged to co-operation, in the fullest measure, in the active prosecution of the war. On the declaration of war, His Highness the Maharaja placed all the resources of the State at the disposal of His Majesty the King Emperor for its successful prosecution.

The flight of fighters for which His Highness gave £ 50,000 is now in active service. Similarly, the H. M. I. S. Baroda for which £ 50,000 was given is now part of the Royal Indian Navy. The 2nd Infantry continued on war duty and the Mechanical Transport joined duty after completing their training. The State has undertaken the training of technicians in the Kalabhavan and the railway workshops. Their Highnesses have subscribed over Rs. 30,000 to the war gifts funds. The State war gifts fund now exceeds rupees two lakhs. This fund gave during the year a donation of Rs. 50,000 for the purchase of five armoured carriers to be named after Baroda. Investments from the State in interest-free defence bonds have amounted to nearly Rs. 25.20 lakhs and in the defence loans to over Rs. 80 lakhs. The war committees are doing good work and the civic guards movement is increasing in popularity. The weekly bulletin of the propaganda sub-committee was more and more widely read. The Government are organising A. R. P. measures, volunteers for which are readily coming forward.

2. **CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM**—The new Dhara Sabha, constituted under the Government of Baroda Act 1940, was inaugurated on the 16th of November 1940. Mr. M. C. Desai, the new member of the Executive Council, appointed from the elected members of the legislature, took his seat, and a deputy speaker and three parliamentary secretaries were also appointed on that date.

3. **SEASON**—The season was on the whole favourable, except in the northern parts of the Mehsana district and Okhamandal. These areas suffered from shortage of rain and liberal measures of relief were sanctioned including remissions and suspensions of land revenue and tagavi instalments, postponement of execution of decrees, relief work, supply of fodder at concession price to agriculturists and grants of special tagavi. The districts of Navsari, Baroda and Mehsana suffered from very heavy rains in July 1941. The Government took prompt measures and sanctioned rupees one lakh for relief measures in the Navsari, Rs. 0.25 lakhs in the Baroda and Rs. 0.20 lakhs in the Mehsana districts. These measures are described in paragraphs 136 to 138.

4. **BUDGET AND FINANCE**—The Budget for the year estimated the ordinary revenues at Rs. 247·62 lakhs, the ordinary expenditure at Rs. 237·25 lakhs and anticipated a surplus of Rs. 10·37 lakhs. The year, however, proved better than anticipated. The receipts were Rs. 252·45 lakhs, and though the expenditure exceeded the estimates by Rs. 3·08 lakhs, mainly due to the war contribution of Rs. 3·77 lakhs, the year closed with a surplus of Rs. 12·12 lakhs.

The Land Revenue equalisation fund created in 1939–40 by the transfer of Rs. 50 lakhs from the past balances at the end of the year stood at Rs. 55·10 lakhs. A sum of Rs. 5·81 lakhs had to be withdrawn from this fund for making good the deficit in land revenue for the year 1939–40. During the year, however, the receipts from land revenue amounted to Rs. 105·98 lakhs of which Rs. 10·91 lakhs were transferred to the Land Revenue equalisation fund. Thus, the original corpus was augmented by Rs. 5·10 lakhs.

The net assets of the State at the end of the year amounted to Rs. 11·06 crores. Of these, Rs. 5·54 crores represent capital invested in railways, Rs. 38 lakhs in electric works, Rs. 48 lakhs in Okha and other ports, and Rs. 16 lakhs in other concerns. The liquid assets now amount to Rs. 4·68 crores. Of these, Rs. 350 lakhs are set apart for the reserve fund and Rs. 55 lakhs for Land Revenue equalisation fund. Interest earned on the reserve fund is utilised for providing remunerative capital expenditure.

5. **LEGISLATION**—A number of important Acts and amendments were passed during the year. The Dabhel-Simlak Madressa Act, the Cotton Control Act, the Insurance (Amendment) Act and the Backward Classes Land Protection (Amendment) Act are some of the more important of these.

6. **JUSTICE**—The arrangements for supervision and inspection of courts and scrutiny of judgements of munsiff-magistrates worked well. The scrutiny has an educative value specially in the case of junior magistrates.

