

CHAPTER - 28

INDUSTRIES OF KARNATAKA



We learn about the following in this chapter,

- The importance of the industries of Karnataka.
- The major industrial regions of Karnataka.
- The distribution and production of iron and steel industry.
- Cotton textile, sugar, cement and paper industries.
- Bengaluru – India's main information technology industrial center.

Growth of industries plays an important role in the development of any state in the country. Our State has this great opportunity. Due to the presence of abundant mineral resources, raw materials, ideal climate, sufficient water, good transport system, skilled labourers, wide market and modern technology, Karnataka is famous for a variety of industries. The industries range from agriculture-based small scale industries to modern large scale industries.

Sir M. Visveswaraiah's contribution to the development of industries in Karnataka is remarkable. Believing in the motto 'Industrialize or perish', he laid the foundation for many industries in the state. After the hydro-electric power generation station was started at Shivanasamudra in 1902, many industries producing essential goods and products for daily use came into existence. Rice mills, tile factories, beedis and cigarettes, iron and brass foundries were established. After 1923, many modern manufacturing units like iron and steel, soap factories, cotton and silk mills, paper, cement, paint, sugar, sandal oil industries etc were started. In pre-independence era itself, Mysuru province was a model state with respect to industries. The main reason for this was the interest of British and the Mysuru kings took in this matter.

After independence, the industrial policy of the Central Government enabled further industrial development in the state. As a result, many more factories were established, for instance; manufacture of

aeroplanes, engineering, machine tools, (HMT, BEL, BHEL), watches, iron and steel, aluminium, information technology, electronic bio-technology industry etc.

Iron and Steel Industry

Karnataka occupies the pride of place by being the first state in South India to establish an iron and steel factory. Sir M. Visveswaraiah's foresight enabled an Iron and Steel industry to be set up at Bhadravathi in Shivamogga district in 1923. So that the rich and abundant iron ore deposits in the Bababudangiri hills (Inam Dattatreya Peeta) could be utilized. This factory was named as Mysuru Iron and Steel Industries Limited (MISL). Later on, it was handed over to Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) in 1989. Today it is known as Visveswaraiah Iron and Steel Industry (VISL).

The iron ore, necessary this factory is supplied from Kemmannugundi, lime from Bandigudda, water from the Bhadra river and manganese from Sandur. In the beginning, firewood was used for the blast furnace. After the Sharavathi hydro power generating station was established, hydro-electricity began to be used. At present, a special variety of steel and pig iron are produced. Another important iron and steel industry of Karnataka is the private sector-owned Jindal Vijayanagar Steel Limited. It was established in 2001 at Torangal in Ballari district using the latest Corex technology. It produces iron and steel.

Cotton Textile Industry

Cotton textile industry is one of the modern industries established very early in the state. It is an agro-based industry. From ancient times, weaving cloth on hand looms was in practice in Karnataka. It is practiced even now. Although cloth is produced from synthetic yarn, and foreign cotton textiles are available, Indian cotton textiles are in great demand.

The modern cotton mills were established towards the end of the 19th century. Ginning and spinning mills were set up in the northern districts. The first, M.S.K. cotton mill, was set up in 1884 at Kalaburagi. Later, cotton textile factories were started in Hubballi. After 1900, big cotton textile mills were established. Among them, Binny Mills and Minerva Mills of Bengaluru, K.R.Mill of Mysuru,

Cotton Mill of Davanagere etc. were established before independence itself.

After independence, cotton mills were set up in the northern maidan where cotton was widely grown. Davanagere became the state's most important cotton textile industrial centre. It is called 'Manchester of Karnataka'. There are ginning and spinning mills in Hubballi, Ilkal, Guledgudda, Rabakavi, Bagalkot, Molakalmuru, Gadag-Betageri, Badami, Belagavi, Naragund, Gokak, Ballari, Hunsur, Nanjangud, Periyapattana and Chamarajnagar. At present, there are 44 cotton mills in the state. Approximately, 5.1 million mtr's of cotton cloth is produced annually.

Some cotton mills have been closed down more recently. The reasons for this are shortage of cotton, obsolete machines, lack of electricity supply, increasing production costs, stiff competition from synthetic fibre cloth etc.

