CHAPTER - IX

INDUSTRIAL POTENTIALITIES AND PLANS FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT
IN BANKURA DISTRICT

The industrial potentiality of a district emanates from various angles, such as, resource potential, demand prospect, availability of local skills and entrepreneurial talents. These together with existing level of industrial activities, infrastructural facilities and locational advantage ultimately determine the investment order.

This Chapter highlights the new industrial possibilities of Bankura District. The study is based on the survey report, and market survey in various centres of the district, carried out by a study team from small industrial service institute and other government institutes. The above analyses has been further incorporated with the existing infrastructure facilities and amenities, entrepreneurial potentiality and existing level of industries, on the basis of these informations some industries have been identified, which have immediate prospect in the district.

China Clay Washery

The reserve of china clay in the district is huge, the details of which has been dealt with in Chapter-III. With the rise in the standard of living the demand for various ceramic items is rising. The demand for ceramic
item and supply of washed china clay is positively correlated. At present major share of the washed clay comes from the neighbouring states. In view of the large deposits of china clay, washery plants can be set up at (a) Borjora, using china clay deposits of Ghutgoria, Shaharjora, Pabayan of Borjora blocks. Beriathole, of Saltora, P.S. Jamuna-Shyampur of Mejlia P.S, Tilasuli, Kharidunda and Beldanga of Gangajalghati P.S, at (b) Onda or Taldangra using china clay of Manipur (Taldangra) Searbedia of Onda P.S, Lohamara of Bishnupur P.S. (c) at Khatra using china clay of Kharidungri and Bagjuda (Khatra) Dalambhija, Radha Madhav, Kunjagarh, Hariharganj of Raipur P.S. etc. Considering the above proposals the prospect for a single trade Ceramic Industrial Estate has been identified in Patakola mouza in Bankura Police Station. The place is only 4 km away from Bankura town and offers an excellent road connection since three state highways touch the area. The location enjoys railway facilities and the proximity to the Dwarekeswar river.

Depending on the availability of washed clay from the proposed washery and the availability of other mineral resources in the district the estate can give home to as many as 10 items, there are:

Household crockeries: Ceramic embraces the manufacture of a wide and varied range of products including crockeries
used for domestic purposes and in catering industries. With the rapid growth of urbanisation, improvement in the standard of living and the catering industry, the demand for such items is increasing at a faster rate. To keep pace with the rising demand, there is ample scope for establishing this industry. The raw material required for manufacturing crockeries are china clay, quartz and felspar. Large deposits of these raw materials are found in the district.

Mosaic tiles: Mosaic tiles is a sophisticated item and is known for its decorative value, durability and replaceable quality. Since 1970 there has been a great spurt in the construction of new buildings, renovation of existing buildings, both in public and private sector. Consequently, the demand of these tiles have increased enormously during the last decade. At present there are no units functioning in this line in the district. So establishment of few units will prove beneficial.

Glazed terra-cotta tiles: The clay roofing tiles and allied red clay products are the most suitable type of construction material, within the reach of the common man. The demand for the item is continuously increasing. The major raw material required to manufacture the product is common clay (red clay), which is abundant in the district. Moreover, this district enjoys a rich traditional skill in manufacturing terra-cotta
items, and if some technological assistance is provided to the existing artisans in the forum of glazing, colouring etc. there will be a significant development of the industry.

**Stoneware jars and artistic novelty wares**

Stoneware jars are generally used as containers for domestic purposes, artistic novelty wares are those which have artistic decorative and aesthetic values. The items are flower vase, ashtrays, dolls, statues etc. The market survey reveals that there is a sizeable demand in and outside the district. The basic raw materials are china clay, quartz etc. which are abundantly available in the district, considering all the above facts one unit has been suggested in Patiakhola.

**Refractory shapes and bricks :** Fire clay bricks and blocks are refractory products, which are mainly used in basic industries based on heat operation. Their major requirement around (74%) are in the iron and steel industry. Besides iron and steel, it has a wide application also in the field of glass, ceramic, cement and foundary industries. There are concentration of steel, cement, glass and foundry industries in and around Durgapur - Asansol belt. This nearby belt require a substantial amount of the product annually. In view of the above facts the establishment of such a unit will gear up the industrial development of the region.
L.T. & H.T. Insulator: The demand for insulators depends largely on the electrification activities and overhead telephones and telegraphic network. The progress of rural electrification programmes as well as expansion of telephone network shows a bright prospect of this product in the domestic market. The district is endowed with the vast mineral deposits of China clay, felspar quartz, which offer an opportunity for establishment of a unit in the district.

