CHAPTER VII

A FEW CASE-STUDIES

In this chapter, it is proposed to present case studies of two chambers of commerce, a trade association and an all India Federation. These case studies, it is hoped, will give necessary insight into the working of these organisations. Following four organisations have been selected for this purpose:

1. Mahratta Chamber of Commerce and Industries
2. Bombay Chamber of Commerce and Industry
3. Millowners' Association, Bombay
4. Indian Cotton Mills' Federation

7.1 Selection of Organisations for case-studies

The selection of these organisations was governed by two considerations: First, availability of detailed information and secondly reputation of these organisations in their respective spheres of work. All the four organisations mentioned above have a creditable record of good work and have been able to create impact in the respective areas of their operation.

While presenting case-studies of these organisations, a uniform method is not adopted in the case of all of them. Thus, an exhaustive descriptive account could have been given in respect of the historical growth, composition of membership and its growth, finances over a period of years,
evolution of the existing organisational set up, functions performed, important results achieved so far etc. of all these four organisations. But instead of building case studies in this uniform manner, in case of one organisation, an exhaustive account has been given while in case of others, one important aspect of such organisations, for which they are well known has been covered in depth and a brief reference is made regarding other aspects of such organisations like their historical growth, finances, organisational set up etc.

Thus an exhaustive account of Mahratta Chamber of Commerce and Industries has been given in this chapter, dealing with its origin, history, growth in membership, finances during the last two decades and more, the issues handled so far and successes achieved, its organisational set up, functions performed, composition of its membership etc. It is hoped that this case study will present in detail working of a regional chamber of commerce, its problems and the role played by such a chamber in the regional development and also in the development of trade and industry in a region.

The working of European Chamber of Commerce is different than that of the Indian Chamber of Commerce. It is felt that their method of working can be adopted by other organisations with advantage. Hence in order to throw light on their working, a case study regarding the
set up and working of Bombay Chamber of Commerce, one of the oldest and well known chambers of commerce in our country, is presented in this Chapter. While essential details regarding its historical growth, membership and finances are given in this case study in brief, the emphasis is on its working than on the other details.

The Millowners' Association, Bombay, is one of the oldest and a premier organisation of textile industry in our country. It has been doing an excellent work in protecting the interests of textile industry as well as in offering common services to the industry. The range of activities undertaken by the Association is very wide and this Association is an example as to how in a number of ways an active Association can assist its members. Therefore, the case study of this Association is built around the numerous activities conducted by the Association.

Since its inception in 1958, the Indian Cotton Mills Federation has emerged as a strong all India body of textile interests and has been instrumental in influencing country's policy regarding textile industry. It is a powerful organisation and wields considerable influences over the Indian textile industry. The case study therefore tries to describe how the ICMF has influenced policies of Central Government as regards textile industry, how a number of schemes of voluntary control have been put into practice by ICMF and how the ICMF has successfully introduced schemes
of cotton development in which the textile industry is so much interested. Here the emphasis is on narrating the influence of ICMF on policy making by Government, as also on the industry.

I. **Mahratta Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Poona**

### 7.2 Early History of the Mahratta Chamber

The Mahratta Chamber of Commerce and Industries was established on 16th March 1934 on the Varsha Pratipada (i.e. Hindu New Year Day). The idea of forming a chamber of commerce in Southern Mahratta was of Shri A.R. Bhat, the then Manager of Kesari Press in Poona. He was assisted in this task by Shri D.K. Sathe, a leading merchant from Poona, Shri K.N. Abhyankar of the Commonwealth Assurance Co., Ltd., Shri S.R. Hajguru of the Lord Reay Industrial Museum and Prof. V.G. Kale, an eminent economist. In the first general meeting a sub-committee consisting of Prof. V.G. Kale, Prof. D.R. Gadgil and Shri A.R. Bhat was formed to draft a constitution which was later adopted in the General Meeting held on 4th August 1934. This constitution has been amended from time to time but it continues till today, basis of the organisation.

Till today the Chamber has not been registered under any Act and it continues to be an unregistered association.

Before Mahratta Chamber was established in 1934, efforts were made earlier to form a chamber of commerce in Maharashtra. The Deccan Merchants' Association was
functioning since 1914 but after 1922 it ceased to function. In 1927, the Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce was established with its headquarters at Bombay. The Mahratta Chamber was formed to represent the interests of Southern Mahratta districts.

When the Chamber was formed in 1934, there were no large scale industries worth the name in Southern Maharashtra. The princely States of Kolhapur, Aundh, Sangli, Ichalkaranji and Phaltan, because of their deliberate policies to attract industries, had industrial units manufacturing cotton yarn and cloth, cotton powerlooms, agricultural plough and other implements, glass, enamel, hurricane lanterns and some other commodities. In the then British India, there were hardly any industries except a few textile mills, ayurvedic pharmacies, a rice mill manufacturing factory, a glass factory, a few non-ferrous metal establishments and some other minor industries. The textile industry suffered from depression. In the field of banking, about four banks promoted through local efforts had failed shaking confidence in the ability of Maharashtrians to manage such joint stock banks. However, in the field of life insurance, as a result of the success achieved by Western India Life Insurance Co., Ltd., Satara, new local institutions were coming out. As a result of the protection given, about five new sugar mills had just gone into production and another one was in the formative
stage. In the field of trade and commerce, there were no large commercial houses in Southern Maharashtra as were in Bombay. The trade was mostly local in character.

Thus, there was not much of an industrial or commercial development in Southern Maharashtra during 1934, when the Chamber was promoted. The promoters of the Chamber were also middle class persons without any large resources of their own. They had promoted the Chamber as a vehicle for the promotion of Swadeshi enterprise in Maharashtra and to help its development.

This had naturally put severe limitations on the finances and activities of the Chamber. In the beginning the fees for ordinary membership were only Rs. 10 and those for associate membership Rs. 3. The income of the first year was Rs. 705 and it rose to Rs. 1861 in 1940-41. In 1943-44 the income rose to Rs. 12,561. The membership during this period rose from 53 in 1934-35 to 197 in 1943-44. Because of the limited finances, the Chamber did not have rented premises to house its office, nor it had a full time staff. For the first ten years, the address of one of the honorary secretaries was given as the address of the Chamber for postal communication while the other honorary secretary did all the office work at the Kesari and Mahratta Office after office hours. All the meetings of the Committee and General Body and other functions were held in the Hall of Kesari and Mahratta Office and it
received all cooperation from this institution during initial period. The trustees of Kesari and Mahratta were also on the panel of advisors of the Chamber.

Though the Chamber had limited resources and there were not many leading members from important industry or trade, the Chamber was able to do lot of good work, thanks to the enthusiasm and hard work put by its promoters and especially its founder honorary secretary.

Since the region was industrially backward and there were very few members of the Chamber, and since even among its members there were no outstanding business magnets, the Chamber had to struggle hard to get Government recognition for the first eight years. The Chamber got itself affiliated to Indian Merchants' Chamber in 1937 and to the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry in 1939. These affiliation helped the Chamber to be in touch with the major commercial and industrial policies under the considerations of the Government.

7.3 Aims and Objects of the Chamber

The aims and objects of the Chamber as put initially in the constitution are (a) to work for commercial and industrial development and economic regeneration of Maharashtra as an integral part of India, through local initiative and efforts, (b) to help various persons and institutions in these sectors to solve their difficulties and (c) to infuse confidence in the sons of soil in the management
of modern economic and financial institutions.

