CHAPTER FIVE

CO-OPERATIVE SPINNING MILLS OF ICHALKARANJI AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Spinning mills undertake the processing of raw cotton into yarn and hence they are included in the category of agro-industries. The first chapter of this study has discussed in details the significance of an agro-industry, and that too in co-operative sector, from the point of view of its socio-economic impact. As has already been said, the co-operative agro-industries, organised on a large-scale, will certainly serve as growth centres for the region. Now, in this section we will be taking stock of the achievements of the co-operative spinning mills of Ichalkaranji with a view to assessing their role as an instrument of regional development.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Employment generation is considered an important aim behind establishment of industrial units of different kinds. More important in this context is to put a check to large-scale migration of people from one area to the other. It is expected that as far as possible, persons within the region of the industrial unit should be absorbed on a priority basis, and whenever the question of employing highly educated, experienced and technically trained personnel arises, local considerations need not be insisted upon.

So far as the three spinning mills of Ichalkaranji are concerned, it seems that they have helped in generating employment opportunities on a substantial scale, absorbing largely the local persons. As can be seen from Table-1, in

Total employment in the three co-operative spinning mills in Ichalkaranji area (1979-80)

	Name of the Mill	Installed spindles	Total workers	Educated workers	% of educated workers to the total workers	Uneducated workers	% of uneducated workers to the total workers	% of workers from Ichalkaranji area to the total workers	% of workers from outside Ichalkaranji area to the total workers
1	Deccan	79,552 (46.46)	2,035 (46.25)	136 (23.45)	7	1,899 (50.00)	93	60	40
2	Kolhapur Zilla	62,928 (36.75	1,553 (35.30)	198 (34.14)	13	1,355 (35.66)	87	60	40
3	Ichalkaranji	28,728 (16.81)	814 (18.45)	247 (42.41)	31	567 (14.34)	69	70	30
	Total:	1,71,200 (100.00)	4,402 (100.00)	581 (100.00)	17	3,801 (100.00)	83	63	37

Notes: 1. The category of 'uneducated workers' includes all those who are illiterate and also those having education upto X standard.

2. The category of 'educated workers' includes all those having education beyond X standard.

3. Figures in the brackets indicate percentages to the totals of the respective columns.

Source: Compiled from the data in the official records of the mills.

Table-2

Year-wise employment and percentage increase in employment in the co-operative spinning mills of Ichalkaranji, since 1970-71 to 1979-80

Year	Deccan	Kolhapur Zilla	Ichalkaranji	Total employment	Net increase in employment	% of increase in employment
1970-71	899	575	-	1,474	-	-
1971-72	911	643	-	1,554	80	5.4
1972-73	919	765	-	1,684	130	8.3
1973-74	1,054	855	-	1,909	225	13.0
1974-75	1,124	860	-	1,984	75	3.0
1975-76	1,389	894	-	2,283	229	11.6
1976-77	1,797	1,135	175	3,107	825	36.2
1977-78	1,985	1,499	658	4,142	1,035	33.3
1978-79	1,993	1,505	763	4,261	119	2.3
1979-80	2,035	1,553	814	4,402	141	3.2

1979-80, these units employed in all 4,402 workers in different capacities from top to bottom. This is direct employment provided by them. The Deccan Mill, being the largest of all, shares 46.25 per cent of employment; Kolhapur Zilla follows with 35.30 per cent and Ichalkaranji with 18.45 per cent. On comparison of these shares of each of the mills with their share in the total installed spindleage, it seems that spindleage percentages also are similar to those of workers employed. This may lead us to know the worker-spindle ratio in each of the factories. It can be calculated as follows:

$$\text{Per worker spindles} = \frac{\text{Total spindles}}{\text{Total workers}}$$

By employing this formula, the number of spindles per worker employed in Deccan Mill is 39, Kolhapur Zilla Mill 40 and Ichalkaranji Mill 35. This means that at present 35 to 40 spindles per worker seems to be an optimum size of employment in the mills of Ichalkaranji region.