Tower packing and stoneware: This item is a product of industrial use. It is mainly used in the fields of fertiliser and chemical plants for mixing, reaction and absorption of liquid and gaseous materials. It is made out of ceramic stoneware and require frequent replacement. The item has growing demand in and around Durgapur – Asansol belt and greater Calcutta areas, because of large concentration of chemical industries and a fertiliser plant in Durgapur and a good number of chemical plants in and around the state of West Bengal. So if such a unit is set up then it can cater to the need of the surrounding industries.

Kiln furniture: Kiln furniture is made of different sizes and shapes. It acts as a protective container or setters of various ceramic wares inside the kiln. It is mainly used in ceramic and allied industries. In view of its wide range of utility, the item has great demand for local consumption and
also in other parts of the country. The unit of Kiln furniture will cater to the needs of a large number of ceramic industries functioning in the state of West Bengal and also the ceramic units proposed in Bankura district. The basic raw material for this industry is fire clay and grog of which huge deposits are still lying untapped for economic exploitation in the district. The industry may not be feasible as a separate unit on economic aspects. Some other items like fire clay refractory shapes and bricks may be incorporated in the product line.

Chemical Porcelain: Chemical porcelain ware is characterised with corrosion proof dense homogenous whitebody. It is possible to develop chemical and laboratory porcelains of good quality by using china clay, flint and felspar. The products are flat tipped basins, breakers, round capsules, rectangular capsules, liebig, hirsh funnels, dental dissolving cups, parting dishes, spotting and dessicator plates. Demand for this is mainly institutional. It is used in the laboratories of schools, colleges, research institutions and medical and pharmaceutical laboratories. There is reportedly no manufacturing unit in this line. Taking into account of the easy available of raw materials and future the demand, one such unit may prove economically beneficial for the district.
Mineral grinding: Quartz and felspar, are hard minerals used in ceramic and glass industries. The grinding of these two minerals involves a lot of time and energy. The consumer prefer to have it in powder form for their use. Felspar and Quartz in powder form have good market in and around the state as well as export market to our adjacent countries. There is no unit operating in this line. Considering the availability of raw material and the demand potential one unit may conveniently come up in the district.

There is a large prospect for agro-based and forest based industries in the district. Large area of the land (59.54%) is devoted to cultivation and about (22%) is covered with forest. The details of which has been dealt with in Chapter-III, the possible industries are mentioned below.

Rice bran oil: Rice bran oil is a vegetable oil, it is extracted from the rice brans of cooked rice. The bran of the rice consists 20.4% of oil and high percentage of protein. However, extraction of rice bran has not become popular in the district. There are 34 rice mills in the district, the available rice bran is either used for cattle feed or for fuel purpose leaving enough scope for industrial use. As the raw materials are within easy reach and the total investment is not beyond grip, a rice bran oil unit can be set up within Bankura municipality.
Presently the State is facing a serious oil crisis, because of insufficient production of oil seeds and also due to increase in its substantive consumption. The oil-seeds produced have two types of utilisation viz.,

a) Production of edible oil, and

b) Utilisation in industries like soap, paint, varnish, lubricant etc.

**Edible Oil (Mustard and Sesamum) :**

There is good scope to disperse oil mill industry, especially mustard and sesamum oil, in the seed growing backward areas, to provide additional employment opportunities and to meet the local demand. The district is rich enough in respect of the availability of mustard and sesamum seed. Presently about 15000 M.T. of mustard and sesamum seeds are available in the district annually, there are 49 oil mills and a sizeable quantity of the available surplus of 67% oil seeds are processed by them. The present proposal is a new type of edible oil, manufactured by the combination of 60% mustard and 40% sesamum seeds which will have a good demand in and outside the district. Efforts should be made to cultivate non-traditional oil-seeds like sesamum, sunflower, ground nut etc in Bankura. In view of the edible oil crisis these sources is expected to yield a good quantity of oil.
Non-edible oil (sal, neem, linseed and mouha):

Bankura district is highly potential in respect of the availability of neem seeds, sal seeds, mouha seeds and linseed. The total availability during a year has been estimated to be: neem - 9000 M.T., sal - 4000 M.T., linseed - 300 M.T., and mouha - 3000 M.T. The oil extracted can be used in washing soap, toilet soaps, paints, pharmaceutical industries etc. Based on the above resources and the surplus labour available (as this is a labour intensive industry a composite unit for the manufacturing of non-edible oil has been suggested in either Bankura or Bishnupur police station.