In order to improve the situation in the textile industry in Karnataka, the State government has formulated a programme 'Suvarna Textile Policy 2008-13', and has established 'Finished Goods Parks' in 11 districts. The purpose of this programme is to export the goods from these industries to foreign countries. Karnataka ranks second in the country with regard to export of textiles. Such parks are in Doddaballapur, Anekal, Belagavi, Mysuru and Ramanagar.

Sugar Industry

The sugar industry is one of Karnataka's important large-scale industries. It is also an agro-based industry. All factors necessary for the development of this industry are favour in the state. Sugarcane production requires humid climate, power supply, local market, transport system etc. This industry plays an important role in the economic development of Karnataka. Sir Francis Buchanan mentions in his writings that in the early part of the 19th century itself, sugar was produced in Palalli (Ashtagrama) of Srirangapatna and Chikkaballapura. Records show that these towns were producing sugar in 1847 and had won prizes in the London Exhibition. The first modern sugar industry, 'Mysuru Sugar Company' (Mysugar)

was established at Mandya in 1933, until 1951, that was the only factory in the state. Now there are 47 sugar factories in the state. Their total annual production is 339 lakh tonnes. Karnataka stands third in the production of sugar in the country.

Do you know :

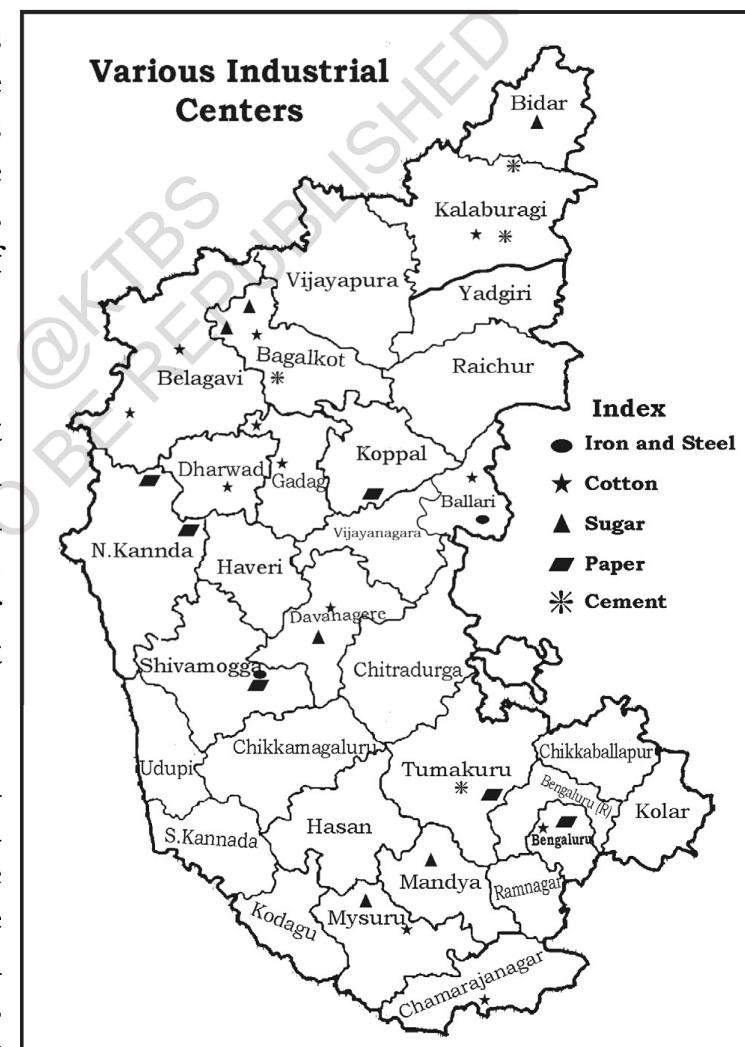
- Sugar city in Karnataka is Mandya
- Sugar district is Belgavi.

Distribution : The distribution of sugar industry in Karnataka is concentrated in the sugar growing areas, especially the districts in the catchment areas of the Cauvery, Krishna and Tungabhadra rivers. There are more sugar factories in Belagavi and Bagalkot districts. Mandya, Mysuru, Bidar, Vijayapura, Kalaburagi, Ballari and Davangere districts also are significant for sugar industry.

Bagasse and molasses are the by-products of the sugar industry. Bagasse is used for the manufacture of paper and fuel. Molasses are used for production of alcohol.

