CHAPTER VIII

IMPACT OF M.S.S.K. ON THE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE ACTIVITIES
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DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL WELFARE ACTIVITIES

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CHAPTER VIII
IMPACT OF MSSK ON THE INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT
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8.1. Impact of the MSSK on the Infrastructure Development:

8.1.1. Introduction:

"Indian Economist Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao said that, the link between infrastructure and development is not a once for all affair. It is a continuous process; and progress in development has to be preceded, accompanied and followed by progress in infrastructure; if we are to fulfill our declared objective of a self-accelerating process of economic development."

"The prosperity of a country depends directly upon the development of agriculture and industry. Agricultural production, however, requires power, credit, transport facilities, etc. Industrial production requires not only machinery and equipment but also skilled manpower, management, energy, banking and insurance facilities, marketing facilities, transport services which include railways, roads and shipping, communication facilities, etc. All these facilities and services constitute collectively the infrastructure of an economy and the development and expansion of these facilities are an essential pre-condition for increasing agricultural and industrial production in a country. In the last 250 years or more, industrial and agricultural revolutions in England and in other countries were accompanied by a revolution in transport and communications, the extensive use of coal and later oil as source of energy tremendous expansion on banking, insurance and other financial institutions to finance production and trade, an explosion of knowledge of science and technology, and so on."

"Infrastructural facilities – often referred to as economic and social overheads consist of:

(a) Energy: coal, electricity, oil and non-conventional sources
(b) Transport: Railways, roads, shipping and civilisation
Indian planners were fully aware of the link between infrastructural facilities and general economic development and accordingly, they gave high priority to the expansion of these facilities right from the first plan itself. As a result of the heavy investment on infrastructure, there has been phenomenal increase in infrastructural facilities.

"Infrastructural development has the following three basic features:-

1) The heavy investments by the Government on infrastructural facilities could be easily justified since they have provided the necessary impetus for rapid agricultural development and industrial expansion. In fact, without the rapid development of the infrastructure, it would have been impossible to register the three-fold rise in agricultural production and seven-fold rise in industrial production during the last five decades.

2) Though infrastructural facilities were not altogether neglected for the rural areas for example, expansion of irrigation, rural electrification, etc the overwhelming emphasis was on the provision of infrastructural facilities mainly for the urban areas. It is the people in our cities and towns who could take full advantage of the development of power, transport, communications, banking, and such social overheads as education and health. The concentration of the infrastructural development in urban areas and neglect in the rural areas resulted in inadequate development and, therefore, inadequate employment, opportunities in rural areas. This led to mass exodus of the rural poor to urban areas –causing problems of urban congestion, growth of slums, acute housing shortage, transport bottlenecks and so on.
3) Infrastructural development has not only shown an urban-bias, but it has also shown a bias in favour of the rich and the more affluent. It is the higher income groups who could take full advantages of such facilities, as power, transport and communications, health, etc. The major and medium irrigation works have generally benefited the rich farmers. Our planners generally neglected the minor irrigation works which would have benefitted a large number of small and marginal farmers.4

8.1.1. (A) : Deductions per tonne of sugarcane made by the MSSK from the sugarcane bills:

The MSSK has undertaken and executed various infrastructure and welfare activities such as irrigation projects, road, construction, education and health facilities etc. without any assistance from the Government. The karkhana has taken initiative and actively involved itself in a number of social activities. This investment does not give any direct financial returns but they enrich the lives of the people in the karkhana’s area of operation.

For this purpose the karkhana with the consent of their producer members, has made deductions from the sugarcane bills of its members, from time to time to implement social, cultural and welfare projects in its area of operation. This deduction from the cane bills is the easiest, simplest and most effective way of involving the members in various activities. Even a deduction of rupee one per tonne of sugarcane results in a collection of about Rs.5 Lakh to Rs. 7 Lakh with the karkhana. These funds are then utilized for the benefit of the people in the karkhana’s area of operation. Of course, these deductions are made only after getting consent in the Annual General Meeting. Detailed information about the deductions made from the sugarcane bills of the members for various activities is given in Table No. 8.1
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**Source:** Compiled from Annual Reports of the karkhana (1980-81 to 2001-02)
It can be seen from the Table No.8.1 that the karkhana has raised funds for various infrastructural development, social welfare and cultural purposes by making deductions from the sugarcane bills paid to the producer members. The purposes for which such funds have been raised are given in the above table. A number of social projects have been completed from the utilization of above funds.

In the beginning, the karkhana laid emphasis on the economic development of the area of its operation and so gave priority to infrastructure development. It covered road construction and maintenance, irrigation facilities, educational development, health facilities etc. The MSSK carried out road constructions work to facilitate quick transport of sugarcane. Most of the cane transport was previously done with bullock carts. But for quicker and cheaper cane transport, trucks and tractors were used for which better roads become necessary and so the karkhana made efforts to improve and maintain roads in its area of operation.

With a view to provide educational facilities at all levels of education to the children of farmers in its area of operation, the karkhana opened a number of schools and colleges. Then it has spent large funds for irrigation facilities to have greater of supply of sugarcane and to bring more land under sugarcane cultivation. Similarly it has provided housing facilities to its workers and homeless labourers.

Thus it can be concluded that the MSSK paid attention to infrastructure development in its area of operation right from the beginning. The researcher has compiled the information about the various infrastructure facilities provided by the karkhana during the last 24 years. i.e. up to 2001-02. Details of the infrastructural development are given below.
8.1.2. Roads:

If a sugar factory is to be operated profitably it is essential to have adequate and assured supply of fresh sugarcane for crushing. The harvested cane must be transported from the fields to the factory immediately in the shortest possible time. Otherwise the recovery of sugar is adversely affected and less sugar is produced. Therefore it is necessary to have Tar roads in the karkhana’s area of operation.