Let us now come to the division of these workers into 'educated' and 'uneducated'. Those included in the category of educated workers are mostly the persons engaged in the administration of the unit and the technically trained officers. As such, their number in the aggregate is bound to be smaller. Absolutely, it is 581 out of 4,402, leading to about 17%. 'Uneducated' are the ones employed in the production units and also as menial staff. They are 83% in the total. Relative

position of the mills also is worth noting in this context. So far as the category of educated workers is concerned, the largest number (247 out of 581 - that is, 42.41%) is employed by the Ichalkaranji Mill eventhough its spindleage capacity is very much less compared to the other two mills. The biggest mill, viz., the Deccan Mill, has the least number (136 out of 581 - that is 23.45%) of educated persons on its roll. Larger the size of the mill, lesser is the proportion of educated persons and more is the proportion of uneducated persons employed. A striking feature indeed. It is the result of the tremendous increase in the educated unemployed persons in this region. Consequently educated persons are tempted to do manual work or serve in production section. Similarly, now-a-days the mills are bound to employ educated person under the 'employment promotion scheme' sponsored by the Government of India.

Notwithstanding the observed behaviour, one fact is worth noting. All the three mills have a considerably high proportion of uneducated persons - that is, persons educated upto X standard as also illiterates - in its employment. Hence, they have been certainly a boon to the economically backward classes in the region. The weaker sections of the society are able to make a good living out of this employment. In addition, their migration to other areas, mostly urban, for search of jobs is thereby avoided.

This inference is strengthened by the locational details of the workers given in Table-1. The average ratio of persons within Ichalkaranji region and without it is 63:37. Individually it is 60:40 in case of Deccan and Kolhapur Zilla Mills, whereas 70:30 for Ichalkaranji Mill. It is clear, therefore, that the spinning mills are generally following the policy of giving priority to local persons in their employments. Such a policy helps in stabilising the families in their own areas, avoids unwanted migration of the workers contributes to social stability, reduces the pressure of population on agriculture and leads to economic upliftment of the worker.

Table-2 enlightens us on the extent and rate of increase in employment in the three mills over the decade of the seventies. In the previous chapter we have given details of increase in spindleage capacity of the mills over the decade. Correlating those details with the number of workers in the mills from year to year we find that in case of Deccan Mill spindleage capacity increased by 46% whereas employment increased by 126%; the corresponding percentages for Kolhapur Zilla Mill are 150 and 170 and for Ichalkaranji Mill (for the period from 1977-78 to 1979-80) are 50 and 24.

Coming to the annual increase in employment in total, net increase exhibits a rising trend for the decade. Worth noting years are 1973-74, 1975-76, 1976-77 and 1977-78. In

1973-74, employment increased by 13.0 per cent over the previous year mainly due to the expansion activity of the Deccan mill. The same factor contributed largely to 11.6% increase in employment in 1975-76. Increase of 36.2% in employment in 1976-77 was the consequence of the expansion programmes of the Deccan and Kolhapur Zilla mills. In 1977-78, the Ichalkaranji Mill started newly functioning and the two old mills made additional recruitments substantially, so that employment rate registered 33.3% increase. But thereafter the years 1978-79 and 1979-80 have exhibited a marginal increase.

All this is for the present. Let us glance at the near future. In Chapter Three, we have given the details regarding the expansion of spindleage capacity contemplated by the Kolhapur Zilla and Ichalkaranji mills. It is stated there that on completion of these programmes the spindleage capacity of the three mills will increase from the present 1.71 lakh to 2.55 lakhs. What will be the potential increase in employment as a consequence ? Our observed fact in this section is that these mills are presently having worker-spindle ratio of nearly 1:40. On this basis, 2.55 lakh spindles will employ 6,400 workers in all. On 1.71 lakh spindles presently • 4,402 workers are employed. It means, then, the proposed expansion programme of the two mills would create jobs for 2,000 more workers in the near future.

Finally, we touch to the long period. In Chapter Three

again, we have said that even after the expansion of capacity by the existing mills, only one-fourth of the yarn-requirement will be fulfilled leaving still a wide margin to be covered by new mills. Already proposals for three new mills are in the pipeline. Supposing that they materialise and also grow in due course, say to a total of about 2 lakh spindleage capacity together over the eighties, Ichalkaranji region will certainly be able to provide at least 5,000 new jobs to the weaker sections.