Since this is a regional chamber, its membership is open to any individual, firm, company or institution carrying on commercial and industrial pursuit in Maharashtra and to any Indian national having Marathi as his mother tongue and engaged in any commercial or industrial activity in any part of India.

7.4 Work done by the Chamber

The period of 38 years of the working of the Mahratta Chamber can be divided into three broad periods:

1. From 1934 to 1945
2. From 1946 to 1959
3. From 1960 onwards

7.5 I. Period from 1934 to 1945

As has been mentioned earlier, during this period, the Chamber had very limited finances, it had no premises and no staff of its own. The Chamber was also not recognised by the Government for the first eight years. This period was therefore, a period of struggle to get recognition to the Chamber from the Government as well as from the industry and trade. But even in this period, the Chamber has to its credit significant achievements.

The most important among these is the promotion of the Bank of Maharashtra Ltd. in 1935. Because of the failure of some local banks, the confidence in the Maharashtrians to manage modern banking institutions was lost
and it was therefore, in order to revive this confidence, the Chamber promoted the Bank of Maharashtra in 1935. It made all the preliminary preparations for establishing this bank including selection of premises for the Bank, collecting share capital, selecting personnel etc. This Bank was nationalised in 1969 and is now one of the leading regional banks of our country.

The Chamber also convened about 8 conferences during the period. They were: Maratha commercial and Industrial Conference (1935), Maratha Insurance Conference (1935), Maratha Commercial Education Conference (1935), Conference of Motor Insurance (1936), Maharashtra Industrial Conference (1937), Conference to oppose super profits tax (1940), Conference on War Risks Insurance (1942), Maharashtra Food Supply Conference (1942) etc. Not only the Chamber convened these conferences, but it made special efforts to follow up implementation of the recommendations of these conferences.

The Chamber tried to organise an association of pharmaceutical manufacturers in Maharashtra, but did not succeed in doing so.

The Chamber had planned for an economic survey of Maharashtra as far back as in 1935. Late Shri M.R. Jayakar had donated Rs. 100 towards the funds to finance this survey. But it seems that subsequently the survey did not materialise. But in 1938, as a part of this general survey,
the Chamber undertook an economic survey of Purandar Taluka in Poona District. This was in the nature of a techno-economic survey and was released as a separate publication of the Chamber.

The Chamber also sent various memoranda and representations to the Government on a number of economic issues. Important among them were: Shops and Establishment Act, Insurance Act and various amendments to the Act, Report of the Select Committee on Insurance Act, Moneylenders Act, Stamp Duties Unification Bill, Octroi Levy imposed by Poona Municipal Council, Opening of Industrial Schools by the Bombay Government, Super-tax on Small Companies, Indo-Japan Trade Agreement, Import-Duty on Cocoa beans, Indo-Burma Trade Agreement, War-risk Insurance, Indian Bank Act, Commission on cheques issued by non-clearing banks, telephone rates in Poona, Price Controls on agricultural products, Representation to Southern Maharashtra on Central Sugar Committee, Suitability of Deccan for growing sugarcane, Control on newsprint imports, postwar reconstruction plan of Bombay State, International Tea Control Scheme, Fast undertaken by Mahatma Gandhi, Public Debt Bill, Rationing System in Poona, Distribution of paper manufactured in Indian mills, Difficulties of Food Control Order, Takeover of Boats running on Bombay Konkan sea route, etc. etc.

While some subjects like octroi levy by Poona Munici-
pality or difficulties of traders regarding food control order were probably proposed by some members and they were directly interested in the outcome of the representations by the Chamber, there were a large number of subjects like International Tea Control Scheme or Indo-Burma or Indo-Japan Agreement in which no member of the Chamber was probably directly interested. These general subjects have been possibly handled by the Chamber in order to prove that it is a live organisation and is also concerned with the developments in the international field. These representations were also probably useful in getting the much needed recognition to the Chamber from the Government of India as well as from the then Government of Bombay.

Apart from sending memoranda, Chamber also sent delegations to meet the officials concerned and had discussions with them on these issues. It sent a delegation to meet Shri Shahanawaz Bhutto, then Commerce Minister of Government of Bombay to discuss about the Weights and Measures Act. Another delegation was sent to appear before Motor Vehicles Insurance Committee. Yet another two delegations met Hon'ble Shri Babu Naliniranjan Sarkar, Commerce Minister of Government of India and Hon'ble Dr. B.R. Ambedkar, then Labour Minister of Government of India.

The Chamber also invited various officials for discussion and it also organised receptions to quite a few of them on special occasions.
All these efforts were directed to get a recognition to the Chamber and ultimately in 1942, the Chamber got necessary recognition from the Government. The Chamber had also asked a representation on the State Legislative Assembly from the constituency of commercial bodies. It had also pleaded for a representation on the court of the Poona University which was given to the Chamber subsequently.

Apart from these general issues, it also assisted directly some companies like Brihan Maharashtra Sugar Syndicate Ltd., the Commonwealth Assurance Company Ltd. in reorganising their setup and in collecting additional share capital.

It had also appointed a special committee to look after the industrialisation of Poona and made some efforts towards opening a Stock Exchange at Poona. It started looking after the commercial examinations of the Indian Merchants' Chamber for Poona Centre since 1937. It also recommended to the State Government for the adoption of a Marathi Shorthand writing scheme.

Thus the first ten or twelve years were devoted by the Chamber to consolidate its position and to get recognition from the Government as well as the industry and business. Considering the limited resources of finance and manpower, the work done by the Chamber in different fields is commendable.
II. Period from 1946 to 1959

During this period, the Chamber made a good progress. It appointed a full-time assistant secretary in 1946 and by 1959, Chamber had a staff of five -- an assistant secretary, an accountant, a typist and two peons. Chamber also purchased a building on Tilak Road and its offices were shifted in this building on 15th August 1947. The formal inauguration of this building took place on 24th April 1949 in the hands of Shri Shyamaprasad Mukherjee, the then Industry and Supply Minister of the Government of India.

A few new activities were also undertaken by the Chamber during this period. It initiated in 1946 an industrial merit prize scheme in the name of Late Shri G.3. Parkhe. In terms of this prize scheme, merit prizes were instituted to manufacturers in Maharashtra for their commercially successful new products. This is a unique feature of the Chamber and over a period of last 26 years, this scheme has acquired a great social prestige and as many as 70 to 80 entries are received every year from all over the Maharashtra. So far more than 120 prizes have been awarded during the last 26 years.

Since 1947, in memory of Late Shri Gurunathrao Ogale, the pioneer hurricane lantern industrialist from Maharashtra, Chamber observes Ogale Memorial Day with a lecture on current economic problem by an eminent economist, industrialist or administrator. This memorial lecture scheme
was initiated during this period.

In 1948, the Chamber published first issue of Sampada, its monthly journal in Marathi. It is now regarded as one of the leading journals in Marathi devoted to commercial, industrial and economic activities. Apart from circulating this journal among its members, the Chamber also accepts subscription from outsiders and at present there are more than 1000 subscribers to this journal.

During this period, the Chamber arranged four conferences. These were: Conference to consider Industrial Policy Resolution of Government of India (1948), Conference of Chemists and Druggists (1950), Conference to discuss the difficulties of small and medium scale industries in Maharashtra (1954), Conference of small mills producing yarn (1951), the All India Powerloom Associations Conference (1955).