On account of the Mula canal water the condition of the roads in the Mula Karkhana’s area of operation was very bad. It obstructed quick transport of sugarcane. Therefore the karkhana gave top priority to construct and maintain roads in its area of operation so that fresh harvested sugarcane could be transported quickly in trucks, tractors and tyre bullock carts. For this purpose it has established a separate civil works Department with adequate number of engineers and other technical staff. This department carries out all the road construction and maintenance works in the karkhana’s area of operation.

The Maharashtra Govt. sanctions grants to the co-operative sugar factories from the sugarcane purchase tax revenue to help construction of roads for transport of sugarcane in their respective areas of operation.

The researcher wishes to note the fact that the MSSK has undertaken road construction work for the villages, which have not been, provided with roads by the Govt. or any other govt. agencies by utilizing the grants given by the Govt.

The Karkhana has constructed some roads with Murum and sand, some pucca roads with spreading of tar. Wherever necessary cement pipes have been provided and a few bridges have also been built for transport of sugarcane.

"During the period 1978-79 to 2001-02, the karkhana received grants from the govt. to the tune of Rs.75.54 lakh for construction and maintenance of roads in its area of operation and the amount has been spent for construction of
macadam roads. Likewise the karkhana received grant of Rs.21.40 lakh from the Zilla Parishad during the same period and the karkhana carried out the road construction as agent of the Zilla parishad. The karkhana in addition to the above spent Rs.156.22 lakh during the said period for construction of many roads in its area of operation.

Thus during the period 1978-79 to 2001-02 a total amount of Rs.253.16 lakh as mentioned about for construction and maintenance of roads in its area of operation.

Due to the karkhana’s emphasis on road construction the sugarcane farmers were encouraged to buy trucks and tractors for transport of sugarcane. The karkhana also helped the farmers in getting loans from the nationalized banks for this purpose. Further Maharashtra State Transport corporation started bus services from many villages connected with the roads, which has helped the people in the area with transport facilities.

8.1.3. Education:

The co-operative sugar factories have extended educational opportunities to the children of farmers in rural areas. So that nobody is deprived of education. Spread of education is absolutely necessary for social and economic development. If people are not literate and educated and well informed, they cannot effectively participate in any social, political or economic change. Even today we find that educational facilities are concentrated today in urban areas only. But where cooperative sugar factories have been established, we find that adequate and satisfactory educational facilities have been made available to the rural population.

For spreading of education in the karkhana’s area of operation, the founder of the MSSK, Shri. Yashwantrao Kankarrao Gadakh Patil established the ‘Mula Education Society’ at Sonai in 1979. The Sanstha decided to provide educational facilities in its area of operation. The head office of the Sanstha is at
Sonai. The Sanstha has been established to implement various educational projects in the karkhana’s area of operation. The objectives of the Sanstha are as under:

1) To open and run educational institutions for creating ideal citizens by providing them with quality education.
2) To provide adequate educational facilities by starting primary and secondary schools as also junior and senior colleges.
3) To start and run separate hostels and schools, colleges for boys and girls.
4) To provide libraries, reading rooms etc. for the students.

The Executive Council of this Sanstha consists of 16 members of whom two directors of the MSSK are ex-officio members. The executive council has a Chairman, a Vice-Chairman, a Secretary and a Joint Secretary.

Educational Development:

The Mula Education Society has opened a number of primary schools, secondary schools, a public school, Girls High school, Junior and Senior Colleges etc. in the karkhana’s area of operation so that the children of farmers can get good education. It thus became possible for the children of the farmers to get education at local level. The society opened a high school in a village, which had no school. Previously the local girls had to go to distant places for schooling. Now they can have education in their native place. Naturally the number of school going girls increased. About 40% of the total number of students in these educational institutions consists of girls. Many past students of these schools and colleges have gone abroad and many are occupying important positions in various govt. and non-govt. establishments. The society runs the following schools and colleges.
Photo No. 8.1. Mula Education Society Central Office Building

Photo No. 8.2. Mula Public School Sonai

Photo No. 8.3. Shri Dnyaneshwar Mahavidyalaya, Newasa-Building

Photo No. 8.4. Arts, Commerce and Science College, Sonai-Building
8.1.3.1. Primary Schools:

At present primary schools have been opened by the Zilla Parishad in a number of villages. The Mula Education Society has introduced two English medium and two Marathi medium schools. The English medium primary schools have been started at Ahmednagar. The wonderland primary school, Ahmednagar has a Kindergarten class with 45 students and nine female teachers. The children are provided with modern toys and playing kits. The ‘Ankur English Medium Primary School’ has I to IV primary classes. There are 145 students and seven teachers. This school is one of the farmers’ English medium schools in Ahmednagar.

The society also runs two Marathi medium primary schools – ‘Ankur Marathi Medium Primary School’ at Ahmednagar and ‘Shri Shanishwar Primary School’ at Sonai. The school at Ahmednagar has 50 students and three staff members whereas the school at Sonai has 135 students and four staff members.

The total number of students and staff in these four primary schools are 375 and 23 respectively. Every school has its own building and a large playground.

8.1.3.2. Public School:

In 1978-79 the Board of Directors of the MSSK started Mula public school on the karkhana site through the Mula Education Society to impart education in English to the children of farmers in its area of operation. A school bus has also been provided for the transport of students. The public school students have to incur less expenditure for their studies. Then in 1981-82 the Mula Education Society built a huge and well-equipped school building and a hostel for the Mula public school on Rahuri road at Sonai. The school also has built 14 residential quarters for the staff. A separate dinning hall has been provided for the hostel students. A separate dispensary has also been opened for
them in a separate building. The public school has a large playground with all the amenities for Indian and Foreign games. Lady superintendents have been appointed to take care of the students. They are also provided with TV set, a hall and a computer hall.

