

CHAPTER - V

EVOLUTION OF INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITIES IN NADIA

Nadia is essentially an agricultural district with more than three-fourth of its people engaged in agriculture and allied activities. Yet a portion of its remaining population has been engaged in some sort of industrial activities from a very long period and attained the honararium of being traditional craftsman in certain aspects, like the clay modeling of Krishnanagar or handloom weaving of Santipur.

Some industries have flourished and still continue to be, while others have declined totally, some are at a dormant stage that needs a push up and of course new ones have sprang up to feed the demanding market.

This chapter deals with the story of the evolution of industrial activity in the district.

Industries in Nadia may be broadly classified as 'House hold' and 'other than house hold' industries. A 'household industry' is defined as an industry which is not run on the scale of a registered factory and is participated by the head of the household himself or any member of the household either at home or within the village, in rural areas and in the same Census house in the urban areas.

More men are engaged, in this district, in household

industries' than in other parts of the State. In Nadia, every fifteenth men is employed in household industries, while the ratio is only 30 per thousand in the entire State. The reason behind it is the occurrence of handloom weaving as a household industry employing a very high percentage of workers in this particular Sector.

Of the old time industries, mention worthy ones are cotton weaving, indigo industry, clay modelling, basket weaving, hat making etc.

The colonisation in India or the presence and settlement of foreigners in the district once led to development of industrial activities in Nadia. Every activity passes through different phases from its inception to its present position. It is true in the case of Nadia Industry too. Industry in the district is more or less a recent occupation and its history of growth is as old as only two hundred years more or less. Now we can divide this period, into pre Independence era and post Independence era.

Pre Independence : While speaking of industries in pre-independence era, mention may be made firstly of cotton weaving industry,¹ mainly located at Santipur.

Cloth manufacturing : Cloth manufacturing appear to have been spread throughout the district at the beginning, but later concentrated at Santipur owing to its being the site of a Commercial Residency and the centre of government cloth factories of the

East India Company. At the beginning of the 19th century for the consecutive 28 years government purchase of Santipur Muslin averaged from Rs.120 to Rs.150,000. The census of 1872 returns the weaving population at 13680 besides 273 jute weavers. Later the industry started dying out, owing to the influx of Manchester's cheaper price goods in the Indian market. In 1825 it received a severe set back due to the introduction of British yarn which ultimately was responsible for the complete extinction of country yarn in later years. Another point is that, this industry owed its development to the company's yearly investment and its expansion ceased when this official stimulus was withdrawn.

Indigo manufacturing : Indigo manufacturing was perhaps the most important industry at the beginning of the 19th century. The Britishers took over the individual indigenous small units and invested large sums to the over all development of the industries. Large factories sprang up from nowhere and soon the district was spotted with indigo concerns owned by English capitalists or by proprietors backed by many advances from Calcutta Agency Houses. The cultivation increases at a high rate which fetched large profits.

The commencement of the Eastern Bengal Railway, through Nadia led to a sudden rise in the price of land and labour. The growing patriotism, the British oppression over the planters led to labour unrest. All these factors led to the total stoppage of indigo plantation and manufacturing after 1860.

Manufacture of Sola hat : Sola hat is another old time industry which flourished during this period, the buyers were the Europeans, which they used as a protection against the tropical sun. It has been found that one Fakir Chand Malakar introduced the craft in Kaliganj at Harinathpur village under Kaliganj development block about 200 years ago. Major concentration also occurred here the main product was the sola hats for which there was a ready market at Calcutta. A good number of hats were also exported to different colonies of the British Empire situated in the Torrid Zone.

Sola is the major raw material used in this industry. It is gathered from the numerous hills that dots the district all over. The hats were brought to Chandichawk area in Calcutta where the tailors covered it with various type of cloth according to the shape and quality of the sola hat frames. This industry during its golden age employed as many as 2500 persons, this shows the importance of the industry in those days.

Now with the Europeans gone the industry has shrunk and is on the verge of extinction.

Minor Industries : Coloured clay figures are traditionally made by the Krishnanagar Kumar Castes. It is particularly located at Ghurni by the side of the Krishnanagar township.

The craft was once patronised by the Hindu rulers of Bengal viz, Raja Krishna Chandra and the Maha Rajas of Lalgola,

Nashipur and Cossimbazar. The pionier master craftsman were² :

- (a) Late Mohan Pal (225 years back)
- (b) Late Jadunath Pal (1821 - 1920)
- (c) Late Paran Chandra Pal (1828 - 1924)
- (d) Late Bakreswar Pal (1875 - 1924)
- (e) Late G. Pal (1869 - 1952)

But it must be mentioned that these craftsmen were never whole-sale traders.

2. The Kansaris or the workers in Brass and Bell-Metal and ranks next in importance to the weavers among the district artisans. The town of Nabadwip and Mitrepur were the chief seats of this articles.

3. A large exports took place in jute : Chakdah being the chief market for the trade. The Nadia jute was known as the Chakdah jute in Calcutta market.

The manufacturing classes and Artisans of the Nadia district in 1872 is shown in Table 51. Their total is 42,290.

- The table is given at the end of the chapter.

Post Independence era : As a result of partition of Bengal in 1947, the district of Nadia was also partitioned when a vast area having considerable industrial potentiality was transformed to Bangladesh. At the same time a large number of people being uprooted from their home and migrated to and settled in this district. Thus a new problem for the district was created. This

population was greater than the land could afford to feed, and provide employment for all. Thus the need for rapid and extensive industrialisation was keenly felt. Emphasis was laid on the growth of small scale and village industries, considering that these industries are labour -intensive requiring less capital investment and are capable of uplifting the rural economy in a comparatively short period.