PERSONAL INCOME GENERATED

The spinning mills have presently employed 4,402 persons in all. As a result, they helped in generating personal incomes, to the extent of Rs. 19.82 lakh per month in 1979-80; that is Rs. 2.38 crores for the year. This is no mean a contribution to the population in the area. Especially, as majority of the workers are from the weaker sections, this much money income has definitely provided a substantial earning for their living, leading to improvement in their living standard. This can be realised from the details in Table-3. These workers are earning, on an average, Rs. 437 per month. Discounting for higher wage-bills of the 'educated' workers, there should be no harm in putting the average of per month earning by an 'uneducated' worker at about 400. Not a bad earning for them ! If we go into inter-mill comparison, the average earning is the highest at Rs. 480 for the Deccan Mill,

Table-3

Salary bill per month in the co-operative spinning mills of Ichalkaranji, 1979-80 (in Rs.)

Name of the Mill	Total workers	Average salary per worker (Rs.)	Salary bill per month (Rs.)
Deccan	2,035	480	9,76,086 (49.24)
Kolhapur Zilla	1,553	447	6,94,000 (35.00)
Ichalkaranji	814	384	3,12,637 (15.76)
Total	4,402	437	19,82,723

Note: Figures in the bracket indicate percentages to the total

Source: Salary files of the mills

Table-4

No.of shareholders of the three co-operative spinning mills as in 1979-80

Name of the Mill			Number of shareholders
Deccan	...	...	531
Kolhapur Zilla	...	...	7,338
Ichalkaranji	...	...	3,055
		Total	10,824

Source: Annual Reports of the mills

followed in order by the Kolhapur Zilla Mill (Rs. 447) and the Ichalkaranji Mill (384). If we correlate the average earnings to the composition of the workers employed — 'educated' and 'uneducated' — we may get an idea of the wage levels prevailing in each of the mills. As seen from Table-1, the Deccan Mill has 93% of uneducated workers on its pay-roll. Table-3 indicates its average salary per worker to be Rs. 480 per month. Discounting for the higher salaries of the 'educated' workers, we may say that the 'uneducated' workers there are getting about Rs. 450 per month. By the same measure, corresponding figures for the Kolhapur Zilla and Ichalkaranji Mills may be put at Rs. 407 and Rs. 334 per worker per month. As the number of 'educated' workers is larger when we come down from Deccan Mill to Ichalkaranji Mill, as a rough figure we have discounted Rs. 30, Rs. 40 and Rs. 50 from the average salaries of Deccan, Kolhapur Zilla and Ichalkaranji mills respectively to arrive at the above average salary figures of the 'uneducated' workers in these mills. Inferences are clear. The mills do not follow similar salary scales and hence difference in the average earnings. Secondly, the wage-payments in the Ichalkaranji Mill are much less than those in the other two mills in the vicinity. Glaring wage differences, therefore, have to be reduced.

Besides the earnings of the employees in the mills, the shareholders also have got returns on their share capital. The shareholders in the three mills number 10,824. Of course,

Table-5

Total amount of dividend distributed since 1970-71 to 1979-80 (in Rs.)

Year	Deccan	Kolhapur Zilla	Ichalkaranji	Total
1970-71	1,88,880	-	-	1,88,880
1971-72	1,88,880	1,35,290	-	3,24,170
1972-73	2,86,120	3,13,210	-	5,99,330
1973-74	-	3,39,840	-	3,39,840
1974-75	-	3,72,700	-	3,72,700
1975-76	-	2,81,325	-	2,81,325
1976-77	-	-	-	-
1977-78	-	-	-	-
1978-79	-	3,88,000	-	3,88,000
1979-80	-	-	-	-
Total	6,63,880	18,30,365	-	24,94,245

Source: Dividend registers of the mills

majority are of the Kolhapur Zilla and Ichalkaranji Mills. Table-4 gives the details of mill-wise shareholders. Table-5 gives the particulars about yearwise divident declared by the three mills during 1970-71 to 1979-80. Ichalkaranji Mill, being the youngest, has not yet been able to distribute any dividend. The other two mills together have distributed a total of Rs. 24.94 lakh as divident over the decade. Of this, nearly 73% goes to the credit of the Kolhapur Zilla Mill. It is surprising that over the decade, the Kolhapur Zilla Mill could distribute dividend for 6 years whereas the oldest and biggest Deccan Mill could do so for only 3 years and it could not distribute even a single Paise from 1973-74. They are unable to distribute the dividend from 1973-74, because of their policy to sell the major production to shareholders only, and something they received out of the remaining sale has been utilised for modernisation of the mill.