"The MSSK raised an amount of Rs.34 lakh from the sugarcane bills. The total expenditure for all these public school (English medium) buildings was Rs.45lakh."6

The public school has classes from K.G. to X Std. The education in imparted through English medium. It is run on permanent non-grant basis. Total strength of English medium school in the year 2001-02 were 569 students; Teaching and non-teaching appointed by the sanstha and their number is 37.

8.1.3.3. Secondary Schools:

The Mula Education Society has opened one secondary school for every 2 or 3 villages in its area of operation. The Karkhana has opened 13 secondary schools in its area, so that the children of farmers can have education facility at local level. Further, the society has opened a Girls High school at Sonai, Kanya vidya Mandir that exclusively caters to the educational needs of girls.

The above 14 schools have classes from V to X standards. The producer members from the respective villages willingly contributed Rs.5 per tonne from their sugarcane bills to construct spicious buildings for the schools. Of the 14 schools, 12 have been on 100% grant basis and only the schools at More Chinchore and Nimbhari are on no-grant basis. The HSC results of all these schools have always been above 60 percent.

8.1.3.4. Higher Secondary Schools / Junior Colleges:

The Mula Education Society runs 4 Junior colleges in which XI and XII standard classes are conducted. The sanstha has attached Shri Shanishwar Junior College to the Shri Shanishwar high school, Sonai, where education in Arts,
Commerce and Science facilities is imparted. In the year 2001-02, the Jr.college had the student strength of 1098 and 21 staff members. Also minimum competency courses have also been attached to this high school where courses in Electronics, Horticulture and Auto Engineering are provided. This enables the students to start their own business. In the year 2001-02, 135 students were admitted to these courses and 6 staff members were appointed.

The society also runs a Junior College attached to Shri Dyaneshwar Mahavidyalaya, Newasa where classes of XI to XII standards in Arts, Science and Commerce, streams are conducted. In the year 2001-02, this junior college had 1217 students and 28 employees.

Further the society has also started a higher secondary school at Maka, Tal. Newasa, where XI and XII Std. Classes in Arts faculty are conducted. In the year 2001-02, there were 368 students and 4 employees.

Thus the Mula Education society runs 4 junior colleges in which 2818 students were admitted and 59 employees were employed in the year 2001-02. All these colleges have been provided with big buildings and other necessary facilities.

8.1.3.5. Arts, Commerce and Science Colleges (Senior Colleges):

1) Shri Dnyaneshwar Mahavidyala, Newasa:

Higher education is necessary for equal opportunities to the economics, intellectual, social and cultural development of the people. A nation prospers with the spread of special knowledge and quality improvement. That is why higher education is very important.

Newasa taluka had no higher education facilities for long period. However due to the vision and efforts of the founder of MSSK Shri. Yashwantrao Kankarrao Gadakh Patil and his colleagues Shri. Marutraoji Ghule Patil, Tukaram Patil Nawale, Machhindra Balkrishna Temak, Shri Dyaneshwar
Mahavidyalaya started at Newasa in 1968. The announcement of opening of this college was made by the then Chief Minister of Maharashtra State, Hon'ble Yashwantrao Chavan. In the inaugural function of this college a popular businessman Chandrabhan Shet Dakale of Shrirampur donated Rs.1 lakh for this college. The Mula Education Society has developed the college in a spectacular manner. The college has a spacious building, which had cost Rs.35 lakh. It has well-equipped laboratories and large playgrounds with all necessary facilities for Indian and Western games. With special grant from the UGC the college had a separate Library building costing Rs.15 lakh. There is also a Gymkhana Hall for the students. The govt. has also provided a separate girls hostel at Newasa. The senior college has undergraduate classes of Arts, Commerce and Science streams as also a Computer Section. Post-graduate M.A. (Marathi) and M.Com classes are also started in the college. In the year 2001-02, the Senior College had 762 students on its roll and 44 staff members. The total students strength of both the senior and junior wings was 1979 and the staff strength was 92 in the year 2001-02.

Through the National Service Scheme and N.C.C. the college undertakes social programmes from time to time. Similarly seminars, guest lectures, debating competitions are held on appropriate occasions. The college conducts guidance for competitive examinations. The students showing outstanding merits at the B.A., B.Com and B.Sc. exams are honored with prizes and merit certificates. Five of the teachers have secured Ph.D. degree and five of them have secured M.Phil degree. The NAAC has inspected this college and has given ‘C+’ grade to the college. It is permanently affiliated to the University of Pune and has been registered under section 12(b) of the UGC Act.
2) Arts, Commerce and Science College, Sonai:

The establishment of Shri Dyaneshwar Mahavidyalaya at Newasa satisfied the need of higher education facilities for the children of farmers in the surrounding areas. However it was rather for far away for the Sonai area. Therefore, the MSSK management under the guidance of its founder Shri Yashwantrao Gadakh Patil started efforts to have of a Arts, Commerce and Science College at Sonai through the medium of Mula Education Society. The said college started functioning in 1989 where higher education is imparted in the streams of Arts, Commerce and Science. The college has also provided for post-graduate studies in the subjects of Hindi and English. In order to acquaint the student with computer knowledge, Computer training is made compulsory at the first year of all the streams. A separate computer section with 3 staff members has been opened for this purpose. This college is on grants-in-aid basis and has been permanently affiliated to the University of Pune and has also been registered under section 12(b) of the UGC Act.

The college is provided with a specious building at a cost of Rs.54 lakh and has sufficient laboratories and Lecture Halls. A grant of Rs. 15 lakh has been sanctioned by the UGC for a separate Library building and the construction work is being undertaken very shortly. Similarly the University of Pune has sanctioned grant of Rs.2.50 lakh for a Guest house for the college and the construction work has already been started. And a thing of pride is that the Central Govt. has sanctioned Rs.28 lakh as grant for construction of an indoor stadium on the college campus. The construction work is being started shortly.

The college has a large playground with all the necessary facilities for the games of Cricket, Basketball, and Hockey etc. About 833 trees have been planted around the college building and a beautiful lawn is cultivated on the front side of the college.
The college through its NCC and NSS units undertakes various social activities. The college also operates the ‘Earn and Learn’ scheme. It also runs a Guidance Centre for competitive examinations.