The Chamber submitted in 1955 a detailed memorandum to the Maharashtra Pradesh Congress Committee on the industrial development of Maharashtra. Many of its suggestions like Aluminium Plant and a Fertiliser Factory in Southern Maharashtra were later on incorporated in the Master Plan of industrialisation of Bombay State.

The Chamber also made several suggestions to the Poona Municipal Corporation for the development of industries in Poona City. The Chamber asked for certain concessions from Poona Municipal Corporation in order to attract industries
in Hadapsar Industrial Estate, to be developed by the Poona Municipal Corporation. The Corporation accepted these suggestions and accordingly industries in this Estate were exempted from the payment of octroi duty on their import of raw materials and machinery for 12 years from 1957. This helped rapid development of this Estate.

The Chamber also pleaded for similar concessions by local bodies in order to attract industries in their jurisdiction.

The Chamber, through some of its members also made some attempts as back as in 1946 to develop industrial area near present Pimpri near Poona. This estate was to be called 'Udyogpur'. Unfortunately, because of the apathy of local bodies and the then Government, the idea had to be given up.

Immediately after the appointment of the Interim Tariff Board, the Chamber referred directly the cases of hurricane lantern industry and the cocoa powder and chocolate industry to it and succeeded in obtaining protection for these industries.

The Chamber also championed the cause of powerloom industry and took up a number of problems pertaining to this industry and succeeded in obtaining necessary relief to them. Some of these problems were: weaving of colour sarees on powerloom, price stamping, levy of excise duty, fair prices for yarn and cloth, minimum economic units in
The Chamber pleaded for giving protection to indigenous industry and for a ban on the import of oil engines and other agricultural implements, textile dyes, methylene and ink blue, lead pencils, razor blades, etc., which are manufactured indigenously. It thereby secured protection to units in those lines in Maharashtra.

The Chamber made all efforts to get included Koyna Valley Power Project in the First Five Year Plan. It sent memoranda, sent delegations to meet Planning Commission and the then Bombay Government, organised conferences and meetings and carried on propaganda towards this cause.

The other important subjects which were dealt with by the Chamber during this period were: Poona-Miraj Broadgauge railway line, need for Konkan railway, Poona-Bombay Janata Express, Third-class bogie for Deccan Queen, bridge on river Panchganga near Ichalkaranji, overbridge on the Central Railway near Shivajinagar Railway Station, nationalisation of road transport, telephone facilities in Poona City, taxation of profits of small companies at a lower rate, levy of multipoint sales tax, compounded excise levy on powerlooms, Shops and Establishment Act, Factories Act, 1948, facilities given by Deccan States to Industries, inclusion of Bombay in Samyukta Maharashtra, finance for private sector, Industrial Finance Corporation, Constitution of Poona Municipal Corporation, Industrial Policy of
Government of India, Import Policy, Food Adulteration Act, Membership of International Monetary Fund, Free trade zone in Indian Ports, devaluation of rupee, damage to industries in 1948, riots in Southern Maharashtra, professional tax of Poona District Local Board, Sugar quota for industries, Companies Act 1956, Income-tax Act, Export of cloth to Pakistan, difficulties of Pharmaceutical manufacturers, employees state insurance corporation, protection to electric motors and liquid glucose, octroi rules of Poona Municipal Corporation, Drugs Control Act, levy of import duty on the raw materials of paper mills, foreign collaborations - policy of Government of India, telephone exchange at Panvel, rules regarding company deposits, memorandum to Direct Taxes Administration Committee, air service to Poona, memorandum to Powerloom Enquiry Committee, etc. etc.

The Chamber undertook and completed a survey of industries in Poona in 1958.

The Chamber also took a lead and promoted Poona Divisional Productivity Council in 1959.

Thus the period from 1946 to 1959 was of a steady progress for the Chamber. The income of the Chamber increased from Rs. 10,472 in 1946-47 to Rs. 38,772 in 1959-60. It established an office, recruited full time staff, handled a variety of subjects and achieved quite a success in many of them. The Chamber also succeeded in securing a statutory
representation to it on Lord Reay Museum and Poona University Court and thus its struggle for recognition was almost complete.

7.7 III. The Period from 1960 onwards

In 1960, the Chamber celebrated its Silver Jubilee. In the same year the Maharashtra State was formed. The general conditions in the country during this period were very favourable for the growth of industries. Moreover, as a result of the government policy of not encouraging establishment of further industries in Bombay, many companies set up their factories in Poona and thus Poona City and the regions around got developed industrially. Thus, immediately after 1960, a large number of large scale industries were established in and around Poona and especially in Pimpri-Chinchwad industrial area. The establishment of these industries gave rise to a large number of small scale industries in and around Poona. This growth of industries helped considerably to the growth of the Chamber. Its membership increased, finances were improved, activities were expanded considerably and now it has a full fledged office of its own.

In 1959-60, membership of the Chamber was 339 and in 1970-71 it was 878. Thus the membership was more than doubled. The composition of membership also changed. Earlier the membership was mainly composed of small scale units. But now a good number of large scale units joined
membership of the Chamber. This helped in improving finances of the Chamber. In 1959-60 the income of the Chamber was Rs. 38,772. But in 1970-71, it went up to Rs. 2,05,670. In 1960, the Chamber had a staff of five while in 1970-71, it had a staff of 22. Not only the number of persons on the staff increased, but qualified staff specialised in different subjects was recruited. This helped the Chamber to improve its services.

Another landmark during this period was construction of a new modern building by the Chamber. The old building was very small for the increasing activities and therefore a new building was constructed adjacent to the existing building. The construction work was started in 1965 and in 1968, the Chamber moved in this building. It is a spacious building with an assembly hall, an air-conditioned board room, library, sufficient space for offices and with an adequate provision for expansion.

During this period the corpus of the Parkhe Industrial Merit Prize was increased from Rs. 12,500 to Rs. 50,000. A few new additional prizes were also instituted. The Chamber also arranged for giving prizes at the various examinations of Poona University.

Sampada, the Marathi monthly of the Chamber was thoroughly reorganised and instead of a house-journal, it became an independent commercial monthly in Marathi. The Chamber also started a weekly journal in English - World
of Business to disseminate commercial information to all its members.

The library of the Chamber was expanded considerably and its reference sections were uptodated.

New services for exporters, for small scale industries and on matters relating to labour matters were initiated. The Chamber organised its own 'labour advisory service' by appointing a full time expert on labour matters on its staff.

Chamber started organising training programmes for the benefit of its members.

In this way, the Chamber started operating a number of common services for its members.

During this period, the Chamber had to meet the emergency requirements of trade and industry on more than one occasion. In 1961, when as a result of the Panshet Dam disaster, a number of industries in Poona were affected, Chamber took up their cause and obtained relief for these units in respect of their damaged machinery, raw materials - imported and indigenous, finance, industrial sheds etc. The Chamber worked in close collaboration with the authorities of the State Government and succeeded in obtaining necessary relief to such units. It also collected a flood relief fund and in collaboration with other chambers of commerce promoted Maharashtra Commerce and Industries Rehabilitation Society. Through this Society, Chamber
arranged for bank guarantees and loans worth Rs. 53 lakhs were distributed to the flood affected industrial and trading units.

During national emergency in 1965 and in 1971, Chamber arranged for training classes in civil defence for its members, constituted price vigilence committees, published and circulated publications regarding air raid precautions, collected funds for the relief of Jawans, encouraged industries in national savings etc. etc.