How many persons were the beneficieries of the dividend and to what extent ? Though the Deccan Mill has not distributed dividend since 1973-74, its shareholders have got much larger amount as compared to the Kolhapur Zilla Mill, notwithstanding the number of years for which dividend has been declared. Over the seventies, 531 shareholders of the Deccan Mill got a total of Rs. 6,63,880; that is, on an average each shareholder received Rs. 1,250. As against this, 7,338 shareholders of the Kolhapur Zilla Mill got Rs. 18,30,365, average being just Rs. 250 per shareholder.

AGRO-SERVICES

Ever since inception, these spinning mills of Ichalkaranji have been constantly endeavouring towards betterment of community life in this area with a view to usher industrial and social development in and around Ichalkaranji. These spinning mills have been giving helping hands to the community in ways more than one, with an eye particularly on benefits to the weaker sections.

With a social objective of spreading to the weaker sections of the community at large a part of the gains arising from its successful functioning, the motivated management of the Deccan Co-operative Spinning Mills, Ltd., established in the year 1974, the Decospin charitable Trust. The aims and objects of this Trust are to help for the socio-economic upliftment of those who are at the last rung of the social ladder. The emphasis of its programme is more on propelling the economy of the poorer sections towards self-reliance rather than on welfare measures or charity.

Since the Trust has chosen rural areas for its activities small and sub-marginal farmers, artisans, etc. are its main beneficiaries. Emphasis of the Trust is on rural development with agriculture at the centre. The details in Table-6 will throw light on the type of agro-services extended so far by the Decospin Trust of the Deccan Mill. Table-6 shows that during

Table-6

Financial assistance given by the Decospin Charitable Trust since 1974-75 to 1979-80 (in Rs.)

Sr.No.	Name of the village	Purpose of the loan	Financial assistance rendered in Rs.	Nature of the loan	No.of families benefited	No.of acres benefited
1	Kardyal, Tal. Kagal Dist. Kolhapur	Lift irrigation scheme	36,386	Bridge finance	11	22
2	Pimpalgaon, Tal. Kagal, Dist. Kolhapur	-ditto-	31,394	-ditto-	13	30
3	Minche, Tal. Hatkanangale	Installation of pumping sets	6,373	-ditto-	23	3
4	Khebwade, Tal. Karveer	Finance for releasing of lands of Harijans from money-lenders	6,000	-ditto-	8	8
5	Pimpalgaon, Tal. Kagal	Laying pipeline for Harijan farmers	1,205	-ditto-	-	-
6	Vithal Samyukta Sahakari Sheti Society, Mhaisal, Dist. Sangli	For construction of wells	11,000	-ditto-	-	-

7	Vividha Karyakari Sahakari Society, Minche	Crop finance to Harijans	36,000	-ditto-	61	47
8	Navajeevan Samyukta Sahakari Sheti Society, Kavathepiran, District Sangli	Lift irrigation scheme	40,000	-ditto-	-	-
9	Nandre, Dist. Sangli	Finance for releasing of land of Harijans from moneylenders	66,640	-ditto-	-	-
10	Joint Co-operative Society, Nandre	Lift irrigation scheme	40,000	-ditto-	-	52
11	Minche	Establishment of Sisal Fibre project for Matang community	50,000	Grant	-	144
12	Ichalkaranji	Lift irrigation scheme	1,59,893	Bridge finance	32	67
		Total	4,84,891		148	373

Source: Decospin Charitable Trust: Approach and Achievements, 1980.