Sugar cane: The prospect of sugar cane processing units particularly of sugar, gur and khandsari, are better in the district. Sugar cane is cultivated in 5000 acres of land; the production in 1971 was 82000 tonnes. The cultivated area is concentrated in Indas, Patrasayer and Kotulpur Police stations. With the introduction of irrigation and fertilisers the yield can be increased. At present there is no sugar mill in the district and it depends on Uttar Pradesh and Bihar for sugar. So the establishment of a sugar mill in Indas or Patrasayer may help to cater to the local demand to some extent.
Potato Chips and Chanachur: Potato chips are made out of potato and chanachur comprises the mixture of different ingredients (mainly pulses). Potato is extensively grown in Bankura district and the production has been estimated to be more than 1 lakh M.T. 62% is treated as marketable surplus. Variety of pulses are also available in the district. No technological skill is required and the investment is minimum. The items have got demand both in urban and rural areas. Considering the availability of the raw materials and marketability of the products, 3 units, have been suggested to be located one each at Bankura, Bishnupur and Kotulpur blocks.

Straw board: Straw board manufactured from paddy, wheat, maize straws, and sugar cane bagasse are in great demand throughout the country for manufacturing articles like file cover, file board, flat file, packing and book binding purposes. Straw boards are also used as sound proof materials for the construction of cinema houses, theatres and auditoriums. Among the total availability of straws from wheat and paddy, 12% to 15% is used as cattle fodder, 85% is marketable surplus. It is gathered that as cultivation is on the increase, market analysis reveals that about 100 M.T. of straws would be available per month for industrial use in the district. Considering the absence of such a unit, and the abundance of paddy and wheat straw, there is ample scope
for the development of such an industry in the district. A few forest based industry has been suggested considering the view of vast areas covered with different types of trees.

Sabairope: Rope ban and sulti have a wide range of use in industry, agriculture and household. Rope is normally made out of jute, hessian and coconut fibre. Now-a-days rope is also being made from sabai grass, which is equally useful. There is a fairly good demand with increasing activities in the field of industry, agriculture and construction. Sabai grass is extensively grown in the district and in the absence of economic exploitation, the grass is mostly sent to Raniganj for its paper mill. A unit may be located at Kotulpur where the land is extensively covered with sabai grass.

Paper Industry: The raw material required for this industry, viz, sal, eucalyptus, manjuri trees and sabai grass is found extensively in the district. But this is not sufficient for setting up of a mill, so when the proposed programmes for transplanting Akasmoni and Eucalyptus trees over a wide range is fully implemented and the production increases then only can the paper will be set up.
Ayurvedic medicine: The market for these types of medicines are widespread in both rural and urban areas. Wood-apple is one of the major ingredients for the preparation of certain types of medicines. In Bankura 600 M.T. of wood apples are available per annum. Therefore, a unit which can utilise these resources and manufacture some medicines which have good demand can be set up in the district.

Textile based industries, such as:

Sari printing: The scope for installation of sari printing unit is enlarged due to the concentration of looms in different parts of the district. The investment requirement is small employing some equipments and indigenous raw materials. Two units can be located one each at Bankura and Bishnupur.

Readymade garments: The trend for using readymade garments is finding more and more acceptance in the indigenous and export market. There are about 41 units functioning in the district but all are unorganised. 4 units are proposed in Bankura, Bishnupur, Sonamukhi, and Khatra.

Leather tanning units: There is abundant raw hides available in the district, but due to the absence of a tannery, the hides are sent to Calcutta to be washed and prepared for
INDUSTRIAL POTENTIALITY OF BANKURA DISTRICT
making leather products. The establishment of such units in Indas, Kotulpur and Patrasayer, where the water is not too hard will finally lead to the development of the leather industry. This can further make possible the manufacture of foot wear.