The duration of ordinary civil cases in district courts increased to 526 days but in munsiff courts it declined. In criminal cases the duration as compared to the previous year remained practically unchanged.

7. **LAW AND ORDER**—Peace and order continued to prevail in the State and there were no serious breaches of the peace, though in some cases precautionary measures had to be taken.

There was a marked decrease in the volume of crime. The total number of cognisable offences was 2,944 – 490 less than in the preceding

year. The strict vigilance of the police and the new system of supervision over criminal tribes are largely responsible for the improvement.

8. PRIMARY EDUCATION—Among the development activities generally, mass education occupies a leading place. Chapter XXIV describes the progress of education during the year. As in previous years the working of the compulsory system of education was closely watched and steady efforts were made to remove defects and important measures were taken to reduce stagnation and wastage. The measures so far taken have reduced stagnation considerably.

Special attention is paid to the education of the backward classes. Boarding houses, scholarships and other facilities are provided to bring education within their easy reach. These measures are described on pages 179–181.

As the improvement of elementary education depends mainly on the efficiency of the teacher, training facilities are steadily extended and improved. The number and proportion of trained teachers have increased from 3,831 or 61·3 per cent in 1928–29 to 4,985 or 76·7 per cent of the total strength.

There has been also a steady increase in the enrolment in primary schools. The number of pupils under instruction has increased to 2,67,068 from 2,05,931 in 1928–29. The percentage of boys and girls under instruction to the male and female population was 13·1 and 9·6 respectively and the average daily attendance was 82·3 per cent.

The policy of developing the rural library system as an essential complement to mass education is being pursued. The number of village libraries now stands at 1,270. During the last fifteen years there has been an increase of 625 in rural libraries. From the special fund set apart for the purpose, vernacular books are published in easy style suitable for use in these libraries. The library movement is described on pages 183–185.

In 1939, a scheme for gradual introduction of physical education in all schools of the State and for training of teachers for the purpose was adopted. By the beginning of the year, a sufficient number of teachers had been trained to enable the Government to make physical education compulsory in all the schools.

All elementary teachers are being trained for years past in physical instruction, scouting and in the elements of village improvement, so that they may introduce these activities in the village, and thus play a useful part in village life. These subjects are also taught in the refresher courses held every year.

The drive organised against adult illiteracy in rural areas was continued. The number of classes opened since the beginning of the

campaign is 1,795. In all 26,457 persons attended these classes and of these, 9,861 attained literacy. It is hoped that sustained efforts will leave a permanent mark on rural life.

9. HIGHER EDUCATION—The secondary schools have grown in number and strength strikingly since 1928–29, showing how the middle and professional classes have realised the advantages of English education. To stimulate private effort, new rules have been framed for giving grants-in-aid to secondary schools. The growth in number has accentuated problems in regard to the methods of teaching and the quality and prospects of the staff, and increased attention is now being given by private enterprise to these in their schools. An Inter-school Board has been appointed to consider questions pertaining to aided secondary schools with a view to securing greater efficiency and remedying defects in staff, conditions of service, accommodation, equipment and playground. The Board has already established its usefulness. The College also has increased materially in strength and staff and its post graduate activities have developed correspondingly.

10. AGRICULTURE—The activities of the Agriculture department continued to expand. Investigations of diseases in crops including cotton root-rot were carried out and the agricultural chemist investigated problems relating to soils and water of different parts of the State. Separate farms have been established for each of the distinctive agricultural tracts of the State for dealing with the specific problems of each area and introducing crops best suited to the soil, climate and conditions of the area and helping to provide pedigree seeds, manure and modern implements to agriculturists. There are eight such farms in the State. Important schemes of research are 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 basic problem is how to bring the farmer into touch with the work done on the demonstration farms, how to make him familiar with the use of improved seeds, scientific collection of manure and improved methods of cultivation generally. A solution of this is being attempted on a systematic plan. In every district groups of 20 to 24 villages are selected for intensive propaganda. These units are sub-divided into 3 to 4 sub-units. Each unit is in charge of an overseer and each sub-unit of a kamgar assisted by fieldmen trained on Government farms. The kamgar and his party frequently go round the villages of the sub-units, carry out on the farms of the agriculturists selected experiments as an object lesson to villagers, and instruct them in the efficient methods of collecting manure, the use of improved implements etc. Four hundred and seventeen villages or 15 per cent of the villages of the State are now served by such units. In the areas

outside the intensive zones the same work is being done by graduate assistants who tour according to settled programmes with itinerant carts. Such itineraries served 252 villages or 9 per cent of the villages of the State.