The students standing first in the college at the T.Y.B.A, B.Com and B.Sc. examinations are awarded cash prizes of Rs.1100 and merit certificates.

The college had student strength of 697 in 2001-02 and 44 teaching and non-teaching staff appointed by the Sanstha. There are 2 Ph.D. and 7 M.Phil. Degree holders in the teaching staff of this college. The college was inspected by the NAAC and it has been awarded 'C++' grade.

In the year 2001-02 the two colleges run by the Mula Education Society, Shri Dyaneshwar Mahavidyalaya, Newasa and the Arts, Commerce & Science College, Sonai had a total student and staff strength of 1459 and 108 respectively.
Photo No. 8.5. 

Agriculture College, Sonai-Building

Photo No. 8.6. College of Pharmacy, Sonai-Building

Photo No. 8.7. College of Education (B.ed) Sonai-Building
8.1.3.6. Agricultural College:

The Mula Education Society has opened Agricultural College Sonai, affiliated to Mahatma Phule Agricultural University where education for B.SC. (Agri.) course is imparted. The admissions in this college are made through the Mahatma Phule Agricultural University Rahuri. In the year 2001-02, 61 students were given admission. The staff strength was 9 in that year. The college has been on permanently no grant basis. The society has provided a sufficient building and other infrastructure for the college. A hostel is also provided for male and female students.

8.1.3.7. Drawing College:

The Mula Education Society has started this college at Sonai. In the year 2001-02, there were 11 students in the college and there was one specialist as staff member. All necessary classrooms, office and materials have been provided by the society.

8.1.3.8. Bachelor of Pharmacy College:

The society has also opened the Pharmacy college at Sonai. For the first year of the Pharmacy course, 60 students have been admitted and 7 staff members have been appointed. A separate building with the necessary laboratory and lecture halls has been provided to the college. Hostel and mess facilities have also been provided for the students.

8.1.3.9. Bachelor of Education (B.Ed.) College:

The Mula Education Society has also started the B.Ed. College at Sonai with a separate building. Every year 100 students are admitted in the college. The staff strength is eight. Separate hostels for male and female students have also been provided. The local students aspiring to be high school teachers have thus an opportunity to achieve their goal through this college 20% of the admissions are reserved for the management.
8.1.3.10. D.Ed. College:

The Mula Education Society has started a D.Ed. college at Ahmednagar in English medium. The necessary building and all other facilities have been adequately provided for. Every year 50 students are given admissions and 6 employees are working in this college. The Management has been given quota of 20% in admissions every year. The children of local farmers have thus been provided with an opportunity.

8.1.3.11. Diploma in Pharmacy College:

Every year 60 students are admitted to the college of which 80% seats are filled in by the State Govt. and the rest of the seats are filled in by the management. Five employees are working in this college.

Thus the Mula Education Society established by the MSSK has provided educational facilities at all levels and in a number of faculties. Table No.8.2 tabulates the information about the educational institutions, their students and staff strength etc.

TABLE NO.8.2
Information about the Educational institutions run by the Mula Education Society

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Sr. No</th>
<th>Name of the School / College</th>
<th>No. of students</th>
<th>No. of employees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Primary School</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Ankur English medium primary school, Ahmednagar</td>
<td>145</td>
<td>07</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Wonder land pri.school, Ahmednagar</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>09</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Ankur Marathi Medium Primary School, Ahmednagar</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Shri Shanishwar Primary School, Sonai</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>High School</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>Shri. Shanishwar High School &amp; Junior College, Sonai</td>
<td>1,246</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Shri S.S.K.B. Vidyalaya, Ustal-dumala</td>
<td>673</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>New English School, Dedgaon</td>
<td>764</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
<td>4</td>
<td>New English School, Maka</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>33</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Continued)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table No.8.2 (Continued)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

| 3 | Girls High School |
|-------------------|
| 14 | Kanya Vidya Mandir, Sonai | 670 | 17 |

| 4 | English Medium Public School |
|-----------------------------|
| 1 | Mula Public School, Sonai. | 569 | 37 |

| 5 | Junior College |
|----------------|
| 1 | Shri. Shanishwar Junior College, Sonai | 1,098 | 21 |
| 2 | Shri Shanishwar Kiman Koushalya, Sonai | 135 | 06 |
| 3 | Shri Dnyaneshwar Junior College, Newasa | 1,217 | 28 |
| 4 | Higher Secondary School, Maka | 368 | 04 |

| 6 | Senior College |
|----------------|
| 1 | Shri Dnyaneshwar Mahavidyalaya, Newasa | 762 | 64 |
| 2 | Arts, Commerce & Science College, Sonai | 697 | 44 |
| 3 | Bachelor of Pharmacy College, Sonai | 60 | 07 |
| 4 | Agricultural College, Sonai | 61 | 09 |
| 5 | Drawing College, Sonai | 11 | 01 |
| 6 | Bachelor of Education College, Sonai | 100 | 08 |
| 7 | D.Ed. College Ahmednagar | 50 | 06 |
| 8 | D.Pharmacy College, Sonai. | 60 | 05 |

| Total | 12,482 | 532 |

Source: Compiled from records of Mula Education Society.
It can be seen from the above table that through the instrumentation of the Mula Education Society, the MSSK has started 4 primary schools, 13 high schools and one high school for Girls. Likewise it has been running one English Medium Public School and 4 Jr.colleges. It is also operating 2 Arts, commerce and Science senior colleges. It has also opened a B. Pharmacy college, an Agricultural college, a Drawing college, a B.Ed. college, a D.Ed. college and a D.Pharmacy college. All these institutions impart education to 12482 students and employ 532 employees. Girl students constitute 40% of the total students. The children of local farmers have thus been provided with various avenues of education at local level, which means education of lower cost.