Thus during such emergencies, Chamber has proved to be a very responsive organisation and has acted well to respond to the new tasks assigned to it.

During this period, the Chamber made continuous efforts to improve the infra-structure facilities in and around Poona such as telephones, railways, water-supply, roads, electricity, security etc. It constituted a separate sub-committee for Pimpri-Chinchwad area and by representing these matters, by meeting officials and by discussing with them Chamber was able to solve a number of such problems. Chamber arranges periodical meetings with all the officers concerning different departments and emphasises on them the need for improvements in the present infrastructural facilities. This has worked well though some problems as yet defy a solution. Only recently the Chamber succeeded in obtaining the facility of equitable mortgage and adhesive stamps at Poona.
The Chamber, instead of only sending representations, has on some occasions accepted a direct responsibility of meeting the new needs. For instance in 1962 when there was a shortage of beehive and hard coke, the Chamber assumed a direct responsibility of operating a coal and coke dump at Poona for distributing the same among the foundries in Poona, Sholapur and Ahmednagar. This dump was operated by the Chamber for more than five years till the conditions eased.

During this period the Chamber submitted a detailed scheme for establishing a functional electronic industrial estate near Poona to the State Government. The Government accepted this scheme and the Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation developed such an estate in its Bhosari Industrial Area near Poona.

The Chamber submitted a detailed memorandum on Gadgil Committee Report on the regional planning of Poona. This aroused a lot of controversy on the details of regional planning. The Chamber was subsequently closely associated with the deliberations of the Poona Regional Metropolitan Planning Board and played a useful role in chalking out a regional development plan for the Poona metropolitan region.

In 1970 Chamber arranged a charter flight to Japan, Hongkong and Bangkok to visit Expo 70 Exhibition. About 142 members joined this tour. This Chamber was the first to arrange such a charter which was subsequently followed by others.
During this period, Chamber also organised various meetings of its members at Kolhapur, Ichalkaranji, Aurangabad, Sholapur and Ahmednagar in order to know their problems.

It started offering secretarial services to various other organisations like Poona Divisional Productivity Council, Indian Diesel Engine Manufacturers' Association, Poona Chapter of Institute of Chartered Accountants etc.

The Chamber continued to send memoranda to the authorities on the various subjects. It also met these authorities in a delegation, invited them for a discussion at the Chamber and thus undertook a follow-up of these representations. Among the important subjects handled by the Chamber during this period were: excise collectorate in Poona, assessment of capacity of foundries in Kolhapur, overbridge at Hadapsar level crossing, shortage of pig iron, unauthorised construction in Pimpri area, octroi exemption for industries on Nagar Road, explosion in Ganeshkhind power supply, take over of Poona Electric Supply Co., engineering wage board, cost of living index for Poona, QTS railway service from Poona, octroi levy of Poona Municipal Corporation, abolition of octroi duty, nonferrous metal control order, air service between Poona, Bombay and Bangalore, civil aerodrome at Poona, foreign collaboration, stock exchange at Poona, railway siding at Hadapsar, difficulties pertaining to Boilers Act, repair of Bombay-Poona road, unauthorised powerlooms,
amendments to Sales Tax Act, restrictions on advertise-
ment expenses by Income-tax amendment, Poona-Ichalkaranji
Express Bus service, Restrictions of RBI on acceptance of
deposits by companies, air-service to Kolhapur, memorandum
to National Commission on Labour, excise duty on steel
furniture, tiles, motor vehicle parts, aluminium extrusions
etc., railway claims, electricity cut, payment of Govern-
ment dues through all branches of State Bank of India,
self removal procedure of central excise, memorandum on
Central Excise Bill 1969 and on Taxation Amendment Bill
1969, levy of passenger tax on company transport, sales tax
on agarbattis, steel trunks, perfumes, etc. memorandum on
Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, Credit
Policy of RBI, multi-storied industrial estate for electronic
industrial units in Poona etc. etc.

Thus during the period after 1960, the Chamber made a
rapid progress on all fronts. Its membership increased,
finances improved, there was considerable addition to the
staff, new building was constructed and substantial additions
were made to the services provided to the members.

Thus this is the story of growth of a regional chamber.
The first few years were spent by the chamber in struggling
for getting recognition. Thereafter a steady progress was
registered and the regional development has really helped
the Chamber to record a rapid growth.
7.8 Growth in Membership and Finance

Table 7.1 gives details of the growth of membership, income and expenditure of the Chamber from 1934-35 to 1971-72. In the first year of the inception of the Chamber, its membership was 53 and now it is 878 in 1971-72. Till 1948-49, the membership has gone up and during that year it was 522. Thereafter it started falling and reached a low figure of 219 in 1957-58. Thereafter there is a steady growth in membership of the Chamber. During the period from 1946 to 1949, the membership of the Chamber grew because of large new membership from the trading community. During this period, the Chamber had organised a very big campaign against the introduction of Sales Tax Act in Bombay State. It sent memoranda, delegations and organised mass-meetings against the proposed Act. Since the trading community was deeply concerned with the outcome of these efforts, many wholesale and retail traders accepted membership of the Chamber in large numbers during this period. All this membership did not continue in subsequent years and therefore there is a steep fall in the membership in the years thereafter. On income side, there is a steady growth of income during all these years except some small ups and downs during individual years. The accounts of the Chamber have been managed prudently all these years. Though the income of the Chamber was small, most of the years show a surplus except for two years in 1945-46 and
Table 7.1. Membership, Total Income and Expenditure of Mahratta Chamber of Commerce and Industries from 1934-35 to 1971-72

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<th>Expenditure</th>
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<td>1948-49</td>
<td>522</td>
<td>16,589</td>
<td>16,096</td>
<td>493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1949-50</td>
<td>396</td>
<td>13,271</td>
<td>15,132</td>
<td>-1,861</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1950-51</td>
<td>259</td>
<td>20,858</td>
<td>17,534</td>
<td>3,324</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951-52</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>22,772</td>
<td>20,600</td>
<td>2,172</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1952-53</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>21,707</td>
<td>20,832</td>
<td>865</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1953-54</td>
<td>220</td>
<td>21,062</td>
<td>19,281</td>
<td>1,781</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1954-55</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>22,111</td>
<td>21,745</td>
<td>366</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1955-56</td>
<td>231</td>
<td>22,696</td>
<td>22,437</td>
<td>259</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956-57</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>23,607</td>
<td>23,539</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1957-58</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>24,412</td>
<td>24,354</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1958-59</td>
<td>266</td>
<td>32,283</td>
<td>31,750</td>
<td>533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1959-60</td>
<td>339</td>
<td>36,772</td>
<td>38,493</td>
<td>279</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1960-61</td>
<td>701</td>
<td>59,110</td>
<td>58,721</td>
<td>389</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961-62</td>
<td>838</td>
<td>78,249</td>
<td>78,108</td>
<td>141</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1962-63</td>
<td>676</td>
<td>1,02,250</td>
<td>76,053</td>
<td>26,197</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1963-64</td>
<td>652</td>
<td>1,76,941</td>
<td>1,60,957</td>
<td>15,984</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964-65</td>
<td>691</td>
<td>1,50,574</td>
<td>1,49,107</td>
<td>1,467</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965-66</td>
<td>686</td>
<td>1,82,711</td>
<td>1,78,422</td>
<td>4,289</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966-67</td>
<td>802</td>
<td>1,70,003</td>
<td>1,68,193</td>
<td>1,810</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967-68</td>
<td>777</td>
<td>1,26,606</td>
<td>1,25,833</td>
<td>733</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968-69</td>
<td>838</td>
<td>1,50,703</td>
<td>1,49,989</td>
<td>714</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969-70</td>
<td>827</td>
<td>2,66,544</td>
<td>2,37,445</td>
<td>29,129</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970-71</td>
<td>878</td>
<td>2,05,670</td>
<td>1,96,670</td>
<td>9,486</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971-72</td>
<td>907</td>
<td>3,00,227</td>
<td>3,39,664</td>
<td>-39,437</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1949-50. It is only in 1971-72 that it has incurred heavy deficit as the Chamber had to pay arrears of municipal taxes for the past four years. The main sources of finance of the Chamber are membership subscriptions, executive committee subscriptions, fees from secretarial services, fees from labour advisory service and advertisement revenue. More than 60% of its income is from membership subscription. The items on expenditure side are mainly of administrative nature.