Another useful means of disseminating knowledge among the rural population is the training of young agriculturists in the Government farms. These are given a thoroughly practical training for a year, during which they receive scholarships. Besides, additional instruction in subsidiary occupations is given to candidates that seek it. The candidates who have gone back from year to year to the villages after training help to improve the standard of cultivation in the neighbourhood. The Sheth Bhogilal Rajaram Institute attached to the Jagudan Farm and the Sheth Dosabhai Maganlal Institute at Baroda Farm each take 100 students at a time.

Lastly should be mentioned the rural reconstruction centres which are an efficient agency for spreading agricultural knowledge. There are two such centres. A rural reconstruction centre is not intended to be a permanent institution. Its aim is to develop a desire for higher standard for living - 'the will to live better', and bring into existence in the area enthusiastic workers with qualities of leadership, who can eventually take over, maintain and develop the work done by the centre. To achieve this object the policy is to establish in every centre village a co-operative society which would serve all its needs, and to do the work of improvement more and more through these societies. When societies have been started in all the villages, a union will be formed to which will eventually be entrusted the task of continuing the work of the centre.

The effects of the propaganda are indicated by the rapid increase in the use of modern implements, fertilisers, manures and better seeds. The expansion of the seed supply organisation is striking. In 1935-36 only about 4.6 lakh pounds of pedigree seeds were issued by the department and these were entirely purchased from Bombay. During the year 36.43 lakh pounds were issued, the whole of which was raised in the State.

In the Navsari district the extension of cultivation of 1027 A.L.F. cotton and the seed reserves built up by the department, enabled the Government during the year to enact the Cotton Control Act and prohibit the cultivation of all cotton except 1027 A. L. F. During the year 5,575 bales of this cotton were sold through the marketing office at Surat at a premium of Rs. 13-11-2 per candy over the local Surti cotton.

The fruit development schemes at Dhari and Kodinar have recorded further progress. The fruit preservation laboratory trained students and the Industries Board sanctioned grants for extraction and canning of mango pulp as a business possibility for a small scale

enterprise. Marketing surveys of animal husbandry products and fruits, cereals and other crops were continued.

The veterinary service was expanded. Two new dispensaries were opened, increasing the total number to 37. The average daily attendance also increased from 13.4 to 14.2. A special officer to investigate cattle disease has also been appointed.

Three schemes were in operation for the improvement of cattle: (i) the Rabari colonies which are becoming popular; (ii) the Khoraj cattle farm, which will meet the needs of pedigree Kankrej bulls for improving the village and Rabari herds; and (iii) the premium bull scheme. These are described in paragraph 228.

11. SOIL EROSION—For the study of problems relating to soil erosion, an evil the magnitude of which in Gujarat and Kathiawar is being increasingly realised, the Government established a separate organisation with a special soil-conservation officer. Preliminary operations were undertaken during the year in three areas—at the head waters of the Shetrunji river, in the area to the west of Dhari and at Hirapura, a village on the Sabarmati. The effects of contour terracing, plugging kotars, controlled grazing and tree and grass planting are being studied.

12. CO-OPERATION—The co-operative movement continued to develop along established lines. The important features in the year's work were :—

- (i) The number of societies, membership, working capital, reserve funds and deposits increased. There was an increase in over-dues, on account of the unfavourable conditions in Okhamandal and the Mehsana district.
- (ii) The re-conditioned societies were punctual in repayments. Eight more societies were re-conditioned during the year.
- (iii) Societies were organised on the controlled credit system, specially in the Kosamba centre villages. The system is proving useful.
- (iv) Non-credit work, specially cotton sales, showed a slight decrease compared to the previous year, mainly because the cotton yield was less favourable.
- (v) The land mortgage bank movement was extended and now covers almost all the talukas of the Baroda and the Navsari districts. Both the Baroda and the Navsari land mortgage banks worked on sound lines.