Table-7

Agro-services provided by Cotton Development Scheme of the Kolhapur Zilla Shetakari Vinakari Sahakari Soot Girani (as in 1978)

Year	Cotton seeds		Chemicals (value in Rs.)	Spray pumps	
	Quantity (Kgs.)	Value (in (Rs.)		Quantity	Value (in Rs.)
1969-70	100	500	7,340	8	1,600
1970-71	675	2,025	1,000	75	10,962
1971-72	2,100	14,700	31,340	50	10,934
1972-73	1,568	49,500	55,300	150	35,250
1973-74	1,554	61,219	2,55,446	150	2,13,090
1974-75	8,225	6,41,712	5,41,486	500	
1975-76	854	82,193	40,787	40	6,230
1976-77	463	21,300	20,807	17	4,980
1977-78	414	20,914	7,377	2	600
Total	15,953	8,94,063	9,50,883	992	2,83,646
	Grand Total (Rs.)		21,28,592		

Source: Cotton Development Records of the Mill.

1974-75 to 1979-80 the Trust has given financial help to agriculture mostly as bridge finance amounting to Rs. 4,84,891. The financing activity helped 148 families and 373 acres of land. It also helped two co-operative societies to bring 260 acres of arid land under irrigation. Major beneficiaries are the Harijans. Much of the finance is given for irrigation purpose. A part of the assistance is extended for releasing the lands of the Harijans from the money-lenders. Crop finance is another avenue.

Kolhapur Zilla Shetkari Vinakari Sahakari Soot Girani started its cotton development scheme in 1968. At the beginning there was not a single guntha of land under cotton cultivation in Kolhapur district. It was the Cotton Development Committee of the mill which encouraged the people to produce the variety of cotton used by the mill. Under the guidance of the committee survey work was done to select a proper area, proper time and suitable variety of cotton for the various tracts. And thereafter specific tracts from Shiroli, Hatkanangale, Karveer, Kagal, Panhala and Gadhinglaj talukas of the Kolhapur District were chosen for cotton development activity. To begin with, 'Varalaxmi' variety of cotton was introduced for cultivation and within a period of six years area under cotton increased upto 10,000 acres. Nearly, three-fourths of this area is under high-yielding staple cotton varieties like Mcu^5, H_4 and Varalaxmi. The scheme was functioning independently with the Mill's own resources upto 1972 season. Subsequently, due to

financial grant from the National Co-operative Development Corporation through the all-India Federation of Co-operative Spinning Mills Ltd., Bombay, the scheme work was much accelerated from 1972 season. In addition to the promotion of cotton cultivation activity, the total requirement of plant protection chemicals was surveyed, and a major quantity of it was procured and sold by the Mill on 'no profit, no loss' basis. Spray-pumps were also supplied. Particulars of all these activities are given in Table-7.

During 1969-70 to 1977-78 the mill had distributed 15,953 Kgs. of seeds valuing Rs. 8,94,063 and chemicals of the value of Rs. 9,50,883. Distribution of 992 spray-pumps amounted to Rs. 2,83,646. All these services were provided to the farmers in this area on 'no profit, no loss' basis. Thus the farmers are benefited by the agro-services provided by the Cotton Development Scheme of the Kolhapur Zilla Mill to the tune of Rs. 21,28,592.

In spite of all these efforts, the march of progress in extension of area under cotton was rapidly reversed since 1975-76 perhaps due to better earnings through sugarcane cultivation. In 1976-77 only 414 acres of land was under cotton cultivation. Noticing this trend, the Cotton Development Scheme is trying to increase the area under cotton cultivation through special efforts. Consequently, the area of land under cotton cultivation touched to 2,553 acres in 1979-80. To

provide necessary assistance to farmers, Circle Offices have been opened at Jaysingpur, Dattawad, Hupari, Kudal, Gadhinglaj and the factory headquarters.

The Ichalkaranji Co-operative Spinning Mill has laid down a pipe-line for its own water supply from river Panchganga. It has extended the benefit of this pipeline to the farmers of Shiradwad and Shivanakwadi. This mill, being in its infant stage, is yet to undertake programmes of community development. However, it is certain that it will not lag behind its predecessors and will, in the near future, be active in introducing different schemes of common benefit.

RESEARCH, TRAINING AND EDUCATION

The three co-operative spinning mills of Ichalkaranji have given due attention to research and development in cotton processing, apprentice training and facilities of liberal education.