**Agricultural implements and tool unit:** As agriculture is the predominant occupation of the majority of the people, the unit if developed will flourish. It can be the iron of Jamshedpur, Durgapur and Burnpur. If Borjora and Khatra are linked by railway with Durgapur and Jamshedpur, this will be an ideal location for such a unit.

**Pesticide and insecticide formulation unit:** For advanced agriculture and production of superior quality of paddy and wheat the demand for such item will increase in future.

**Balanced cattle and poultry feed:** Balanced cattle feed is a mixture of mustard oil cake, ground nut oil cake, rice husk, wheat bran, gram chunni, used as diet in concentrated form to feed the cattle for better yield. Considering the availability of resources and scope for marketing, one unit can be set up at Bankura proper. There are also potentialities for a few Chemical-based industries, such as, Soap manufacturing unit. In recent times, soap has become a mass
consumption item. There is not a single unit in the district, most of the demand is met from outside markets. So a small scale unit may be set up at Bankura which is the distribution nerve centre of the district market.

**Detergent Powder:** This is also considered as a mass consumption item. No skill is required for this type of industry and the process can easily be grasped. The market size is ₹8 lakhs which is met by outside suppliers. Thus the setting up of such units may improve the economy of the district.

**Distilled Water:** The monthly demand of distilled water is 30,000 litres. The supply comes from the neighbouring districts. Hence a unit can be easily set up in the district.

**Aerated Water:** Aerated water is a soft drink and there is a growing demand for the item. A unit may be set up in Borjora, where apart from the local markets, it may enjoy the share of Asansol and Durgapur market as well.

In addition to this, other units, such as, Nitrobenzene and Anniline for making anniline, benzedine and other dye stuff.
Benzyl Chemicals: Used mainly in cosmetics and pharmaceutical industries.

Monochloro and Dichloro Phenol: This item is required in liquid disinfection and pesticide formulation. With the gradual increase of awareness of the Indian farmers, to adopt modern farming techniques, the demand for pesticide is increasing rapidly.

The raw materials required to manufacture the above items can be got from Durgapur Chemical Ltd. Considering the proximity to the Durgapur Industrial belt, the above items will have good market.

Limestone manufacturing unit at Saltora: This unit can be set up with the help of limestone deposits of Hariranpur and Gumiada of Khatra P.S.

As the demand for plastic products has been increasing in recent times, mainly because of its durability, cheapness and presentable appearance. Considering this growing demand some units can be encouraged in view of the national economy in general and progress of industrialization in the district. The possible units are:

Plastic laminated Sal-leaf Plate: Sal leaves are available in Bankura district in plenty. From these leaves, decorated plates can be manufactured. Plastic lamination will increase its decorative as well as use value. It will fetch wide market
in the district, in the neighbouring district, as well as in Calcutta.

**Plastic bobbins** : Bobbins are required for handloom and powerloom industries. Bobbins made out of plastic are much more durable compared to that of wood. There are 12000 looms in the district. So the item will fetch market in the district, as well as in the neighbouring districts. The unit is suggested either at Bishnupur, or in Bankura.

**Acrylic buttons** : With the increase in the use of ready-made garments the demand for plastic buttons has grown extensively. If one unit is set up it can cater to the demand of Asansol, Durgapur market also.

**PVC Chappals** : PVC chappals are now-a-days very popular. Apart from the vast market in urban areas, the product is penetrating very fast in rural areas. In Bankura the market for PVC chappals is found to be sizeable. Presently there is no unit in this line, and a low cost manufacturing unit may be set up at Bankura with a capacity of manufacturing 100 pairs per day.

**Drugs & Pharmaceutical** : The drugs and pharmaceutical industry in India has made considerable progress in the last two decades. In Bankura district there is good demand for various formulations like oral tablet, oral capsules,
ointments and herbal preparation. On the basis of this demand, one small scale unit may be encouraged in the district in this line. The unit may be located at Bankura proper.

Besides there are other units like body building of buses, manufacturing of industrial handgloves etc. which can be set up. Due to the absence of a intricate railway network, buses are the most important mode of transportation. But not a single body-building unit is present in the district. Setting up of such a unit will be economically beneficial.

In view of the demand of the Durgapur Industrial belt just 45 kms away, manufacturing units of plastic cups, cintered bronze casting, conveyor belt, steel valve, condensar manganese, casting, polythene films can be set up. Moreover, being encircled by three steel plants, Bankura district has an enormous possibility of various engineering units.