13. COTTAGE INDUSTRIES—Training in cottage industries is given in the Diamond Jubilee Cottage Industries Institute at Baroda. The Institute also attempts to revive old and well-known industries such as Visnagar metal work and Sankheda lacquer work. For rural areas a large number of demonstration classes have been organised in different centres in which weaving, spinning, calico-printing, lacquer-work and improved methods of tanning are taught. The Government gives grants-in-aid to institutions and loans without interest to individuals, to enable them to provide themselves with the equipment necessary for starting or developing cottage industries. Agriculturists were also trained in subsidiary occupations in all the farms and at Kosamba and Karjan centres.

14. WORKS OF PUBLIC UTILITY—Among programmes of public utility under execution by the District Boards and municipalities, the following deserve mention :—

- (i) *Feeder roads* :—The Baroda State is well served by railways; relatively to its size and population, it has the largest mileage in India. To connect as many villages as possible with the railway system, a programme of feeder roads was sanctioned in 1928-29. The total number of roads in the programme which was subsequently modified is 158 with a length of 533 miles. Of these, 130 roads covering a length of 374 miles have been constructed. The programmes of the Amreli and Navsari districts have been completed and new programmes are under preparation. The expenditure incurred up to now amounts to Rs. 9.97 lakhs out of which the Government contributed Rs. 4.77 lakhs.
- (ii) *Village water supply* :—After the completion of the programme of 459 wells, the different District Boards have undertaken new triennial programmes. So far 56 wells have been completed. The expenditure during the year was Rs. 69,000. Another triennial programme of tube wells has been adopted for villages where potable water could not be tapped even at great depth by sinking ordinary wells. Altogether 80 bores have been sunk. The cost during the year was Rs. 24,318.
- (iii) *Water-works* :—The trial boring undertaken by the municipality at Petlad was successful. A scheme for water-works is under preparation. A combined water supply and drainage scheme for Amreli has been prepared and His Highness the Maharaja made a gracious gift of Rs. 10 lakhs to meet the entire expenditure of the scheme. A scheme of water supply

for Sidhpur is also under consideration. Schemes for water-works at Dwarka and Beyt in Okhamandal, and at Padra and Karjan in the Baroda district were under investigation. A scheme for water-works at Dehgam was sanctioned in the year.

15. SHREE SAYAJIRAO III DIAMOND JUBILEE TRUST—The notable part played by the Diamond Jubilee Trust in rural reconstruction is described in chapter XI of the report.

The Shree Sayajirao III Diamond Jubilee Trust, created by His Highness the late Maharaja Sayajirao III by a personal gift of one crore of rupees, continued its activities. The income from the fund is utilised for supplementing the efforts of the Government to improve village life in all its aspects—economic, social and cultural. In carrying out the object special preference is given

- (i) to poorer tracts where development has not kept pace with the rest of the State, and
- (ii) to the needs of backward communities like the Rani-paraj, Antyaj, Thakarda, Koli, Rabari and the like.

The ten-year programme of work, fixed in consultation with the district committees, entered on its fourth year. For 1940-41 works estimated to cost Rs. 2.5 lakhs were sanctioned for villages, the panchayats and the people in many cases supplementing the trust grants. These works were in progress during the year. Among head-quarter schemes subsidised by the Government and the Trust jointly, three deserve special mention. The first is a scheme for a broadcasting station for the State with a net-work of village receivers. For this purpose, the Trust has set apart a capital sum of Rs. 4.5 lakhs and an annual grant of Rs. 23,600 to supplement the expenditure which the State will incur for the purpose. The station is now under construction. The second is the Cottage Industries Institute, the object of which is, *inter alia*, to teach subsidiary occupations to agriculturists; this is rapidly becoming a centre of training in important arts and crafts. The third is a scheme for the development of poultry industry in the State. Intensive work has been in progress for the last four years in a group of villages round Billimora, to train agriculturists in poultry keeping, supply improved breeds to them and collect, grade and market eggs. These efforts at introducing a remunerative secondary occupation are bearing fruit. Among schemes for the benefit of backward classes may be mentioned the Rabari colonisation scheme and the Thakarda boarding scheme referred to elsewhere.