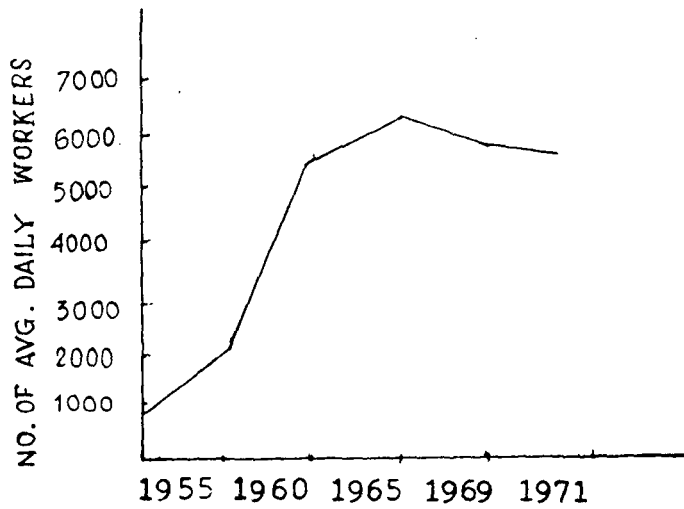
A) LARGE & MEDIUM SCALE INDUSTRY

Since there are no mining and heavy industries in the district there has been a steady growth of a few large scale industries in recent years. Immediately after Independence there was only one large scale industry in the district. By the end of 1960, at least six large scale industries were established.

The number of units registered under the Factories Act in Nadia, and also the level of industrial employment is not very encouraging. In 1969, the total number of units was only 68, which constituted a meagre 1.11 percent of the state, giving employment to some 6106 persons accounting for only 0.77% of the state total. In 1970 the total number of units declined to 56. While the number of factory establishment, the employment offered by them too, is found to have remained constant at around 6000 only during the last several years.

The employment figures for the last two decades 1955-71 are as given in Table 2. Fig. 28 shows the growth patterns of

NOS OF AVERAGE DAILY WORKERS EMPLOYED IN THE FACTORIES DURING THE YEAR 1955-71



NOS. OF REGISTERED FACTORIES IN NADIA DISTRICT DURING THE YEAR 1955-71

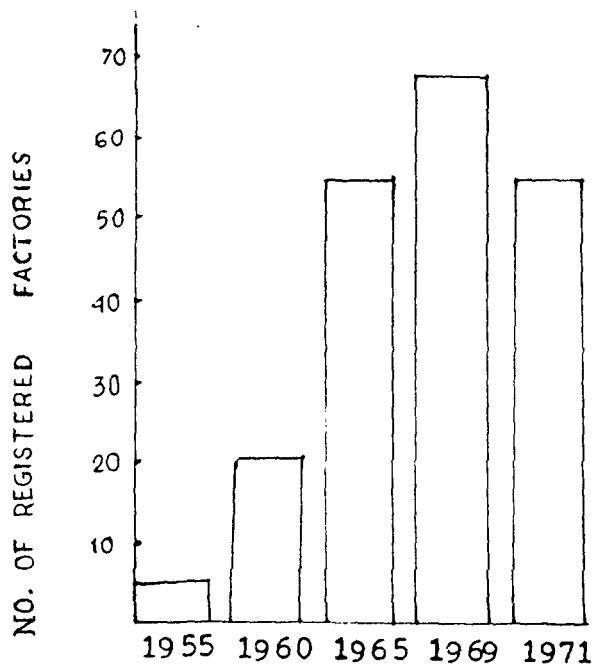


Fig - 28

registered factories as well as employment in Nadia.

Table 5.2, Yearwise Registered Factories and Their Employment Numbers.

1955 - 1971

| Year | No. of factories | Employment | |
|------|------------------|------------|-----------------|
| 1955 | 6 | 748 | |
| 1960 | 21 | 1784 | |
| 1965 | 55 | 5443 | |
| 1966 | 55 | 6146 | |
| 1967 | 55 | 5830 | *Source : Chief |
| 1968 | 55 | 5979 | Inspector of |
| 1969 | 68 | 6106 | Factories, W.B. |
| 1970 | 49 | 6306 | |
| 1971 | 55 | 5562 | |
| 1972 | 68 | N A | |

The Industry wise break up of the units and employment² with them is given in Table 5.3.

Table 5.3, Number of Factories Registered Under Factories Act 1956 and Employment In The District, 1969.

| Class | No. of units | Employment |
|--|--------------|------------|
| 1. Food except beverages | 3 | 17 |
| 2. Beverages | 1 | 131 |
| 3. Textiles | 33 | 3445 |
| 4. Footwear other than weaving apparel | 2 | 101 |

| Class | No.of units | Employment |
|--|--------------|------------|
| 5. Paper and paper products | 3 | 167 |
| 6. Chemical and chemical products | 1 | 87 |
| 7. Non metallic mineral products | 2 | 4 |
| 8. Basic metal industries (except machinery and transport eqpt) | 5 7 | 144 725 |
| 9. Manufacture of metal products and machinery | 2 | 35 |
| Major Industry group | No. of units | Employment |
| 10. Electric machinery, apparatus and appliances | 2 | 35 |
| 11. Transport and transport eqpt. | 5 | 753 |
| 12. Miscellaneous industries | 4 | 17 |
| TOTAL : | 68 | 6106 |

The large scale industries of the district, in the seventies are, the Kalyani Spinning Mills Ltd., located at Kalyani, employed the highest number of workers in 1970, the number of persons being 1337. In the same year, M/s Sen & Pandit Industries Ltd. employed 530 workers while Ramnagar Cane & Sugar Co. Ltd. at Teznagar, Palashi gave employment to 344 workers. The following table 5.4 gives the list of industries employing 100 persons or above in 1970. Indicates that new Industries have developed in the district in recent years.