The Deccan Co-operative Spinning Mill has established Decospin Research Foundation with a contribution of Rs. 5 lakh. Decospin Research Foundation will find out avenues for improving the productivity of powerlooms, diversification of Sorts woven on powerlooms, inventing new designs and other innovations. The Research Foundation is at present utilising the existing facilities of pilot plant for conducting research experiments and a couple of experiments on important aspects of

spinning industry have been conducted so far. The Foundation has installed 8 new powerlooms for developing new sorts and new designs for the benefit of the local powerloom industry. Fabric sorts and new designs for jacquard, shirtings, lino-sarees etc. have also been introduced by the Foundation. It is providing guidance and necessary technical help to the weavers for weaving fault-free cloth for export. As a result, the local powerloom weavers have made an entry into the export market which has enabled them to diversify their markets and thereby avoid the impact of recession in domestic market. In-service training classes for weavers and jobbers are also held from time to time by the Foundation. So far about 250 weavers and 20 jobbers have taken advantage of the training facilities.

The Kolhapur Zilla Shetkari Vinakari Sahakari Soot Girani has started a primary school at the mill site. So, the children of the families living in the mill area are getting the facilities of learning. The mill provided books to the students free of cost. The Mill has, in addition, introduced "Workers' Education Scheme" for the benefit of the mill workers.

The Ichalkaranji Co-operative Spinning Mill has decided to start a school and a college at the site of the Mill. In future, the people living in the area of the Mill will be benefited by these facilities.

In all the three spinning mills of Ichalkaranji, there is a provision of apprentice training to the prospective workers. They give chance to a limited number of workers per year to work in the mill as trainee. Training period is generally of 6 months. After successful completion of training period they are employed in the mills. Table-8 shows yearwise training opportunities provided by the mills.

Table-8

Yearwise training opportunities in the three Co-operative Spinning Mills of Ichalkaranji, since 1970-71 to 1979-80

Year	Deccan	Kolhapur Zilla	Ichalkaranji	Total trainees
1970-71	29	27	-	56
1971-72	15	85	-	100
1972-73	19	112	-	131
1973-74	45	107	-	152
1974-75	54	92	-	146
1975-76	91	221	-	312
1976-77	299	222	-	521
1977-78	292	234	92	618
1978-79	154	279	150	583
1979-80	100	80	75	255
Total	1,098	1,459	317	2,874

Source : Compiled on the basis of data from the official records of the mills

It will be seen from Table-8 that during the seventies, The Deccan Co-operative Spinning Mill gave training to 1,098 workers, Kolhapur Zilla Shetakari Vinakari Sahakari Soot Girani organised training to 1,459 workers and The Ichalkaranji Co-operative Spinning Mill trained 317 workers. They are all employed in the respective mills. In the years, 1976-77 and 1977-78, workers appointed by the Ichalkaranji Mill were trained in Deccan Co-operative Spinning Mill. These were the years when the Ichalkaranji Mill was preparing for its production activity. Over the decade from 1970-71 to 1979-80 these mills together have trained 2,874 persons and all of them have been absorbed by them. The lion's share in training activity goes to the Kolhapur Zilla Mill as nearly 50% of the trained persons passed out of it.

HOUSING FACILITIES

The three co-operative spinning mills of Ichalkaranji are also providing housing facilities to the workers of the mills as well as to the people living in the surrounding area. The housing facilities directly provided by them are detailed in Table-9. The Deccan Mill has constructed 8 family rooms and 12 bachelor rooms. Kolhapur Zilla Mill has constructed 8 rooms in factory area and 53 rooms in Workers' Co-operative Housing Colony. Thus, the total number of rooms constructed are 61. The Ichalkaranji mill has constructed B-type 12 rooms in which 24 families are accommodated. Thus,

the total number of rooms constructed by the three co-operative spinning mills of Ichalkaranji are 93 in which 93 families consisting of 477 persons live.

Table-9

Housing facilities provided by the three co-operative spinning mills of Ichalkaranji upto 1979-80.

	Name of the Mill	No.of rooms constructed	No.of families living	No.of persons living
1	Deccan	20	8	52
2	Kolhapur Zilla	61	61	305
3	Ichalkaranji	12	24	120
	Total	93	93	477

Source: Official records of the mills,

Decospin Charitable Trust is also paying attention to the problem of housing for the weaker sections of the society. The financial help rendered by the Trust is shown in Table-10.