This growth in membership and finance of the Chamber is also presented in a graph on the next page.

7.9 Composition of Membership

Table 7.2 shows the composition of membership of the Chamber. The membership of the Chamber is composed of manufacturers, traders, banks and insurance companies, professional consultants, transport operators, institutions and associations and other services like hotels, restaurants, dry cleaners etc. Their further detailed breakup is shown in Table 7.3.

Table 7.2. Composition of Membership of Mahratta Chamber (1971-72)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category of Members</th>
<th>Total No.</th>
<th>% to total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Manufacturers</td>
<td>665</td>
<td>73.32</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Merchants and Dealers</td>
<td>91</td>
<td>10.03</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Banking and Insurance</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>2.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Professional Services</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>7.72</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Institutions and Associations</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>2.44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Transport</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>0.88</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Miscellaneous</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>3.41</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>907</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Membership, Income, and Expenditure of Mahavta Chamber.

Membership ——— Income ——— Expenditure

Scale
- x axis: 1 cm = 2 years
- y axis: 1 cm = 50 Members
= Rs. 12,000
Table 7.3. Composition of Membership of Mahratta Chamber of Commerce and Industry in detail (1971-72)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>I. Manufacturers of</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Adhesives</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Agricultural Implements</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Agricultural Products</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Art Silk Textiles</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Ball and Roller Bearing</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Battery</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Bidi</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Biological Products</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Confectionary</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Brass and Copper Articles</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Domestic Utensils</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Ceramic Products</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Chemicals of all type</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Cosmetics</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15. Cylindrical liners</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16. Chalk Sticks</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17. Cutlery</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18. Diesel Engines and Spares</td>
<td>37</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19. Dyestuffs</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20. Electrical Appliances and Accessories</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21. Electric Fans</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22. Electric Motors</td>
<td>19</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23. Electrodes</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>24. Explosives</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25. Wires and Cables</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26. Wires and Cables</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27. Castings (Foundry)</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continued/...
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Quantity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>28</td>
<td>Furniture</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>29</td>
<td>Glass and glassware</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30</td>
<td>Hosiery</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>31</td>
<td>Scientific Instruments</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>32</td>
<td>Laminated boards</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>33</td>
<td>Machine tools</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>34</td>
<td>All types of machinery</td>
<td>27</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>35</td>
<td>Manure and Manure mixtures</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>36</td>
<td>Taxi Meters</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>37</td>
<td>Nuts and Bolts</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>38</td>
<td>Non-ferrous rolling mill</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>39</td>
<td>Fabricators</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40</td>
<td>Engineering workshops</td>
<td>57</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>41</td>
<td>Oil Mills</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>42</td>
<td>Packing Material</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>43</td>
<td>Paints and Varnishes</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>44</td>
<td>Paper and Board</td>
<td>13</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>45</td>
<td>Pencils</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>46</td>
<td>Perfumery, Jarda and Agarbattis</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>47</td>
<td>Pharmaceuticals</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>48</td>
<td>Stoves</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>49</td>
<td>Pipes</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50</td>
<td>Plastic goods</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>51</td>
<td>Powerloom textiles</td>
<td>47</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>52</td>
<td>Pumps</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>53</td>
<td>Rubber goods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>54</td>
<td>Sanitary towels</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Snuff</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Soaps</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Sports goods</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>58</td>
<td>Stationery Material</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>59</td>
<td>Steel Furniture</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Stencils</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>61</td>
<td>Sugar Factories</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continued/..
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>62.</td>
<td>Tanneries</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>63.</td>
<td>Textile equipment</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>64.</td>
<td>Textile spinning</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>65.</td>
<td>Tiles</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>66.</td>
<td>Vacuum Flasks</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>67.</td>
<td>Printing Presses</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>665</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

II. Wholesale Merchants and Dealers in

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Books</td>
<td>6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Building Material</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Coal and Coke</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Chemists and Druggists</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>Distributors</td>
<td>11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>Exporters</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>Foodgrains</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>General Hardware</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>Machinery</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>General Merchants</td>
<td>21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>Stationery Dealers</td>
<td>4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>Sanitarywares and Shahabad Stones</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>Watch-dealers</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>Automobile-dealers</td>
<td>9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>Seeds</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>91</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

III. Banking and Insurance

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Banks</td>
<td>18</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Gen. Insurance Companies</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>20</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

IV. Professional Services

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number</th>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Count</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Advertising Agencies</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Chartered Accountants</td>
<td>20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Clearing Agents</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>Management Consultants</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Architects and Interior Decorators</td>
<td>6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. House Agents</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Photographers</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Structural Engineers</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Taxation Consultants</td>
<td>4</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Gold Smiths</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

V. Institutions and Associations

1. Educational and Research Institutions | 10 |
2. Associations | 12 |

VI. Transport

1. Railways | 2 |
2. Transport Operators | 6 |

VII. Miscellaneous

1. Flour Mills | 4 |
2. Film Production | 2 |
3. Mines | 3 |
4. Electrical and Building Contractors | 12 |
5. Drycleaners | 3 |
6. Hotels and Restaurants | 7 |

| 7 | 31 |
From among the total 907 members, 665 or about 73.32% are manufacturers. They are roughly engaged in 68 types of manufacturing lines. Among them engineering workshops (57) and powerloom textiles (47) are in large number (see Table 7.3). Next group comes that of merchants and dealers which are 91 or 10.03% of the total membership. Banks and insurance companies form 2.20%, professional services form 7.72% and institutions and associations form 2.44% of the membership.

From among these 907 members, 207 are joint stock companies and rest are either proprietary or partnership concerns. Educational institutions or Associations are of course registered under separate Acts. This indicates that a majority of the membership of the Chamber is essentially of small organisations. This is in contrast to the membership of the Bombay Chamber which has more than 97% of its membership of joint stock companies.

Table 7.4 gives regionwise breakup of the membership of the Chamber. The majority of membership of the Chamber comes from Poona, Bombay, Kolhapur, Satara, Sangli, Sholapur, and Ahmednagar. Then there are members from different districts of Maharashtra as also from different cities outside Maharashtra like Belgaum, Calcutta, Delhi, Baroda, Secunderabad, etc. But their number is very nominal. Thus the membership of the Chamber is essentially restricted to the districts in Poona Division and Greater
Bombay. Even among these districts, most of its membership, 73% of total membership, is concentrated in Poona District.

Geographical proximity is the principal reason in this pattern of membership. Members from Poona can take advantage of the Chamber and they can also participate more effectively in the activities of the Chamber. Hence there is a large number of membership from Poona area. Districts in Poona Division are connected to Poona more intimately than other places and hence there is more number of members from this region.