Table 5.4, Large Scale Industries And Number Of Persons Employed
Therein.

| Industrial Units | No. of persons employed in 1970 |
|--|------------------------------------|
| 1. Rultonjee & Co. Ltd - Kalyani | 131 |
| 2. Nadia Textile Mills | 146 |
| 3. Bengal Fine Spining and Weaving Mills Ltd. - Ranaghat | 188 |
| 4. Sri Durga Processing & Finishing Mills - Ranaghat | 109 |
| 5. The Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Ltd. - Goyeshpur | 264 |
| 6. The Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Ltd. - Chakdah | 370 |
| 7. The Rehabilitation Industries Corporation Ltd. - Taherpur | 208 |
| 8. Tape & Dies Ltd. - Krishnanagar | 180 |
| 9. Davidson of India Pvt. Ltd. - Kalyani | 362 |
| 10. Ancillary Industries Cranks Pvt. Ltd.-Kalyani | 113 |

These factories, however, do not take any active part in the generation of wealth for the district. Most of the large factories do not cater to the local market. They are also dependent on the services of skilled labour mostly recruited from outside. The exceptions are Kalyani Spinning Mill which supplies cotton yarn to the local handloom weavers, and Phulia Steel Metal

Industries which supplies agricultural implements for local use. At Ramnagar Cane and Sugar Factory majority of the labourers are local, but the products are mainly meant for external markets.

There is no clear pattern in the location of Industrial enterprises in the district. While traditional industries like weaving and clay modelling have tended to concentrate in the towns of their origin, engineering and other machine based industries are developing around Ranaghat and Kalyani. A variety of small units have in recent years come up in the constantly growing urban areas of Krishnanagar, Ranaghat, Santipur and Nabadwip. These are mostly demand based industries and they cover a wide range, from Steel-based products, electrical, and ceramic goods, food-based industries, crushing and processing units, fabrication and repairing or servicing workshop to textile, handloom or hosiery goods and other household articles of daily use. There is scope for further development of demand-based units and industries based on utilisation of surplus agricultural products. Potential for promotion of rural industries is also considered to exist, but systematic and comprehensive data regarding such units are not available. There is need for under taking a basic survey for identification of potentiality in respect of rural industries, category wise and area wise.

The important industrial units and their locations in Nadia district are shown in table 55. The Table is given at the end of the Chapter.

The Kalyani Spinning Mills.

The Kalyani Spinning Mill is a State undertaking which is located at Kalyani and engaged in the production of fine cotton yarn (605 and above). It was registered under Companies Act on 1st April 1960 and started production on 31st March 1961. In 1965-66 the Kalyani Spinning Mills produced 1032070 Kg of yarn and sold goods over Rs.1.26 crores for use in the handloom and power-looms of West Bengal. During this period the Mill Operated 50000 spindles, working in three shifts, employing about 1300 workers. Cotton used by the mills was mostly imported and was worth over Rs.48.78 lakhs. According to an estimate of 1967 West Bengal requires about 178 lakhs Kgs. of yarn for her handlooms in both the co-operative sector and outside and about 33 lakhs Kgs. of yarn for powerlooms in the co-operative sector. The number of handlooms in the State is about 160000 in addition to 1600 powerlooms in the co-operative sector.

The main purpose of setting up the Kalyani Spinning Mills was to feed the handloom weavers and the hosiery trade, primarily of West Bengal. At present the unit has been expanded by an additional 25000 spindles for the production of 100% combed hosiery yarn.

Sen & Pandit Industries.

The workshop of M/s Sen & Pandit Industries is located at Kalyani. The products are bicycle rims and brackets most of

which are supplied to M/s Sen Raleigh Industries. The raw materials are mostly imported.

B) Small Scale Industry.

There seems to have be a good concentration of small industries in the district. An increasing trend in both the number of such units and their work-force has been noticeable over the last decade or so. Between the years 1952-53 and 1965-66 there was a great rise as much as 252.8% in number of small units during the period, from 12900 to 46780 respectively and their workers from 31200 in 1952-53 to 98000 in 1965-66. Of about 47000 units operating in 1965-66, 33.5% were reported to be textile units while 26.3% were food manufacturing units. Most of the units were again of very small in size. As such as 83% of them employed only one or two persons at the most, as may be seen from the table56, which shows the pattern of distribution of the units by size of employment in 1965-66.

Table56, Distribution Of Small Industry Units By Size Of Employment In Nadia District (1965-66)

| No. of Workers | Percentage of the total No.of unit in Nadia. 1965-66 |
|----------------|---|
| 1 | 59.59 |
| 2 | 22.97 |
| 3 | 5.25 |
| 4 | 5.20 |

(Table 6 Contd.)

| No. of Workers | Percentage of the total No. of unit in Nadia. 1965-66 |
|----------------|--|
| 5 | 1.79 |
| 6 | 1.47 |
| 7 | 0.52 |
| 8 | 1.07 |
| 9 | 0.23 |
| 10 | 0.31 |
| 11-15 | 0.64 |
| 16-20 | 0.50 |
| 21-30 | 0.27 |
| above 30 | 0.19 |

The number of workers absorbed in these small establishments accounted for 7.5% of the State total in 1965-66. Fig. 29 shows, Nadia's distribution of small industrial units by size of employment.

The rather insignificant levels of operations of the district's small establishments may also be understood from the very low amount of value products per worker. From table 7 which shows the distribution of these units in 1965-66 by size class per worker value product it may be seen that annual per worker value product was very low in the case of the preponderant majority of the units. In respect of only 0.36% of the units the figure was Rs. 10,000 or more.