16. **DIAMOND JUBILEE PEOPLE'S TRUST**—The income of the fund which is about Rs. 25,000 per year is utilised for giving scholarships to bonafide agriculturists for obtaining practical instructions in agriculture and subsidiary occupations. An amount is also set apart for assisting institutions producing khadi. During the year Rs. 7,665 were given as scholarships and Rs. 3,779 as grants to institutions producing khadi.

17. **SHREE SAYAJIRAO III MEMORIAL TRUST FUND**—The programme of work to be carried out from the income of this fund is under consideration of the Government. However an annual endowment of Rs. 15,000 has been made to the Benares Hindu University, for the purpose of establishing a Chair, to be called 'The Sayajirao Chair of Indian Culture and Civilisation,' and for two fellowships attached to it. 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 part of this foundation.

Dr. Sir Radhakrishnan has been appointed as Sir Sayajirao Professor of Indian Culture and Civilisation.

Sayajirao Memorial scholarships for the sons of Sardars, Assamdars etc., of the State have also been instituted and Rs. 15,000 a year set apart for the purpose.

18. **RURAL PUBLIC WORKS**—The Public Works department carried out a useful programme including tube wells, pump-irrigation schemes, special repairs to tanks etc. The special measures for improvements in the Mehsana district were continued and a large number of irrigation tanks were repaired or reconditioned. There are 517 miles of kans (drainage channels) in charge of the department. The work of systematic repairs to these was continued during the year, according to the scheme laid down by the Government, and Rs. 0.95 lakhs were spent on providing new kansas and repairs.

19. **RURAL ELECTRIFICATION**—Rural electrification to supply electricity for pumping water was continued. The most important of the schemes is the Vijapur tube well irrigation project by means of an electric grid. A restricted scheme for this has been undertaken at a cost of Rs. 9.63 lakhs and is in progress. The Manekpura lift irrigation scheme worked successfully and work on a similar scheme sanctioned at Umra was in progress.

20. **MEDICAL RELIEF**—The programme of extending medical relief in rural areas with the object of having a dispensary within a radius of five miles from every village of the State is so far completed that now every part of the State is well provided with medical aid.

In the current year there were 117 medical institutions in the State or one for every 24,400 of the population. For further development a scheme for subsidising medical practitioners if they settle in villages has been sanctioned. The scheme for grant-in-aid for village dispensaries was continued and altogether 198 villages took advantage of it.

The extension of medical relief to women and children of the State has been receiving the attention of the Government. There were 14 maternity wards in the districts. Besides these, there were 33 trained midwives stationed in different centres of the State. Systematic training is given to dais from villages in several hospitals of the State. To co-ordinate all efforts in this direction a Trust associated with the name of Her Highness the Maharani was formed in the preceding year. This Trust has received generous public support, Rs. 1.1 lakhs being the contribution received so far, besides annual grants from municipalities and District Boards. The Trust has sanctioned a children's ward in Baroda and seventeen new maternity wards in different parts of the State.

21. **RURAL HEALTH**—The health and sanitary services were strengthened during the year. To study problems of rural sanitation like the disposal of refuse, manure heaps, conservancy, suitable types of village latrines, and to improve conditions in this respect special sanitary circles have been organised including a health unit attached to the Kosamba centre. A special nutrition officer studies dietary habits of the different classes of people and delivers lectures and issues bulletins as part of educative propaganda. Grants are also given to private gymnasiums in the State.

Among the important activities of the year anti-malarial campaign deserves special mention. Malaria constitutes the main menace to health in the State and in order that the worst areas might be taken up on a systematic plan, the Government have given grants for 3 to 5 years for anti-malarial operations. These grants amount in the aggregate to Rs. 17,400 a year. The operations were conducted in the Baroda City, in 12 municipal towns and 435 villages of the State.

The State was free from plague during the year. There was an epidemic of cholera in the Navsari district and mild epidemics of small pox in all parts of the State. Vaccination and re-vaccination against small pox are enforced over large areas.