The society in addition to providing school and college buildings has provided for hostel and mess facilities separately for girls and boys. It also has started a hostel for working women for which 50% grant has been sanctioned by the Central Govt. about Rs.38 Lakh have been spent for this hostel.

By the end of the year 2001-02, the society has invested about Rs.9 crore in the field of education. The society is working efforts to start 2 more D.Ed. colleges and Dental college at Sonai. It also intends to start an Arts, commerce and Science Senior College at Maka as also a Law college at Newasa.

8.1.4. Development of Irrigation :

As explained in the chapter V, the MSSK has undertaken a number of irrigation projects in its area of operation for expansion of area under sugarcane cultivation. The said programmes are explained below in brief.

8.1.4.1. Lift Irrigation Projects :

There are some drought prone areas in the Karkhana’s area of operation, which do not fall within the Mula canal command area. With a view to provide permanent irrigation facilities and help increase sugarcane production. The MSSK has implemented 5 lift irrigation projects which have benefitted 7280
acres of land at the 9 villages of more Chinchore, Dhangarwadi, Panaswadi, Lohogaon, Ghodegaon, Sonai, Mandegavhan, Morgavhan and Loharwadi, in the karkhana’s area of operation. About 1291 farmers have been benefitted by the projects. The total cost of the projects was Rs.208.13 lakh out of which the karkhana initially bore the expenditure of Rs.23 lakh.

Apart from the above-completed projects, the MSSK has prepared survey repairs of 13 lift irrigation projects and obtained approval from the State Govt. also. The works will commence as soon as the loan released by the NABARD. These new schemes will benefit 5222 farmers and bring 21570 acres of land under irrigation. The farmers of the rainfed areas are eagerly waiting for the completion of the projects.

8.1.4.2. Yashwant Bandharas:

With a view to raise well-water levels and expand the area under sugarcane cultivation and to conserve rain water in the MSSK’s area of operation the karkhana carried out surveys for constructing Yashwant Bandharas at 37 places and prepared their estimates. Of them 10 projects have been completed and are functioning. The work of other places is in progress. Similarly the construction of two govt. Undertaken bandharas has also been completed. These works have raised the water levels in the wells and have brought 2511 acres of land under irrigation. Further, the MSSK also under took repairs of two govt. bandharas. For all these 10 Bandhara works, the MSSK spent Rs.13.26 lakh by the end of March 2000.

8.1.4.3. Kolhapur Type Weirs:

With a view to increase both the area under sugarcane cultivation and the sugarcane production, the karkhana has with the prior permission of the Irrigation Department built two Kolhapur type weirs across the Mula River at Newasa and Amalner. There have brought 1510 acres of land under irrigation and thus area under sugarcane production has increased to that extent.
8.1.5. Housing facilities:

Food, clothing and shelter are the three basic needs of every human being. The industrial Act has specifically included next to food and clothing housing as the basic problem before the workers. The living surroundings greatly influence the health, efficiency and welfare of the workers. The MSSK has provided housing facilities to its workers on the karkhana campus for smooth working of the karkhana. The quarters are constructed according to the Master Plan of the karkhana with loan from the Industrial Finance Corporation. Table No.8.3 gives information about the quarters constructed for workers.

**TABLE NO. 8.3**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No.</th>
<th>Type of quarters</th>
<th>No. of houses</th>
<th>Construction cost (Rs. In lakh)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>B type quarters</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>4.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>C type quarters</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>5.29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>D type quarters</td>
<td>200</td>
<td>9.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>236</strong></td>
<td><strong>19.05</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source*: Compiled from Karkhana official records.

It can be seen from the above table that:

1) The karkhana has provided housing facilities for 4 employees' families in B type quarters. Each quarter consists of 4 rooms, a toilet and a bathroom. They are surrounded by open space with compound. The cost of construction is Rs.4.90 lakh.

2) In C type quarters, 32 families of employees have been accommodated. Each quarter consists of 3 rooms, a toilet and a bathroom. The karkhana has spent Rs. 5.29 lakh for these quarters.
3) In D type quarters, 200 families have been accommodated. Each quarter has 2 rooms, a toilet and a bathroom. The karkhana has spent Rs.9.86 lakh for these quarters.

Thus the MSSK has provided B, C, & D type quarters to 236 employees of in addition to drinking water, roads, electricity, playground others supplementary facilities, the karkhana has spent Rs.19.05 lakh.

8.1.6. Communication system:

The process of passing of information message from one place to another is called communication. Communication is very important for development of industry, trade and commerce. In India the telephone facility has spread very fast during the last few years.

In the sugar industry, quick communication system is very essential for increasing productivity. The MSSK has 16 different Departments. For efficient communication between the karkhana and its administrative office as also between the various Departments, the karkhana has installed adequate telephone system. This facilitates quick communication between the various Departments and the day-to-day functioning of the factory is carried out smoothly and efficiently.

Messages from various places in its area of operation and outside are quickly passed on to the concerned Departments or the direct connection is established. The members of the karkhana are very much benefited by this arrangement.

The karkhana, from its inception, has provided a separate Telephone Exchange and for this purpose it has installed the necessary system the book value of which was Rs. 3, 20,316 by the end of the year 2001-02.

Huge quantity of sugarcane is grown within a radius of 10 kms from the karkhana. The area under sugarcane depends on availability of water, which in
turn, depends on the rainfall of there is less rain fall, the area under sugarcane contracts and vice-versa. The karkhana has to be in constant contact with the sugarcane growers in its area of operation. The overseers and slip Boys of the Agriculture Department of the MSSK make entries of the sugarcane area of its members. They also give constant guidance to them about increasing sugarcane production. The office of the Agriculture Department is situated at the karkhana site and the chief Agriculture officer is Head of this department. During the crushing season, if due to any technical or other reason, the crushing of cane is stopped, the overseers and the slips boys are immediately informed about this, who, in turn, immediately direct the harvesting workers to stop work. If this were not done, the harvested cane would be transported to the factory. But due to the stoppage of crushing it is not used immediately after its arrival. The cane grows dry and the sugar content gets reduced. This results in less sugar recovery and loss to the farmers and Karkhana also. Delay in transport is badly affected on weight of sugarcane and this is the loss of sugarcane producer. If telephone system is installed, the message can be immediately transmitted to the concerned people thus avoiding probable loss to the farmers similarly message is given to start harvesting when the crushing operation starts so that the crushing capacity does not remain idle or partially used.