DISTRIBUTION OF SMALL INDUSTRY UNITS
BY SIZE OF EMPLOYMENT

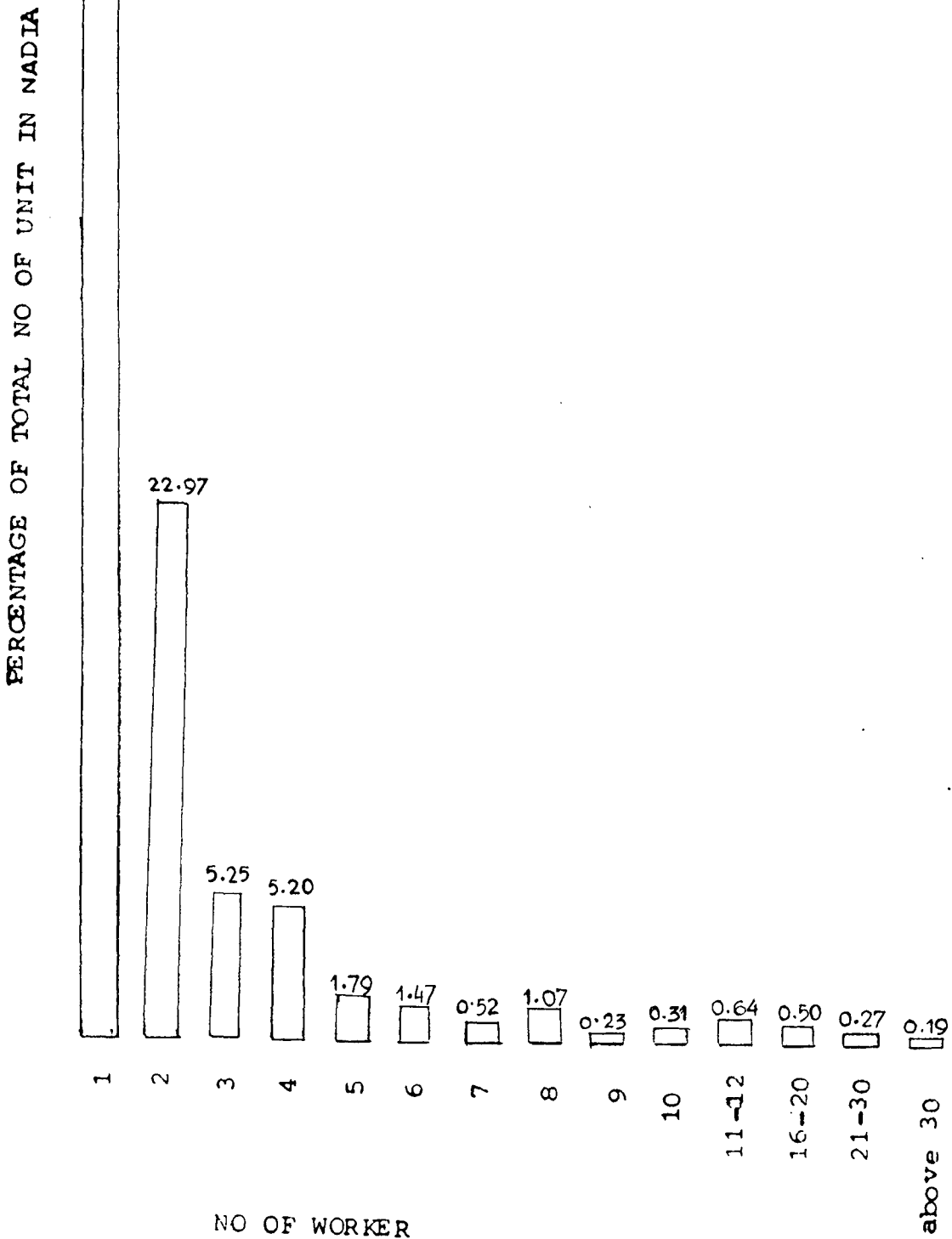


Fig - 29

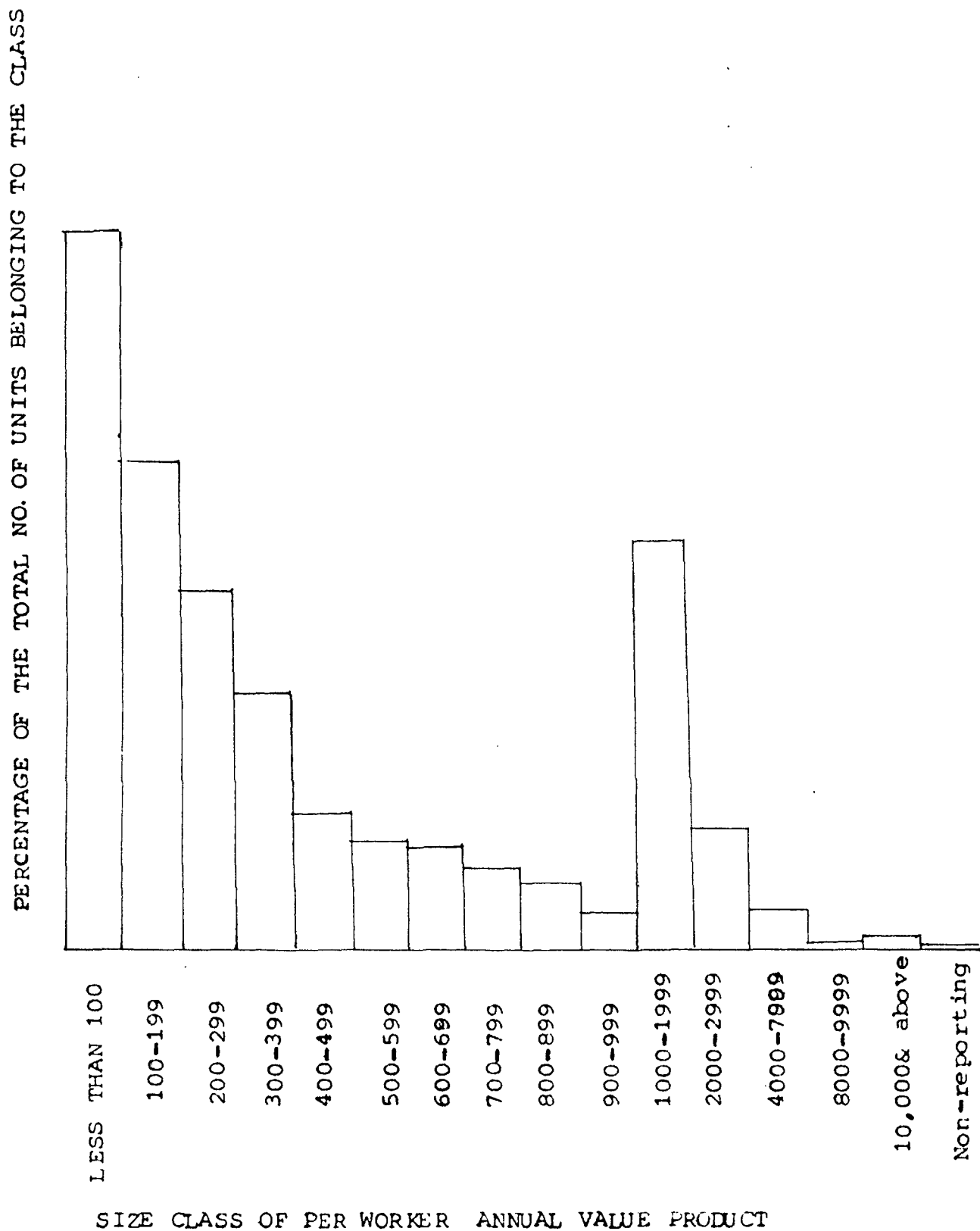
Table 5.7, Distribution Of Small Industry Units By Size Class Of Per Worker Value Product In Nadia District. 1965-66

| Size class of per worker annual value product (Repees) | Percentage of the total no. of units belonging to the class |
|--|---|
| Less than 100 | 23.49 |
| 100 - 199 | 16.87 |
| 200 - 299 | 11.73 |
| 300 - 399 | 8.90 |
| 400 - 499 | 4.67 |
| 500 - 599 | 4.26 |
| 600 - 699 | 3.90 |
| 700 - 799 | 2.86 |
| 800 - 899 | 2.39 |
| 900 - 999 | 1.40 |
| 1000 - 1999 | 13.58 |
| 2000 - 2999 | 4.04 |
| 4000 - 7999 | 1.42 |
| 8000 - 9999 | 0.10 |
| 10,000 and above | 0.36 |
| Non reporting | 0.03 |

Fig. 30. Shows the distribution of small industrial units by size class of per worker value product in Nadia.

In terms of value of goods³ produced by these units, too, the picture appears no less bleak. As many as 71.2% of the

DISTRIBUTION OF SMALL INDUSTRY UNITS BY SIZE CLASS OF
PER WORKER VALUE PRODUCT IN NADIA DISTRICT.



units were reported to have turned out in 1965-66, goods valued at less than Rs.1,000. Table 8 shows the frequency of the registered units by nature of activities.

Table 8, Industry Wise Distribution Of Small Scale Industrial Units In Nadia District Registered With The Directorate Of Cottage & Small Scale Industries And Employment Under Each Group.