To begin with, the Trust has advanced a bridge loan of Rs. 1 lakh each to Jawahar Tenant Co-operative Housing Society and Navajeevan Tenant Co-operative Housing Society, both at Ichalkaranji.With this financial help from the Trust, Jawahar and Navajeevan Societies constructed respectively 34 and 31 residential blocks for their members. In this manner, 65 families of Dombari community were provided with housing

Table-10

Financial help for housing facilities provided by the Decospin Charitable Trust as in 1979-80.

Sr.No.	Name of the project	Bridge Finance (in Rs.)
1	Jawahar Tenant Co-operative Housing Society, Ichalkaranji	1,00,000
2	Navajeevan Tenant Co-operative Housing Society, Ichalkaranji	1,00,000
3	Indira Co-operative Housing Society, Ichalkaranji ...	40,000
4	Priyadarshini Co-operative Housing Society, Ichalkaranji	30,000
5	Mill Workers of Deccan Co-operative Spinning Mill ...	96,000
	Total	3,66,000

Source: Decospin Charitable Trust: Approach and Achievements, 1980

facilities. Likewise, 18 mill workers of the Deccan Co-operative Spinning Mill have also been assisted by providing interest-free loan of Rs. 56,000 for completion of their houses and another 22 mill workers have been given Rs. 96,000 for the construction of their houses. The Trust has also assisted the Indira and the Priyadarshini Housing Societies of Ichalkaranji to the tune of Rs. 40,000 and Rs. 30,000 respectively. The Trust hopes that its housing programme will go a long way not only in providing stability to the nomadic people but also for their cultural development.

The Deccan Mill has proposed to form a Workers' Co-operative Housing Society. If the proposal materialises, it will provide housing facilities to 300 worker-families. The Kolhapur Zilla Mill has proposed to construct 17 rooms in their co-operative housing society to accommodate 85 worker-families. The Ichalkaranji Mill has proposed to construct 12 B-type rooms for 24 families of the workers.

Thus, the spinning mills are alert to fulfilling an important basic need of the workers and the weaker sections in the region.

SPREADING OF COTTON TEXTILE INDUSTRY IN VILLAGES AROUND ICHALKARANJI

Due to the development of Ichalkaranji 'as a Textile Centre' and because of the spinning mills, the cotton textile industry has spread in villages around Ichalkaranji. The establishment of spinning mills has certainly contributed much in the dispersal of weaving activities to the surrounding places. The small weaving units have an advantage in this. Establishment costs and labour charges are comparatively less there. Moreover, the weavers are not required to migrate to Ichalkaranji, which has a very high cost of living. The extent of dispersal can be noted with the help of Table-11.