Paper Industry

Paper is of great importance in the modern world. It is essential for education, printing, newspapers and for propagation of culture. It is a forest based industry. Bamboo, wood pulp, grass, bagasse, cloth rags and waste are used as raw materials for the manufacture of paper. The first paper mill 'Mysuru Paper Mill Limited' was established in 1936 at Bhadravati. Later a private company 'West Coast Paper Mill' was started at Dandeli. Bamboo, eucalyptus tree pulp from nearby forests, water from the Kali river



and electricity from Jog are supplied to this mill. There are some more paper mills at Nanjangud, Krishnarajanagar, Satyagala, Mundagod, Munirabad, Yediyur and Bengaluru. Karnataka ranks fourth in the production of paper in the country. Karnataka produces 3.6 lakh tonnes of paper products per year.

Cement Industry

Since urbanization and industrialization has increased in Karnataka, the demand for cement in construction activities has also increased. Cement is essential for constructing houses, public buildings, roads, bridges, dams etc.

Limestone which is necessary for the establishment of cement industry, is found in abundance in Karnataka. In addition, gypsum and bauxite are also available. Only coal has to be imported from the neighbouring states. Availability of water, sand, transport, electricity supply, clay and wide market are the other factors favouring the growth of cement industry.

The first cement factory in the state was established at Bhadravathi in 1939. Later, factories were set up at Bagalkot, Ammasandra of Tumakuru district and Shahabad of Kalaburagi district. Other cement producing centres are : Wadi, Lokapura, Ittigehalli, Madakere, Kanchipura, Kaladagi, Kurkunta, Sedam and Chittapura. Karnataka produces 8% of the total cement in the country. At present, it has an annual production capacity of around 121 lakh tonnes.

Activity

Visit a nearby factory, and study how the raw materials are obtained for the factory.

Information Technology Industries

Karnataka is an important centre of information and technology in India. Information and Technological Industries have made great progress here, since there are numerous engineering colleges, research centers, computer based technological courses, an abundance of highly skilled manpower. Therefore many software industries have been established here. Today Karnataka occupies a very high position in India in this regard.

Bengaluru : India's most important Information Technology Center

Bengaluru City is known as the ‘Silicon Valley’ (IT-BT City) of India. It is a leading producer and exporter of software components of computer programming. It is one of the world’s top-ten major advanced hi-tech cities. Software industry has spread to the suburbs around Bengaluru. This city alone has 1200 IT (Information Technology) and BT (Bio-Technology) industries and provides employment for more than four lakh people. Leading companies from all over the world have established their branches here. The reasons for this are good climate, electricity supply, technical experts, financial assistance, vast market and infrastructure. Bengaluru has emerged as a prestigious advanced information technology centre in India.

There are prestigious companies like Infosys, Wipro etc. in Bengaluru. They have established their branches in different parts of the state. For example : Mysuru, Hubballi, Kalaburagi, Shivamogga, Tumakuru, Mangaluru etc. This industry is more suitable for Human resource, information, appointment, training, etc.

Activity

Prepare a list of the different industrial units in your district. Visit a nearby industrial unit and find out what it produces.

Industrial Regions of Karnataka

Karnataka is spread over five industrial regions, They are :

1. Bengaluru – Kolar – Tumakuru Industrial region.
2. Belagavi – Dharwar region.
3. Dakshina Kannada and Udupi region.
4. Ballari – Raichur – Koppal Industrial region.
5. Mysuru – Mandya Industrial region.

EXERCISES

I. Fill in the blanks with suitable words.

1. The first Iron and Steel Industry of Karnataka was established at _____.
2. The Manchester of Karnataka is _____.
3. _____ is obtained from sugarcane.
4. _____ industry is in Ammasandra.
5. _____ city is called ‘Silicon Valley’.

II. Discuss in groups and answer the following.

1. Write a note on the industrial development in Karnataka.
2. Explain the iron and steel industry of Karnataka.
3. Give an account of the distribution of cotton textile industry in Karnataka.
4. What factors are essential to start sugar industry?
5. Mention the reasons for centralization of information technology industry in Bengaluru?

III. Match the following.

A

1. Dandeli
2. Torangal
3. Molakalmuru
4. Shahabad
5. Infosys

B

- a. Cement
- b. Cotton Textiles
- c. Paper
- d. Computers
- e. Iron and steel

ಉತ್ತರ