1966 - 1971

| Industry Group | No. of Units | | Employment | |
|---|--------------|-----|-------------|-------|
| | 1966 - 1971 | | 1966 - 1971 | |
| 1. Food and beverages | 17 | 54 | 43 | 162 |
| 2. Textile including weaving apparels | 40 | 144 | 1105 | 13738 |
| 3. Foot wear (Except rubber) | 1 | 2 | 2 | 10 |
| 4. Wooden products (except furniture) | 1 | 15 | 5 | 210 |
| 5. Furniture | 1 | 2 | 15 | 18 |
| 6. Paper and Paper products | 1 | 2 | 40 | 54 |
| 7. Printing and allied industries | 2 | 4 | 38 | 35 |
| 8. Chemicals and chemical products | 3 | 9 | 21 | 27 |
| 9. Non Metallic products | 5 | 13 | 299 | 1300 |
| 10. Basic metal industries | 90 | 170 | 508 | 1462 |
| 11. Manufacture of metal products | 15 | 40 | 327 | 352 |
| 12. Manufacture of machinery | 3 | 14 | NA | 112 |
| 13. Manufacture of electrical machinery | 1 | 2 | 12 | 40 |

(Table 58 contd.)

| Industry Group | No. of Units | | Employment | |
|---|--------------|-----|-------------|-------|
| | 1966 - 1971 | | 1966 - 1971 | |
| 14. Manufacture and repair of transport equipment | 1 | 2 | 1 | 25 |
| 15. Manufacture and repair of watches and clocks | 1 | 1 | 10 | 8 |
| 16. Plastic product | 1 | 3 | NA | 90 |
| 17. Celluloid articles | 5 | 5 | 47 | 33 |
| 18. Others | 3 | 45 | 129 | 3331 |
| Total | 191 | 527 | 2612 | 21007 |