The members of the Chamber not only come from private businesses and industry but many public sector undertakings and government organisations, local bodies are its members. Thus public sector companies like Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd., Maharashtra Small Scale Industries Development Corporation, Ltd., Western Maharashtra Development Corporation, Ltd., SICOM, etc. are its members. Government owned organisations like Central Railway, South Central Railway, Nationalised Banks are its members. Local bodies like Poona Municipal Corporation are its members. There are also a large number of educational institutions and research organisations in its membership.

7.10 Constitution of the Chamber

As is said earlier, the Chamber is not registered under any act and it continues to be an unregistered
association. However, a separate holding trust in the name of 'Mahratta Chamber of Commerce and Industries Fund Trust' has been created and this Trust holds all the properties of the Chamber.

The constitution of the Chamber was adopted in 1935 and since then to suit the changing circumstances, it has been amended from time to time. The provisions of the present constitution are as follows:

The aims and objects of the Chamber are to work for the commercial and industrial development and economic regeneration of Maharashtra, to help various persons and institutions in these sectors to solve their difficulties, to encourage and promote friendly feelings and unanimity among businessmen and industrialists in the general interest of Maharashtra and country, to collect and circulate information on all matters of general and commercial interests and to communicate with Government and other public authorities, with similar associations and public bodies in other places on all matters of general mercantile and industrial interests.

Any individual, firm, company and institution carrying on any commercial and industrial pursuit in Maharashtra or any Indian national having Marathi as his mothertongue and engaged in any commercial pursuit can become a member of the Chamber.

The schedule of the annual subscription of the
Chamber is presented in Table 7.5. The subscription varies from Rs. 60 to Rs. 1000. In the case of joint stock companies subscription is based on the subscribed share capital and varies from Rs. 150 to Rs. 1000. In the case of other members a distinction is made between members residing in Poona-Bombay areas and those residing in mofussil areas. Members from mofussil areas are charged only Rs. 60 as membership fees while in the case of members from Poona and Bombay, these fees vary from Rs. 75 to Rs. 200 depending upon the number of workers employed by them.

There are also other categories of permanent membership such as Patron, Benefactor and Life members. Subscriptions in this category are to be paid only once in lump sum and these amounts vary from Rs. 1500 to Rs. 5000.

All the members of the Chamber paying subscription in time i.e. before 15 days after completing the financial year are eligible to vote at the elections. Those who are eligible for voting in this manner for a continuous period of 3 years are eligible to contest elections to the Executive Committee.

The Executive Committee of the Chamber consists of 55 members, out of which 28 are elected and 27 are coopted. Every year the committee is elected by the general body and the elected members of the committee coopt members on the committee. There are 8 office bearers of the Chamber.
viz. one President, four Vice-Presidents, one Treasurer and two honorary secretaries and they are also elected\(^1\) annually along with 20 members of the committee. All members of the committee are required to pay Rs. 300 per year as the Committee Membership Fees.

The Executive Committee meets once in a month normally on the second Tuesday of every month and it deliberates on the policy matters of the Chamber as well as it looks after the day to day administration of the Chamber. It also appoints special sub-committees from time to time to look after particular subjects or to prepare memoranda or appear before any Government Committees etc. The committee also elects representatives to work on different committees and advisory bodies of Government or Semi-Government organisations. The trustees are also elected by the committee and they look after the properties of the Chamber.

7.11 Services rendered by the Chamber

The Chamber renders following services to its members:

(a) A store house of information

The Chamber itself all through its long and eventful career has become a storehouse of information. Through its

\(^1\) Though very detailed provisions regarding the procedure of elections are laid down in the constitution of the Chamber, so far during the last 37 years, elections are not held at all and there was no contest for seats on Executive Committee.
weekly journal 'World of Business' it informs all its members regarding the public notices and gazetteer notifications of the Government regarding sales tax, income-tax, import, export, excise, company law, customs, etc. It also answers everyday numerous inquiries from members on these subjects.

(b) **Sampada - a monthly journal**

The Chamber publishes every month a Marathi journal - **Sampada** - which is devoted to commerce and industry. It carries important articles on subjects relating to economics, business and industry. Apart from circulation among members, Chamber also enrols regular subscribers to this journal.

(c) **Labour Advisory Services**

The Chamber has a full time labour specialist on its staff and it accepts companies on retainer's basis for labour advice. Apart from looking after day to day problems of such companies, it carries on negotiations with the unions and appears before conciliation as well as before Tribunal on behalf of such members. The members are not charged for general advice on labour matters, but those who would like to take advantage on continuous basis on their individual problems have to pay special retainers fees. These fees vary from Rs. 150 to Rs. 300 per month. This service has been very popular and at present there are 15 members on retainer's basis.
(d) **Small Scale Industries Wing**

The Chamber has a small scale industries wing which looks after the problems of small scale industries in this region. It has its separate Executive Committee and Chairman. It meets periodically, reviews problems before SSI units in the region, makes representations to the authorities concerned and invites them for discussion.

(e) **Export Wing**

The Chamber has organised a separate export wing for offering services to exporters. This wing gives information to the exporters regarding the procedures and formalities to be observed, market conditions abroad, banking and finance facilities, publicity, shipping, insurance etc. It maintains a library of export literature and books on international marketing and conducts training programmes, organises seminars, lectures, discussions, etc.

(f) **Library**

The Chamber has well stocked library of books and journals on commerce, finance, taxation, labour, planning etc. It has a fairly large stock of commercial directories of manufacturers in India and abroad. It has also all ISI specifications, statistical publications, government reports, balance sheets of important joint stock companies, copies of wage agreements etc. etc.

(g) **Certificates of Origin**

The Chamber issues certificates of origin, certificates
invoices of the exporters and issues certificates regarding prices etc.

(h) Translation Service

The Chamber offers for the benefit of its members and more especially for its exporter members translation services in German, French, Spanish and Japanese languages.

(i) Training Programmes

The Chamber organises short duration training programmes for the benefit of its members on export marketing, sales tax, labour laws, procedures for small scale units, import licensing etc. These programmes have been popular with the members.

(j) Memoranda

The Chamber from time to time sends memoranda and representations to the various government authorities on various acts, legal amendments, government notifications or on the problems referred to by members. This is by far the most important activity of the Chamber. An attempt has been made to list all important memoranda sent by the Chamber during the last 37 years and this list is appended to this chapter. (Appendix I) From this one will note a large variety of subjects handled even by a small regional chamber like the Mahratta Chamber. Apart from problems concerning industries, even political and social questions like liberation of Goa, inclusion of Bombay City in Maharashtra or renovation of Shanwarwada have been handled by the Chamber.
(k) **Discussions with officials**

The Chamber periodically invites officials from the various departments of State and Central Governments and other semi-government agencies and members are given an opportunity to discuss with them their individual or collective problems. This has helped considerably in solving many a problem and difficulties of the members to their satisfaction.

(l) **Secretarial services**

The Chamber offers secretarial services to Poona Divisional Productivity Council and Indian Diesel Engine Manufacturers' Association. It also offers facilities for organising meetings to many associations like Poona Management Association, Forum of Free Enterprise, Poona Chapter of Institute of Chartered Accountants, Forum of Industrial Technologists, etc.

(m) **Special Activities**

The Chamber awards industrial merit prizes every year to the new products which are commercially successful. Apart from prizes under G.S. Parkhe Industrial Merit Prize Scheme to which a mention has been made earlier, the Chamber awards four more prizes every year.