Taking all these factors into account, the karkhana in its first year of 1978-79 installed telephones in all its Regional Agricultural offices at villages in its area of operation. The main objective of providing telephone connection in the 10 Regional Agricultural offices is to raise productivity and avoid loss to the farmers. With the help of telephones, cane harvesting and cane transport can be effectively regulated. The facility is thus quite useful to the karkhana as well as the sugarcane growers. Any information from the karkhana is quickly communicated to its large number of members. During the year 2001-02, the karkhana spent Rs.94, 273 for telephone bill. There is also a post office one km
away from the karkhana site and a letterbox at the karkhana site. It is also used for correspondence by mail.

8.1.7. Health and Medical Facilities:

"The responsibility of providing medical facilities for workers in a factory is universally recognized in India. By analogy it has been taken for granted that such facilities may also be properly provided by the co-operative factories."^7

The MSSK has started a well-equipped dispensary for its workers, their family members as also for people in its area of operation. Qualified and experienced full time staff has been appointed for the purpose. Arrangements are made for daily checking and treating of patients. The patients are provided with the necessary medicines at confessional rates. Specialist's advice is also made available to the workers, their families as also other people in the karkhana’s area of operation. Heart specialists, diabetic specialists, pediatricians, and orthopedists, gynecologists etc. visit the dispensary on the first and third Sundays of every month. Every year about 10,000 patients avail of these facilities provided by the karkhana.

"The karkhana has also played an effective role in the family planning and welfare programmes. It organized five family planning camps during the period 1978-79 to 2001-02. Three eye camps were also organized by the MSSK. Similarly it organized Leprosy Detection Camp and Blood Group examination camps."^8 On all these programmes the MSSK has spent Rs. 57, 200 during the period under study.

It can thus be concluded that the MSSK has provided adequate medical facilities on its site not only for workers and their families but also for general public in its area of operation.
8.1.8. Gobar Gas Plants:

The Gobar Gas Plants not only save on fuel but in addition also provide manure rich in Nitrate. That is why the govt. has been encouraging installation of gobar gas plants.

"The Khadi and village Industries Communication (KVIC) is a national level statutory organization with headquarters at Bombay. It is principally devoted to the growth and development of Khadi and village industries. In view of its national character and involvement in the rural areas the planning commission has entrusted the scheme for developing of gobar gas plants to the KVIC, as a part of its rural development programme. It organizes and participates in exhibitions, seminars, meetings, fairs etc. It also brings out publicity material, literature, films etc. to propagate the benefits of gobar gas plants to large number of rural people. Institutional finance for setting up of gobar plants in the country is at present largely provided by the commercial banks since 1973 and the co-operative banks were advised by the reserve bank of India in 1975 to finance gobar gas plants as medium term lending."

The manure obtained from gobar gas plant is much richer than that bought from outside. The plant produces gas, which can be used as cooking gas. There are many economic advantages of gobar gas. Its use enhances social prestige. It solves the problem of supply of fuel for domestic cooking. It reduces need for deforestation and thus helps environmental balance. The homes become smoke-free. The homes and their surrounding areas become clean and healthy. That is why the govt. has given priority for gobar gas plants and it gives subsidy also for this purpose.

The MSSK has participated in the 20-point programme of Maharashtra Govt. in providing cooking gas for domestic use in its area of operation. The karkhana has appointed special staff to help sugarcane producers in preparing proposals for bank loans and for obtaining subsidy. The karkhana has also been
offering technical guidance in this respect. The karkhana has assisted 193 of its members in getting loans for the gobar gas plants from the Ahmednagar District Central Co-operative Bank and also to obtain the subsidy thereon from the State Govt. The gas plants have been functioning and the MSSK has been making continuous efforts to install more such plants.

Due to the lead and initiative taken by the MSSK in gobar gas plant project, the people in its area of operation are convinced of the need for the gobar gas plant for domestic use. This has resulted in less deforesting and more manure supply.

8.1.9. Petrol Pump :

When the MSSK started its operations in 1978-79 it had started a Diesel Pump to provide diesel for the trucks and tractors transporting sugarcane. Later on for the convenience of the people in its area of operation. It has also started a petrol pump at the karkhana site. During the crushing season it works round the clock.

8.1.10. Marriage Hall:

The karkhana has decided to provide a well-equipped and specious Marriage Hall on the karkhana campus with the co-operation of both the management and the employees. It has already contribution from the workers to the extent of Rs.2.54 lakh. The Marriage hall will be made available to the marriage ceremonies of both the karkhana’s employees and its members. The provision of Marriage Hall is a very constructive activity.

8.1.11. Bus-Stop :

The MSSK is situated on the Sonai-Ghodegaon road. A number of buses play on Rahuri, Sonai, Ghodegaon, and Shani-Shingnapur routes. The Karkhana has provided a bus stop with permanent shed at the karkhana site. This bus stop is very useful to the members, farmers, workers and traders, who visit the Karkhana regularly.

420
A specious bus stand has been provided at Sonai, one Km away from the karkhana. For this the Maharashtra State Transport Corporation purchased '0.6 R' of land. A separate cabin for office has been constructed. The MSSK has increased communication in the surrounding area bus services are provided to a large number of villages from Sonai and the traveling public has greatly benefitted by the ST bus stand.