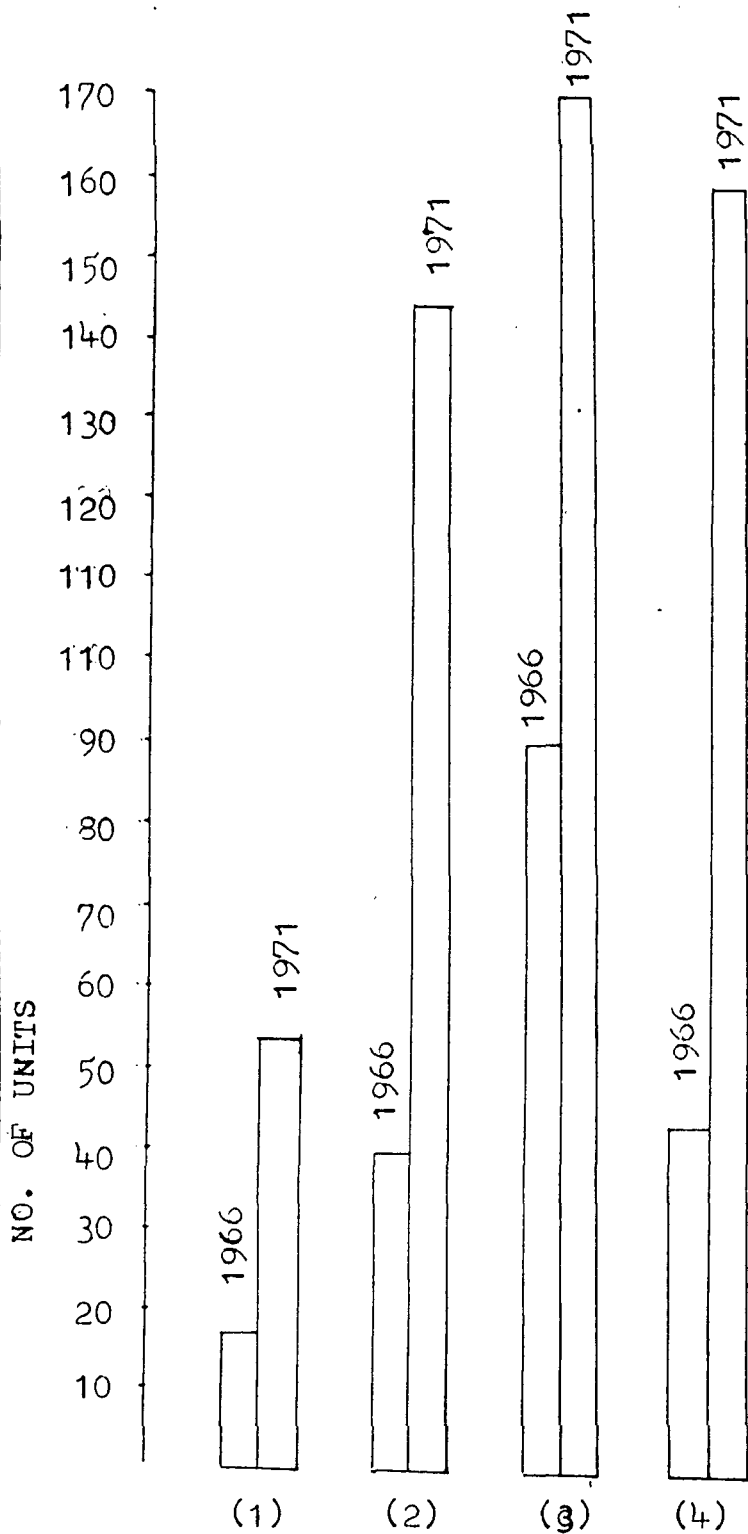
Fig. 31 Shows the Industry wise distribution of Registered units in Nadia.

Table 59 shows number of small scale industries registered with the Directorate of Cottage and Small Scale Industries corresponding employment, total investment, annual installed capacity in the district as on 31.3.78 of Nadia and West Bengal.

Table 59,

| | No. of units | Employment | Total investment ('000 Rs) | Installed capacity (Value in '000 Rs) |
|-------------|--------------|------------|--------------------------------|--|
| NADIA | 6767 | 46760 | 75993.40 | 721091.52 |
| WEST BENGAL | 106888 | 758163 | 3673551.11 | 25624570.78 |

INDUSTRY-WISE DISTRIBUTION OF REGISTERED S.S.I. UNITS
IN NADIA DISTRICTS



1 - FOOD & BEVERAGES

2 - TEXTILE INCLUDING WEAVING

3 - MISCELLANEOUS

4 - BASIC METAL INDUSTRIES

In the small scale sector a number of important units of Nadia district are concentrated in Kalyani Industrial Estate. There are 35 small scale units engaged in the manufacturing of a variety of products like bicycle, transformer, tube, rubber belt, magnetic chuck, handtools, jute pin, baby good, bucket, cranks, electrical goods, gates, bakery etc. Some of them are engaged in wire drawing, textile processing, iron casting and structural fabrication.

Beside these, Nadia is dotted with a good number of other cottage and small scale industries. A brief estimation and description of them has been studied here.

Oil crushing and Wheat Grinding.

About 800 units are engaged in oil crushing and wheat grinding in Nadia. These units are scattered all over the district. This industry gives employment to about 2400 workers and the total annual production has been estimated at Rs.2 crores.

Carpentry.

About 4000 units are engaged in the production of conventional carpentry items in the district of Nadia. This industry is scattered all over the district. The district provides employment to about 16,000 workers and the total annual production has been estimated at Rs.1.25 lakhs.

Blacksmithy.

About 1500 units are known to be engaged in manufacturing blacksmithy items in this district. Maximum concentration is found in Chakdah, Ranaghat and Krishnanagar. These units generally produce conventional types of agricultural implements and hand tools. This industry gives employment to about 4500 workers and the estimated annual production is about Rs.90 lakhs.