The Chamber has also instituted prizes at the Poona University and prizes are awarded to the students standing first in the examination for B.E. (Electrical), Diploma in Journalism, Degree in Business Management, etc.
Every year, on 16th October, Chamber arranges a memorial lecture in memory of Late Shri Gurunathrao Ogale.

(n) Collection of Statistics

The Chamber undertakes compilation of statistics on the request of the members. These statistics are mainly compiled from the various government publications.

In 1971, the Chamber made a successful attempt to collect original statistics of industries in Poona. Information regarding employment, production, investment etc. in respect of 1400 industrial units in Poona has been collected for the first time by the Chamber and is published in the form of a Commercial and Industrial Directory of Poona. This is a good work and has been appreciated by all concerned. It is proposed to undertake collection of this information every three years so that the statistical information of Poona industries will be available on a continuous basis.

(o) Other Miscellaneous Activities

Apart from the major activities which have been mentioned above, the Chamber also undertakes numerous other activities. It runs an employment service for assisting suitable candidates in finding employment, it runs vacation employment scheme for getting experience to teachers and students in commerce and engineering subjects, it gives trade introductions to the members, organises conferences,
lectures and seminars, undertakes publications, arranges study tours in India and abroad for its members and so on. The chamber has representations on about 22 public bodies (list is reproduced in Appendix II) and various issues are taken up by the Chamber through its representatives on these bodies.

(p) **New Activities**

Chamber now proposes to start a few new services for the benefit of its members. It has applied for permission to operate group-telex service for the benefit of its members. It proposes to install a document copying machine for undertaking copying work of its members. It has also plans to operate an excise advisory service on the lines of labour advisory service. It has also plans for building an elaborate commercial information centre and trade library at Poona. The Chamber has also planned an ambitious multistoried industrial estate for electronic manufacturers of Poona. This estate proposes to accommodate about 60 small scale electronic units in Poona.

This list only indicates the varied nature of the activities of a regional Chamber of Commerce and the role that a Chamber plays in helping to crystallise and activise the forces of socio-economic growth and development.

7.12 **Conclusion**

The case study of Mahratta Chamber presents the story of growth of a regional Chamber of Commerce. The develop-
ment of business associations is directly related to the
growth of particular industries or commercial or indus-
trial development in a region. The industrial development
of Poona region has helped this Chamber to grow and that
is why within the past decade the Chamber has registered
a rapid growth in its membership, activities and income.

Being a regional chamber, there are certain advantages
as well as disadvantages. Though these Chambers can take
up issues of all India importance as affecting trade and
industry with the Government of India, sometimes they are
not very effective in handling such problems. They
naturally seek assistance of all India bodies like FICCI
or ASSOCHAM. But in case of regional problems or problems
pertaining to the State, these Chambers can be really
effective and can produce good results. The work done
for improving infrastructure facilities in Poona region by
Mahratta Chamber is a case in point. By following these
matters persistently, by meeting the officials and by
discussing these matters with the concerned departments, the
Chamber has been able to improve these facilities.

Sometimes the disadvantage of a regional Chamber
is language. If more and more members from small scale
sector and from mofussil areas join the Chamber this
problem of communication in the local language becomes a
problem as many of them do not understand communications
sent in English language. Translation of Government
notifications and public notices in regional languages is not possible as questions relating to their interpretation would crop up. Moreover, there is a large sector which demands all communications in English only. The Mahratta Chamber has struck a via media by publishing two journals - one in Marathi and another one in English. Many regional Chambers in our country have to do so.

The analysis of the composition of membership would indicate that the membership of Mahratta Chamber is broad-based and most economic groups in the region are reflected therein. This is a source of strength as well as weakness. The Chamber represents most economic groups in the region and it can speak on behalf of them. No doubt this is a source of strength. But this sort of composite membership does not enable a Chamber to specialise in the problems of any particular industry. It has to handle these problems ad hoc as they come. Sometimes there are conflicting interests in the membership itself. For instance, on many issues regarding textile industry, powerloom sector and mill sector are sharply divided. Again regarding reservation of particular items for small scale sector, sometimes large scale units and small scale units in the same industry have diametrically opposite views. The Chamber of Commerce, which has composite membership has to reconcile these views without bringing their differences in the open. Sometimes it is pretty difficult and a Chamber just cannot take any
stand on such issues.

Small Chambers like Mahratta Chamber naturally have a large membership of the small scale units, and therefore, its schedule of subscription has to be devised in such a way that the small units can afford the membership fees. This naturally puts limitations on the resources of such Chambers.

Because of such limited resources, finances has been a great limiting factor in undertaking many activities by the Mahratta Chamber. It has tried to raise resources by undertaking quite a few new activities but this process has recently begun. Unless these specific services are increased considerably and more income is generated from these activities, adequate finances will not be available for the Chamber. One good thing is that the Chamber is looking for such new activities and is prepared to explore some unorthodox areas for this purpose.

The activities of a Chamber of Commerce depend upon the persons who take lead in its activities. Fortunately, the persons who promoted Mahratta Chamber were all public spirited persons interested in the economic development of Maharashtra and that is why in the early years of the Chamber, when, the Chamber did not have adequate resources many important activities have been carried out. This tradition of service is reflected in many promotional activities undertaken by the Chamber such as promotion of the Bank of Maharashtra, Poona Productivity Council,
electronic estate, instituting of industrial merit prize scheme etc. Some activities like the prize scheme are unique and no other Chamber has launched such a scheme in our country.

Thus the story of this Chamber illustrates the growth of a regional Chamber, role played by it in the regional development, its problems and its limitation.
Table 7.4: Regionwise breakup of Membership of the Mahratta Chamber of Commerce and Industry

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>District</th>
<th>Members</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Poona District</td>
<td>666</td>
<td>73.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greater Bombay</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>4.63</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolhapur District</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>8.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Satara District</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1.21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sangli District</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>2.86</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sholapur District</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>1.76</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nasik District</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ahmednagar District</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>2.12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kolaba District</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>0.46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thana District</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aurangabad District</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0.66</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nagpur District</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0.33</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nanded District</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Amraoti</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gondia</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ratnagiri</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jalgaon</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morvi</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baroda</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harihar</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bijapur</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgaum</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>0.99</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goa</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>0.22</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secunderabad</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcutta</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New Delhi</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>0.11</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Total: 907
Table 7.5. Schedule of Membership Subscription of the Mahratta Chamber of Commerce and Industries

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Annual subscription</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. For individuals residing within the limits of either Bombay City, Bombay Suburban Dist., Poona or Poona District</td>
<td>Rs. 100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. For Firms and Institutions having headquarters within the limits of Bombay City, Bombay Suburban Dist., Poona or Poona District:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(i) Commercial Establishments</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(ii) Manufacturing Units employing upto 10 workers</td>
<td>75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iii) Manufacturing Units employing 11 to 20 workers</td>
<td>100</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(iv) Manufacturing Units employing 21 to 100 workers</td>
<td>150</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(v) Manufacturing units employing 101 or more workers</td>
<td>250</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. For individuals, commercial establishments, firms and institutions whose residence or headquarters are not within the limits of Bombay City, Bombay Suburban District, Poona or Poona District</td>
<td>Rs. 60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. For Joint Stock and other Limited Companies:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(1) Upto Rs. one lac</td>
<td>125</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(2) Over Rs. one lac to two lacs</td>
<td>175</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(3) Over Rs. two lacs to Rs. three lacs</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(4) Over Rs. three lacs to Rs. five lacs</td>
<td>225</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(5) Over Rs. five lacs to Rs. seven and half lacs</td>
<td>275</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(6) Over Rs. seven and half lacs to Rs. ten lacs</td>
<td>350</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Continued/...
Table 7.5. Contd.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Annual Subscription</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(7) Over Rs. ten to twelve and half lacs</td>
<td>Rs. 425</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(8) Over Rs. twelve and half lacs to Rs. fifteen lacs</td>
<td>Rs. 500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(9) Over Rs. fifteen lacs to Rs. twenty lacs</td>
<td>Rs. 600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(10) Over Rs. twenty lacs to Rs. fifty lacs</td>
<td>Rs. 750</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(11) Over Rs. fifty lacs</td>
<td>Rs. 1000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Members of this category shall pay annual subscription as per above schedule at the rate applicable to the subscribed capital shown in the previous year's Balance Sheet from time to time subject to a maximum of Rs. 1000/-.