8.1.12. Other infrastructural Development:

The MSSK, right from its inception, has taken a very pro-active view and helped establishment of such institutions, which will be of great service to society at large. It has not only taken leading role but has always extended a helping hand for the development of the following such institutions:

1) Mula Co-operative Bank, Sonai.
2) Mula Co-operative Bank, Branch-Newasa.
3) Mula Central Co-operative Consumers Stores, Sonai.
4) Mula Central Co-operative Consumers Stores, Branches, at Newasa and Ahmednagar.
5) Mula Central Dudh Vyavsayik Co-operative Society, Panaswadi.
6) Workers Co-operative Credit Society.
7) Newasa Taluka Co-operative Dudh Vyavsayik Sangh, Sonai.
8) Mula Central Co-operative Poultry Society, Sonai.
9) Bhagini Co-operative Business Society, Mula factory.

The above institutions have been established to provide various social services to the people in the MSSK's area of operation and detailed information is about the institutions has already been provided in Chapter VII.
8.2. Social Welfare activities of Mula Karkhana:

Sugarcane producers have set up co-operative sugar factories in Maharashtra by raising share capital from among them. This is the golden opportunity to small and marginal farmers that they became owner of the co-operative sugar factory, they purchasing equity share capital. These factories provide a number of socially useful services in their areas of operation. Every year these factories deduct, with the consent of the members, some amount per tonne from the cane bills payable to the members, such as Area Development fund etc. and implement various schemes for rural development as also social welfare schemes. The MSSK has also raised an Area Development Fund for development in its area of operation as also for undertaking social and cultural activities. From time to time the MSSK has raised various funds such as Chief Minister's Fund, Housing Project Fund, Education Fund, Drought Relief Fund, Flood Relief Fund, Earthquake Relief Fund etc. for which voluntary deductions are made from the members cane bills.

During the period 1978-79 to 2001-02, the MSSK has implemented a number of social and welfare schemes some of which are described below:
Photo No. 8.8. Group Marriages Arranged by MSSK

Photo No. 8.9. Cattle Camp Opened in Drought Condition by MSSK (2002)

Photo No. 8.10. 7th Century of the Birth of Shri Dnyaneshwari Grantha-Festival (1991)

Photo No. 8.11. The Seventieth All India Marathi Sahitya Sammelan (1997)
8.2.1. Group Marriages:

With a view to eradicate evil practices in marriages like ‘hunda’ honoring members of marriage parties, feast etc. and conduct marriage ceremony in a new but dignified, simple, Vedic manner, the MSSK started group marriages which avoid unnecessary expenditure but at the same time sanctify the ceremony.

During the period 1978-79 to 2001-02, group marriages were carried out in case of 117 couples, especially coming from backward and poor families. Table No.8.4 gives caste wise breakup of the couples.

**TABLE NO. 8.4**

**Castewise Group Marriage Performed By The Mula Karkhana (1978-79 To 2001-02)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr.No.</th>
<th>Caste</th>
<th>No. of marriages</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Maratha</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Gondhali</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Carpenter (Sutar)</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Shoemaker (Chambar)</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Kolhati</td>
<td>08</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Vanjari</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Bhill</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Christian</td>
<td>01</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td><strong>117</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Source*: Compiled from the MSSK official records.

It can be seen from the above table that during the period 1978-79 to 2001-02 the Mula Karkhana undertook marriages of couples of various castes and creeds. In all 117 couples were married with a total expenditure of Rs.1,40,500. The karkhana also presented each couple with a set of stainless steel utensils worth Rs.200.

These Group marriages have created a good climate against unnecessary expenditure in marriages in the karkhana’s area of operation. Many farmers now carry out the marriages of their sons and daughters in a simple manner.
8.2.2. Tree Planting / Afforestation Programme:

From its inception the MSSK has vigorously undertaken the afforestation programme. By the end of the year 2001-02 the 1,98,935 trees of various types has been planted and reared on the karkhana site. In addition 93,830 trees have been planted on the campuses of various schools, colleges and along the Yashwant bandharas and roads constructed by the karkhana. Thus in all 2,92,765 trees have been planted and grown in the karkhana’s area of operation. It may be noted here that the employees of the karkhana and various institutions started by it have voluntarily participated in this programme.

8.2.3. Contribution to Relief Fund:

Whenever a grave natural calamity strikes any part of the country, the karkhana is on the forefront in giving aid to the affected people and raises a fund for that purpose. It collects Rs.1 per tonne every year from its members cane bills for the chief Minister’s Fund. At the time of Killari Earthquake the MSSK forwarded Rs.5.50 lakh as aid.

8.2.4. Cattle Camps:

During the severe drought of 1986-87 the karkhana opened a cattle camp on the karkhana campus to protect cattle of farmers. During that year the karkhana provided for water and fodder to 466 animals. Again during the drought condition in 2001-02 the karkhana opened cattle camp on its premises where 950 cattle were provided with fodder, water and medical treatment. The green fodder in its cane yard was distributed free of charge to the cattle in its area of operation. This scheme is benefited to total 1418 cattle heads.

The Mula Karkhana has raised funds for Drought Relief as and when they occurred.

8.2.5. Financial Help to the Educated Unemployed:

In order to enable the educated unemployed in its area of operation to be self-employed and self-reliant, the karkhana prepares loan proposals for them
and gets them approved from the nationalized banks. During the period 1978-79 to 2001-02, the karkhana implemented the scheme to give loans to the educated unemployed to purchase 96 tractors and 44 trucks for transport of cane and other goods. Those loans were guaranteed by the karkhana for repayment. The loan installments were deducted from the borrowers' transport bills and forwarded to the concerned banks.

8.2.6. Hutment for Landless Labourers:

The MSSK has implemented hutments for landless labourers scheme under the 20-point programme of the Central Govt. For this purpose deduction at the rate of Rs. 0.50 to Rs.1 per tonne of sugarcane was made from the cane bills of the producer members of the karkhana. The deductions were made up to 1990-91. Under the scheme, 17 landless labourers from 10 villages have been provided with huts, which cost the karkhana a sum of Rs.5.50 lakh. In this way the MSSK has made contribution to the cause of homes for the homeless.