22. **THE DEPRESSED CLASSES**—The position of the depressed classes, who form 15 per cent of the population, is steadily improving. The total number of Antyaj pupils, boys and girls in schools, was 21,316 or 10.5 per cent of their population. The policy now being enforced is that pupils from this class should be educated in the ordinary schools along with caste Hindu pupils. In 1930-31 there were 201

special Antyaj schools with 18,388 pupils. In 1940-41 there were only 60 special schools with 4,189 pupils and these were located in such places as had a large Antyaj population or where the general Gujarati schools were housed in temple compounds or caste dharmashalas. Unfortunately, the prejudice against Antyaj pupils still persists especially regarding girl students. As regards secondary and higher education progress is slow. There are 16 Antyaj students in the Baroda College, 252 in secondary schools, 10 in the Kalabhavan and 37 in the training schools.

There are complaints that the Antyaj are denied the right to use public wells, roads etc., especially in villages, in spite of the frequently declared policy of the Government. The Social Disabilities Removal Act was enacted in 1939, making it penal to prevent people of these classes from exercising elementary rights, and standing committees have been set up, one in each district, for investigating complaints and initiating action where necessary. No permanent improvement in the outlook of society is, however, possible unless sustained unofficial efforts actively support the Government in their policy.

23. BACKWARD AREAS AND TRIBES—Paragraphs 412-417 of the report describe measures taken for education of the Raniparaj or forest tribes in backward areas. Briefly, boarding houses are established for their special benefit and the education imparted combines literacy instruction with vocational courses. Co-operative societies are being formed to finance the tenants who have been settled in the colony established in the Mangrol taluka in the preceding year, and kangars trained on the Government agricultural farms are employed to instruct them in improved agricultural methods. The Government have also sanctioned a programme for the construction of 204 miles of roads in forest areas of which 67.5 miles have been constructed or are under construction. The total amount spent on this so far is Rs. 1.85 lakhs. The scheme sanctioned in 1939, for settling Rabaris in the Mehsana district on land and providing them with pasture for their cattle, made good progress. Three thousand bighas of land have been transferred to the Agriculture department on which three colonies with 500 bighas each and one with 1,650 bighas are being established. So far 113 families have been settled.

The Thakarda boarding house at Patan has been removed to a large farm at Deodarda which will serve as a rural reconstruction centre for the Thakarda area. In this, Thakarda boys who will be boarders, will receive intensive agricultural instruction in addition to their general education.

24. ECONOMIC LEGISLATION—The economic legislation in the State is reviewed on pages 97-104 of the report. This legislation falls under three classes—(i) tenancy, (ii) debt and (iii) protection

of backward classes. The tenancy legislation – the law regulating the relations between Ankadia holders and their tenants and the law for the fixation of rents in the backward areas – has had beneficial results. The latter Act has been specially useful as it has secured a substantial scaling down of rents and the advantage of permanency of tenure to cultivating agriculturists of the Raniparaj class. Two measures constitute the legislation in protection of the interests of agriculturist debtors. One of these sets up conciliation boards with the object of composing and reduction of debts by agreement. Eight such boards were at work in the year and did useful service in bringing about amicable settlement between creditors and agriculturist debtors. The second law, the Agriculturist Debt Regulation Act, was intended to give relief to agriculturists from the effects of the fall in prices of agricultural produce and has been freely availed of by agriculturists of all classes. The legislation for the protection of backward classes is designed to save the Raniparaj and other backward classes from being ousted from their lands by money lenders.

25. SOCIAL PROBLEMS AND LEGISLATION—The social legislation in the State is reviewed on pages 89–97 of the report. The effect of the Child Marriage Prevention Act has been that while before 1920 and even 1930 a third of the marriages in the State were below the prescribed limit, now, under a higher marriageable age only about one-eighth of the marriages come within penalised age limits. The effect on the civil condition of society is also marked – during the last forty years the average age of marriage has risen by 5 years. The number of cases under the Divorce Act does not show any marked increase. The number of prosecutions under the Caste Tyranny Removal Act was small and of these none succeeded. People are generally reluctant to take the risk of embittered relations with the leaders of the caste which a prosecution or even giving evidence involves. Independently of the result of the cases filed in the courts, the existence of the Act has proved to be a salutary check on the arbitrary exercise of the powers of excommunication. Nevertheless the conclusion is irresistible that such reforms can succeed only with the support of an enlightened public opinion. Hindu women are now asserting the enlarged rights given to them by the amendments in the Acts relating to Hindu Law enacted in 1933. Generally among the higher castes, these rights are conceded as women's property rights have always been more extensive in this part of India than elsewhere. Among the lower classes, however, men are less willing to accept the change, and the women are not yet conscious of their rights.