Powerloom.

It has been gathered that about 1400 powerlooms are running in this district under private management. Besides these there are 16 powerlooms cooperative societies also. This industry is an important one, as its products are in Krishnanagar areas. About 7000 workers are employed in this industry. The total annual production has been estimated at about Rs.40 lakhs.

Straw Cover.

In Fulia there are 2 well organised straw cover making units. These straw cover are used for packing glass bottles of various sizes. Beside these there are a large number of cottage type straw cover units scattered in Chatkatolla, Prafullanagore, Boira and Kumulia areas. There is a heavy demand for these items in West Bengal and in other state also. The wire and pharmaceutical industries are the important consumers of these items. These two units have employed about 1000 workers. Generally the women

workers are engaged in this industry in their spare items. The annual production of these units is approximately Rs.4 lakhs.

Bell Metal.

Bell metal one of the famous conventional industries of the district, is losing its importance rapidly. About 600 units are known to be struggling for existence in this industry.

Bidi Making.

There are about 6000 units engaged in bidi making in Nadia. This industry is carried on mostly on cottage scale. In this industry about 12000 workers are employed and the annual production is estimated at about Rs.3 crores.

Hosiery.

Saktigarh in Krishnagore block is famous for hosiery industry having about 75 tailoring units in and around the area engaged in making vests after procuring hosiery 'than's from Calcutta. These products are not only feeding the local markets but are also being sent outside the district. These units are known to have created a good market in Bihar State also. The total annual production of these units is estimated at about Rs.1 crore. The total number of persons engaged in this industry is about 300.

Tailoring and Readymade Garments.

About 2000 units are known to be engaged in this industry. It has been learnt that they are working well. It is mostly concentrated in Nabadwip, Ranaghat and Krishnanagar. It gives employment to about 4000 persons and the estimated annual production is about Rs.2 crores.

Ice Candy.

There are about 30 units engaged in this line of production scattered over the main towns of the district. The industry is mainly seasonal in character and it gives employment to about 210 workers. The total annual production has been estimated at about Rs.75 lakhs.

Bricks and Tiles.

About 150 units are known to be producing bricks and tiles in Nadia. The main concentrations of this industries are in Chakdah, Ranaghat and Krishnanagar areas. About 7000 workers are employed in this industry. The total annual production has been estimated at about Rs.40 lakhs.

Electrical Porcelainware

There are 8 units at Cooper's camp (Ranaghat), engaged in manufacturing electrical porcelain goods. The industry has employed 20 persons and the total annual production is estimated

at Rs.90 thousands approximately. The annual installed capacity of these units is reported to be about Rs.5 lakhs.

Soap

There are 6 units engaged in manufacturing soap in Nadia district. The industry is mainly concentrated in Ranaghat areas. The demand for soap for domestic and industrial purposes is increasing steadily. Though the demand is very high for this item in the district the major portion is supplied from Calcutta as the local products are of sub-standard quality. This industry has offered employment to about 30 persons and the annual production has been estimated at about Rs.3.6 lakhs.

Bakery and Confectionery

There are about 86 units engaged in the production of bread, biscuit, and lozenges in Nadia. The main areas of concentration are Santipur, Ranaghat, Krishnanagar, and Nabadwip. The demand is high. And the major portion of the demand is met by Calcutta market. The total production of this industry is about Rs.13 lakhs against the installed capacity of Rs.40 lakhs. About 300 people are employed.

Wall Clock

There is a well organised unit at Nabadwip producing Wall Clocks. This unit has a capacity of manufacturing wall clock worth Rs.50 thousand annually. 6 workers are employed.

Saw Mill

Within the district there are about 25 saw mills mainly concentrated in Nabadwip, Krishnanagar and Chakdah areas. This industry produces sawn timber worth about Rs.6 lakhs and employs about 90 persons.

Cycle repairing

At least 600 units are engaged in Cycle repairing job throughout the district, employing about 2000 persons. The total value of repairing services done by these units has been estimated at about Rs. 20 lakhs annually.

Tyre-retrading

It has been gathered that there are about 17 units in this line mostly concentrated in Krishnanagar, Ranaghat and Kaliganj areas.

Auto Repairing

About 50 units are engaged in the work of repairing of autos, within the district. The units are mainly concentrated in Ranaghat and Krishnanagar areas. Generally minor repairing work is undertaken by these existing units.

Existing Small Scale Units.

1. Sheet Metal Products

In the district, there are about 100 units engaged in the production of steel trunk, office furniture and agricultural implements of conventional types. This industry is mainly concentrated in Chakdah and Ranaghat and about 360 persons are employed therein.

2. Gates and Grills

There are eleven units in the line of production. These units are mainly concentrated in Ranaghat and Krishnanagar areas. Some of these units are also doing repairing job of handloom and auto parts. These units are not doing well inspite of very good demand as they are to procure raw materials from the open market at higher prices which increased the cost of production. The total annual production of these units has been estimated at about 3.1 lakhs. The total employment is about 25 persons.

Imitation Jewellery

At Nabadwip there is a well organised Imitation Jewellery units known as the Pac Cooperative Multipurpose and Industrial Society Ltd. It has given employment to about 200 persons. The annual installed capacity is about Rs.20 lakhs and the society produced goods worth about Rs.15 lakhs in 1971-72. The unit has developed extensive business throughout India.

COTTAGE INDUSTRIES

Cotton weaving (handloom)⁴

About 7000 units are engaged in cotton weaving providing employment to about 20 thousand persons. The annual production has been estimated at Rs.6.24 crores.

