PHOTOGRAPHS
The workers, hard-working and skillful, are valued highly by the factory owners. But the present technology level requires them to work under harsh conditions.

Above: A glass blower gives a bottle in the mold its final shape. Below: More pictures of the wizard-like bangle-maker in action. It takes years of practice before one can draw uniform lengths from the glowing hot glass.
The gold-painted decoration of the blue glass hookah is characteristic of the fashion during Aurangzeb's rule (1658-1707 AD). The hookah's shape is inspired by its brass counterpart. Square bottles like this one were very popular till the early 19th century for carrying tobacco. The shape is inspired by the Dutch gin bottle, while the decoration is of Persian style.

Hookah base with gold-painted decoration in the late 17th or early 18th century. Tobacco had been introduced to India towards the end of the 16th century.

Bowl of pressed mosaic glass, probably Alexandrian, 1st century AD. In the Victoria and Albert Museum, London. Diameter 15.5 cm.

Goblet, green glass enameled and gilt, Venetian c. 1560. In the Victoria and Albert Museum. Height 29.2 cm.

Sugar bowl with cover, pattern molded, attributed to the glassworks of Henry Libbey Stiegel, Mohawk, Pennsylvania, c. 1765-74. In the Corning Museum of Glass, New York. Height 15.6 cm.

Bottle of moulded and gilt glass decorated with Oriental motifs, decorated with a representation of the Trinity. Height 30 cm. (Right) Noble alabaster, decorated with the imperial eagle, manufactured in the German despatch, 17th century. In the Kupferstichkabinett, Nationalmuseum. Hamburg. Height 43 cm.

Bottle of "gold sand" glass, double-walled beaker decorated with a bear head. Hamburg, c. 1720. In the Kestner-Museum, Hanover, West Germany. Height 8.9 cm.

Bowl painted with black and gold enamel (Schwarzformular) by Johann Schaper, Nuremberg, 1664. In the Museum für Kunst und Gewerbe, Hamburg. Height 8.9 cm.

Bottle and cover, unglazed redhead engraving with relief-cut laurel leaves. Gustav Zedler, c. 1700. In the Kunstmuseum, Basel, West Germany. Height 27 cm.