Table-11

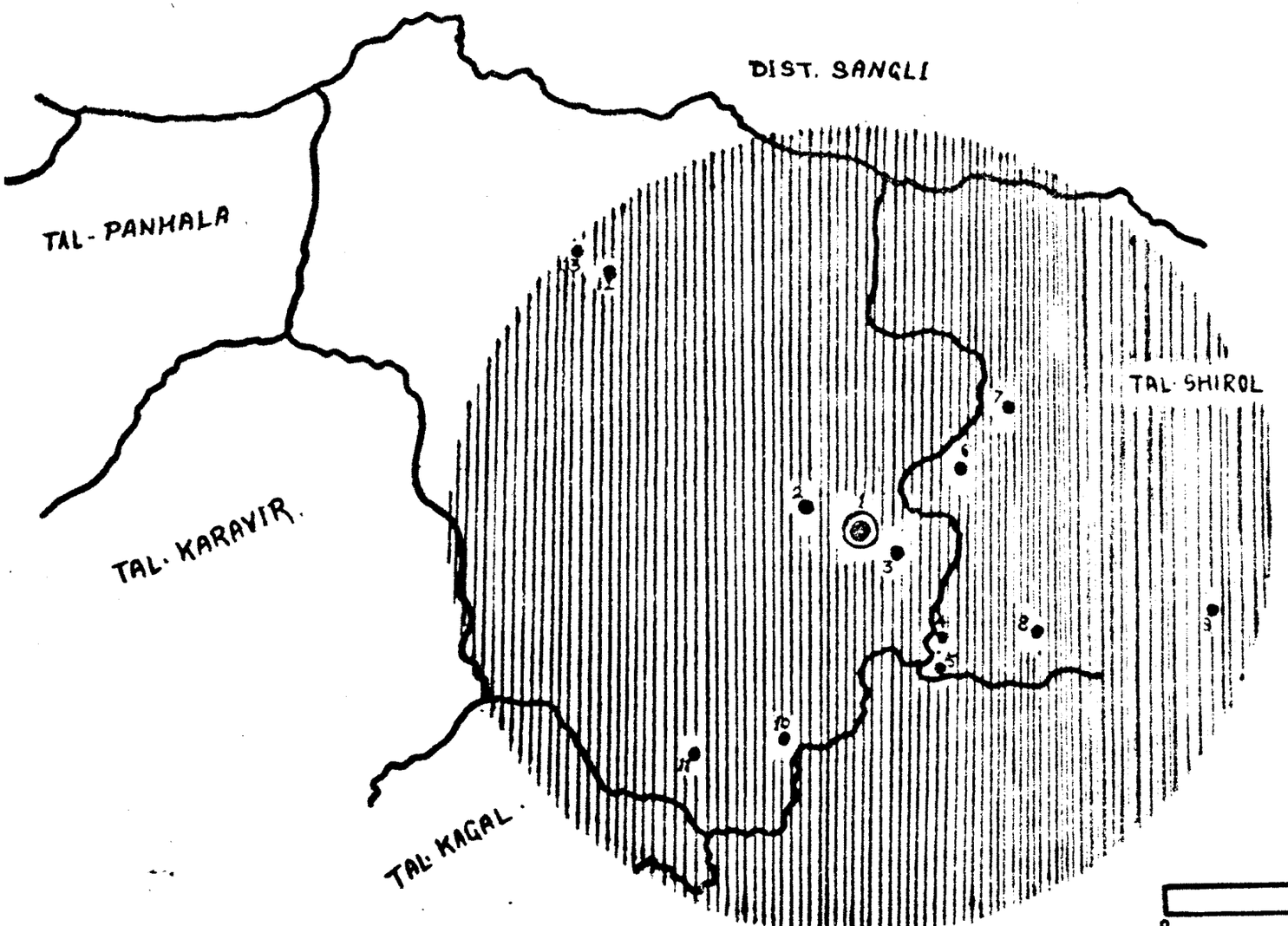
Powerlooms scattered in villages around Ichalkaranji

Sr. No.	Name of the village		Total No. of looms
1	Rendal	...	600
2	Yalgud	...	96
3	Nandani	...	50
4	Kurundwad	...	300
5	Shivanakwadi	...	50
6	Abdul-lat	...	100
7	Chandur	...	150
8	Kabnur	...	50
9	Shahapur	...	50
10	Peth-Vadgaon	...	600
11	Minche	...	26
12	Shirdhon	...	26
13	Shiradwad	...	150

Source: Data collected through field work.

MAP SHOWING POWERLOOMS SPREADED IN VILLAGES AROUND ICHALKARANJI

HATKANANGALE TALUKA



Name of the Villages.

1. Ichalkaranji.
2. Shahpur
3. Chandur
4. Shirdwad.
5. Shivanakwadi.
6. Nandni.
7. Shirdhon.
8. Abdual Lat.
9. Kurundwad.
10. Rendal.
11. Yalgud.
12. Minche.
13. Peth-Vadgaon.

Circle showing 20 Miles area.

It is seen that the weaving industry is spread in 13 villages around Ichalkaranji, within a radius of 20 miles. Nearly 2,248 powerlooms are working in these villages. These looms have employed nearly 2,500 workers from the villages. To that extent the migration of so many families to Ichalkaranji or any other urban area has been prevented. A notable feature is that of all the villages Peth-Vadgaon has the largest number (600) of powerlooms of working. In view of this, and taking inspiration from Ichalkaranji, local leaders of the place are now on their feet to start a spinning mill at Peth-Vadgaon itself. The proposal is in the pipeline. As a spread-effect, some other village also may follow in Vadagaon's footsteps. Such developments are indeed welcome. They have immense potentialities of establishing a stable and prosperous family life for the village people.