Among the traditional industries of Nadia weaving of the special design Santipur is famous. There are 11 weavers' cooperative societies in this area providing quality products. Nabadwip is important from the point of view of bulk production of ordinary saris. There is one large handloom weavers' Cooperative Society, having a membership of 900 weavers. The Society has got a powerloom weaving unit also and a dying house of its own. Other handloom centres in the district are Ranaghat, Chakdah and Krishnanagar. The weavers of Nadia are conscious about the changing habits of the society and keeping pace with this change. They are producing goods of various new designs using jackquard machines extensively. Besides the local market, this industry has captured the markets of other States also. Traders from different parts of India come to Nabadwip hat where huge transactions take place particularly during festive months. The main problems confronting this industry are non-availability of yarn, shortage of working capital and non-existence of a well organised system.

Pottery⁵

About 4000 units are known to be producing traditional pottery items. This industry is mainly concentrated in Chakdah, Ranaghat and Krishnanagar areas. About 12,000 workers are employed in this industry and the annual production is estimated at about Rs.80 lakhs.

Clay modelling & Doll making⁶

In Nadia district ghurni is internationally famous for clay modelling and dall making. These are about 55 units which has given employment to about 100 persons. The craftsmanship of the artists engaged in this industry is of a very high order. They use Raj Mahal clay with the local raw material for having protection in modelling. It has been repoted that they do not get Rajmahal clay regularly at reasonable price. Due to the fagility of their goods they are facing packaging problems. Although the clay models of Krishnanagar have earned worldwide reputation, the artisans have not been able to exploit the local as well as foreign markets fully due to their weak financial and organisational ability.

TABLE - 5.1 : The Manufacturing Classes and Artisans of the Nadia District in 1872.

| | | | |
|-----|----------------------|----|------|
| 1. | Skilled Indigo maker | .. | 87 |
| 2. | Stone makers | .. | 25 |
| 3. | Sawyers | .. | 202 |
| 4. | Ship Carpenters | .. | 2 |
| 5. | Cart makers | .. | 753 |
| 6. | Gunmakers | .. | 1 |
| 7. | Jewellers | .. | 14 |
| 8. | Glass makers | .. | 13 |
| 9. | Basket makers | .. | 1009 |
| 10. | Grindstone makers | .. | 53 |
| 11. | Shell | .. | 22 |
| 12. | Cotton curdera | .. | 22 |
| 13. | Jute weavers | .. | 273 |
| 14. | Dyers | .. | 8 |
| 15. | Umbrella makers | .. | 23 |
| 16. | Silk spinners | .. | 12 |
| 17. | Sugar makers | .. | 5 |
| 18. | Founders | .. | 2 |
| 19. | Carpenters | .. | 2836 |
| 20. | Palanguin builders | .. | 10 |
| 21. | Black smith | .. | 3689 |
| 22. | Copper smith | .. | 3 |
| 23. | Bell metal workers | .. | 17 |
| 24. | Watch makers | .. | 1 |
| 25. | Mat makers | .. | 1086 |
| 26. | Whip maker | .. | 70 |

| | | | |
|-----|-----------------------|----|-------|
| 27. | Hookah pipe maker | .. | 10 |
| 28. | Cavers | .. | 3 |
| 29. | Cane workers | .. | 267 |
| 30. | Cotton spinners | .. | 95 |
| 31. | Shawl menders | .. | 16 |
| 32. | Tailors | .. | 1321 |
| 33. | Gunnybag makers | .. | 274 |
| 34. | Blanket makers | .. | 51 |
| 35. | Footworkers | .. | 35 |
| 36. | Brick masons | .. | 2244 |
| 37. | Thatchers | .. | 3223 |
| 38. | Well diggers | .. | 5 |
| 39. | Boat builders | .. | 842 |
| 40. | Cutlers | .. | 11 |
| 41. | Brass workers | .. | 855 |
| 42. | Gold smith | .. | 3023 |
| 43. | Potter | .. | 4063 |
| 44. | Fan makers | .. | 4 |
| 45. | Toy makers | .. | 366 |
| 46. | Lacquered wire makers | .. | 164 |
| 47. | Gilders | .. | 19 |
| 48. | Broom makers | .. | 31 |
| 49. | Cotton weavers | .. | 13680 |
| 50. | Carpet makers | .. | 13 |
| 51. | Shoe makers | .. | 684 |
| 52. | Net makers | .. | 29 |
| 53. | Tinsmith | .. | 1 |

TABLE - 5.5 : Major Industrial Units of Nadia District, 1964.

| Industrial category | Location | Manufactured products |
|---|--------------------------------|---|
| I. TEXTILE | | |
| i) Kalyani Spinning Mill | Kalyani | Cotton yarn for handloom. |
| II. AGRO-BASED INDUSTRIES | | |
| ii) Ramnagar Cane & Sugar Factory | Palashi | White sugar & Molasses. |
| iii) Haringhata Dairy Farm | Haringhata | Milk, butter, Poultry and associated product. |
| III. ENGINEERING | | |
| iv) Sen & Pandit Industries Ltd. | Kalyani | Electronic goods, Bicycle parts, Auto cycle Assy. |
| v) Tape & Dies Factory | Krishnanagar | Machine Tools. |
| vi) Mahabir Factory | Kancharapara Development Area. | Fire-work |
| vii) Phulia Steel Metal Industries. | Phulia | Simple Agricultural implements. |
| viii) Co-operative Clock Manufacturing Society. | Nabadwip | Wall clocks |
| ix) K.M. Steel Union Pvt.Ltd. | Kalyani | Rerolling Mill. |
| x) Andrew Yule Co. | Kalyani | Industrial Fan and Tea Garden Machinery. |
| IV. FOREST BASED INDUSTRY | | |
| xi) Wood Industrial Unit | Kalyani | Processing of logs. |

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