26. MAJOR INDUSTRIES—All the major industrial establishments in the State continued to work during the year. The production of the sixteen cotton mills increased by 20 per cent. The Dinesh Woollen Mill worked for meeting war orders. The working of the sugar factory at Gandevi showed improvement as a result of the extension of

sugarcane cultivation in the area due to irrigation schemes executed by the Government.

The Tata Chemicals Ltd. were started in the year 1939 with a paid up capital of Rs. 125 lakhs, for the manufacture of heavy chemicals – soda ash, caustic soda, bleaching powder etc. On account of the war, there has been delay in obtaining the necessary plant but it is expected that production will commence next year. The Tata Chemicals Ltd. have taken over (i) the Okha Salt Works and (ii) the Pioneer Magnesia Works. The Okha Salt Works produced 44,859 tons of salt during the year as against 33,700 tons in the previous year. The Pioneer Magnesia Works continued to produce magnesium chloride, potassium chloride and epsom salts.

The Match Factories at Petlad and Billimora worked satisfactorily. The total out-put was 4,94,013 gross paying an excise duty of Rs. 6.96 lakhs.

A large chemical works – the Hindustan Colour, Chemical and Manufacturing Co. Ltd. – with a capital of Rs. 15 lakhs has been established at Kathwada in Dehgam taluka. It will manufacture modified starches, bleaching agents and acids. The Government have undertaken to purchase 20 per cent of the shares and sanctioned a number of other facilities.

Financial assistance in the form of either loans or investment in share capital was given to a number of small and large concerns.

27. INDUSTRIES BOARD—The Industries Board whose function is to advise Government on technical questions pertaining to large and small industries sanctioned the manufacture of printing ink on semi-commercial scale, of electric fans, experiments for extraction and canning of mango pulp.

28. OKHA PORT—The trade at Port Okha suffered because of the conditions prevailing due to the war. The customs revenue decreased from Rs. 28.62 lakhs to Rs. 26.74 lakhs. The receipts from port dues exceeded the expenditure by Rs. 0.31 lakhs. The capital expenditure incurred during the year amounted to Rs. 0.93 lakhs, bringing the total capital cost of the port to Rs. 46.64 lakhs.

29. STATE ECONOMIC BOARD—The State and district economic boards considered the construction of main and feeder roads, bridges and railway timings and rates etc.

30. STATISTICS DEPARTMENT—The department of Statistics compiled an abstract for the year 1938–39, statistics regarding the rail-borne trade by districts for the last five years and other statistical returns.

31. **FISHERIES DEPARTMENT**—The scheme for the commercial manufacture of shark liver oil was in operation and the other activities were also continued.

32. **TELEPHONES**—The working of the telephone exchanges in the State was satisfactory. The net earnings came to 9 per cent on the capital investment as compared with 8·9 per cent in the previous year.

Automatic telephone systems were in operation at Navsari, Billimora, Petlad, Dabhoi, Kalol and Mehsana. All these have been connected or are in process of being connected with the trunk telephone system. Select villages on the route to the main telephone system will be connected.

33. **PUBLIC WORKS**—The Public Works department carried out a useful programme of irrigation works, major and minor buildings and roads.

The Vijapur tube well irrigation project by means of an electric grid from a central power station has been undertaken. For the present restricted scheme costing Rs. 9·63 lakhs has been sanctioned. The expenditure incurred up to the end of the year was Rs. 2·76 lakhs.

Under-ground drainage schemes were completed in the remaining parts of Baroda City, Bhadran, Visnagar and Navsari.

The doubling of the mains to increase water supply in the Baroda City was completed. The road programme was continued. The bridge on the Tapti was completed and considerable progress made on the Baroda section of the Ahmedabad-Bombay road.

34. **RAILWAYS**—The total mileage of railways served by the State was 723 miles. The net earnings of the State Railway system were 4·44 per cent on the capital outlay of Rs. 558 lakhs as against 3·87 per cent in the preceding year, after setting apart 1·25 per cent of the capital for depreciation fund.

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