8.2.7. Zunka Bhakar Kendra:

The karkhana has been running Zunaka Bhakar Kendra at the karkhana site to provide cheap but full and wholesome food for the sugar cane harvesting and transport workers from 1984.

8.2.8. Sugar School:

During the crushing season the harvesting and transport workers have to migrate from their native places to the karkhana area along with their families. Their children thus are deprived of schooling. In order to enable them to continue schooling, the karkhana runs a sugar school for these children on the karkhana campus.

8.2.9. Employment to the Physically handicapped persons:

The MSSK has absorbed 10 physically handicapped persons from its area of operation in its service.
8.2.10. Fire Fighter Vehicle:

The karkhana owns a fully equipped fire fighter vehicle with trained staff. In case fire takes place, the help is given free to put out the fire immediately.

8.2.11. Janata Accident Insurance Policy for Members:

It unfortunately if a member meets with a fatal accident, his successor needs to be given financial assistance. In case a member loses his hand, leg or eye or any two of the limbs or if a member is permanently disabled in an accident, he needs financial assistance. For this purpose, the karkhana in 1996-97 took out ‘Janata Accident Policies’ for its members. Insurance premium of this scheme is shoulder by the Karkhana himself. In 1996-97 the Karkhana insured amount is Rs.25000 per until now, successors of eight members and one member who had to lose an eye in an accident have been paid Rs.2, 12,500 as insurance amount.

In 1997-98 the karkhana insured all its members under Janata Accident Policies Rs.50, 000. During the year 1997-98, the successors of 4 members and two members who lose one leg each in accident, received sum of Rs.2, 37,500 as insurance amount. In the year 1998-99, the successors of members who died in accidents, received Rs.1, 50,000 and in the year 1999-00 successors of five members involved in fatal accidents received Rs.2, 50,000 as insurance amount. In the year 2000-01 a member's successor received Rs.50, 000. Every year the karkhana reviews the policies up-to 2001-02, the successors of 26 members received insurance amount of Rs. 9,75,000. The insurance policies have been taken from the Rahuri branch of the New India Insurance Co. The details of insurance amount received are given in Table No.8.5.
TABLE NO. 8.5

Benefits received under the Janata Accident Policies

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sr. No.</th>
<th>Details</th>
<th>Insurance amount to be received</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Accidental death of members (e.g. snake bite, Accident, short circuit etc.)</td>
<td>Rs. 50,000/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>Permanent Loss of any 2 of hand, leg or eye</td>
<td>Rs. 50,000/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Loss of any one hand, leg or eye</td>
<td>Rs. 25,000/-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Permanent total disability</td>
<td>Rs. 50,000/-</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Annual reports of the karkhana, 2001-02, P. 19.

It can be seen from the above table that if a member meets with a fatal death or if he permanently loses any two of his hands, legs and eyes or if he suffers from permanent disability, he or his successor gets Rs.50,000 as insurance amount. In case any one of the hands, legs and eyes are permanently lost, Rs.25,000 is paid as insurance amount.

8.2.12. Sports Facilities:

The karkhana has purchased materials for various sports activities and the same are provided to sportsmen at the karkhana site. The karkhana sends many sportsmen to participate in sports held elsewhere. It also arranges for the Annual Sports Festival. Cricket and Volleyball matches are regularly conducted. The successful sportsmen are encouraged by giving prizes.

8.2.13. Extra-Mural Education Centre:

The Karkhana has started an Extra-Mural Education Centre of the University of Pune at its site from 1994. Lectures of eminent speakers are held every year for the members, workers and their families in various topics such as co-operative movement, agriculture, afforestation, health, banks, empowerment of women, religious discusses. These programmes receive food response from the members and employees of the MSSK.
8.2.14. Status of Great persons:

To remind the people and to encourage them to follow the ideals of Shri Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj and to honor the memory of the socio-agro-industrial revolutionary of Maharashtra, Hon. Yashwantrao Chavan, the karkhana in 1999 erected their statues on the karkhana, which are a source of inspiration to the Youth.

8.2.15. Seventh Century of the birth of Shri Dnyaneshwari Grantha:

The MSSK and the Mula Education Society jointly organized the celebration of completing 700 years of the writing of the great spiritual and literary work of ‘Dnyaneshwari Grantha’. The function was held in February 1991 at Newasa under the chairmanship of the then Chief Minister of Maharashtra Shri. Sharad Pawar. The leading literatures and devotees were felicitated on this occasion.

8.2.16. The Seventieth All India Marathi Sahitya Sammelan:

The 70th All India Marathi Sahitya Sammelan was held at Ahmednagar from 1st to 3rd January 1997 under the auspices of the MSSK and the Mula Education Society. The Mula Education Society was the host of the Sammelan. During the 3 days of the Sammelan, about 80,000 people attended the various functions every day. The Sammelan was inaugurated by the Film Director Shri. Girish Karnad and the well-known Marathi Writer Shri. N.S.Inamdar was the president of the Sammelan. It was verily a literature festival. Books worth more than Rs.1 crore were sold during this Sammelan. The Sammelan made the Mula Education Society famous all over India.

8.2.17. Establishment of Shri Dnyaneshwar Cultural Foundation:

1) The Mula Education society in collaboration with the Maharashtra Govt. has started this project. It will provide library facilities for comparative study of all religious works.
2) The foundation every year felicitates eminent writers who have contributed to the study of saint’s literary works.

In this way it can be seen that the Mula Education Society with the solid support of the MSSK has been contributory for socio-cultural enrichment of the society.
REFERENCES

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9. Report of Inter-Institutional Group of financing Gobar Gas plants by Banks, Published by Reserve Bank of India, 1976, P. 64.