Exception:— The Branch Offices of the Companies registered under the Banking Companies Act and having their Head Office situated beyond the limits of the Poona Municipal Corporation, shall pay their annual subscription as per above schedule subject to maximum of Rs. 300/- only.

5. For Companies registered under the Indian Companies Act, Insurance Act, Banking Companies Act, Societies Registration Act and Public Trust and/or any other similar status but having no share capital

6. For Associations

7. For Educational Institutions

8. For Government, semi-Government, Local Authority Departments or Bodies or Institutions

Other Classes of Members

1. Patron:— Any individual can enlist as a Patron Member by paying Rs. 5,000/- in a lump sum or in two equal instalments within a year.

2. Benefactor:— Any individual can enlist as a Benefactor Member by paying Rs. 3,000/- in a lump sum or in two equal instalments within a year.

3. Life Member:— Any individual can enlist as a Life Member by paying Rs. 1,500/- in a lump sum or in two equal instalments within a year.
II. Bombay Chamber of Commerce and Industry

The Bombay Chamber of Commerce, as it was then called, was established in 1836, as an unregistered association under the auspices of Sir Robert Grant, who was then the Governor of Bombay Presidency. Mr. John Skinner was the Founder and first Chairman of the Chamber. In 1924, the Chamber was incorporated under the Indian Companies Act, 1913, as a company limited by guarantee and in 1956 the Chamber's name was changed to the 'Bombay Chamber of Commerce and Industry'. This is the oldest Chamber of Commerce in the State of Maharashtra and the second Chamber - first being Bengal Chamber - to be established in our country.

7.13 Aims and Objects

The aims and objects of the Chamber are to encourage and promote a friendly feeling and unanimity among businessmen and industrialists in the general interest of the State and the country, to collect and circulate information on all matters of general commercial and industrial interests, to obtain the removal, as far as such a society can, of all acknowledged grievances affecting mercantile and industrial interests, to receive and decide references on matters of usage and custom in dispute, to communicate with Government and other public authorities, with similar associations in other places and with individuals on all subjects of general mercantile and industrial interest,
and to arbitrate between parties willing to refer to, and abide by, the decision of the chamber.

7.14 Past History

The Bombay Chamber was one of the organisations promoted by the then British traders in order to protect their interests. The Chamber, right from the beginning had a direct access to Government of India and great importance was attached to its representations. It was given representation on Bombay Port Trust, Bombay Municipal Corporation and by the Indian Councils Act, 1892, the Chamber was given a seat on the Legislative Council which right the Chamber enjoyed under various constitutions till the framing of Constitution of Independent India in 1950. The then British Government had naturally a soft corner for the Bombay Chamber and the advice of the Chamber was sought many times on matters affecting trade and industry of the Bombay city and India in general. The Chamber made several representations in the past to the Government, Port Trust, Municipalities and other public bodies on such subjects as development of Bombay Port, registration of trade marks, rail-road competition, bank failures, gold currency, abolition of cotton excise duty etc.

The Chamber also provided much needed common services to its members, such as collection of statistical information, weighment and measurement at the Port, machinery for the settlement of commercial disputes, a detailed information system on Government legal enactments, rules,
regulations etc.

A detailed account of the work done by the Bombay Chamber in its early days is given in Chapter II and, therefore, a very brief mention is made to this work here. After Independence, considerable adjustments were necessary in the Bombay Chamber. The direct political contacts of the Chamber with those in power in Government were completely severed. The position of foreign owned and foreign managed business organisations which were largely in the membership of the Bombay Chamber was in doubt. Would these organisations be nationalised? Would the foreigners be asked to quit? Would such organisations be over-run? These were the fears of British Chambers, like the Bombay Chamber of Commerce. But the Chamber got adjusted to the new conditions in the country and though the character of its membership remained more or less the same, the Chamber's importance continued to increase. Its relationship with the Government also remained cordial throughout these years. This adjustment to the changed circumstances in the country by the then European Chambers like the Bombay Chamber may be regarded as a remarkable achievement.

Right from the beginning, the Bombay Chamber has aimed at a high standard of work and has provided quick and efficient services in a number of fields to its members. Even now among the various Chambers of Commerce and Trade
Associations not only in Maharashtra but in our country, Bombay Chamber is regarded as one of the most efficient organisations. It would, therefore, be interesting to study the organisation and especially its working. In the following paragraphs an attempt has been made to do so.

7.15 Pattern of membership

There are three categories of membership of the Bombay Chamber: Ordinary, Associate and Honorary. The current rates of annual subscription are Rs. 1000/- per annum for ordinary members and Rs. 750 per annum for Associate Members. The entrance fees are Rs. 1000 for Ordinary Members and Rs. 500 in the case of Associate Members. Officials and others indirectly connected with the trade, commerce or industries of India, or who may have rendered distinguished service to the interests represented by the Chamber are elected as Honorary Members of the Chamber. They are not required to pay any annual subscription to the Chamber. In 1971, the Bombay Chamber had a total membership of 648 comprising of 403 Ordinary Members, 229 Associate Members and 16 Honorary Members.

The membership of Bombay Chamber will appear to be small as compared to the Indian Chambers of Commerce. Thus in 1971 the Indian Merchants Chamber had a membership of 1711, Maharashtra Chamber had 1100 members and Mahratta Chamber, Poona, had 907 members. But the membership of
Bombay Chamber includes larger companies, and especially those who have some foreign interest or connection. In the Indian Chambers, the membership consists for the greater part of smaller companies with little or no foreign connection. The membership subscription rate of Indian Chambers is not as high as Bombay Chamber. That is why even though the membership is small, it has larger financial resources. Secondly, because of large companies with foreign connection being majority of their members, there is a lot of homogeneity in its membership. Sometimes it is absent in the case of Indian Chambers as they have very big companies as well as very small companies in their membership. Their problems are different and sometimes there are conflicting interests in their membership.

Theoretically the membership of Bombay Chamber comes from all over India, but by far the majority of members are located in Bombay and some in the Bombay-Poona region. In the case of the city of Bombay, most of the large commercial and industrial houses in Bombay are members of the Bombay Chamber. Thus in its membership includes all oil companies, the foreign and Indian shipping companies, leading airlines, the large pharmaceutical companies, leading banks and insurance companies, firms of solicitors and accountants and so on. Quite a large number of these members are companies or firms or branches of companies which are controlled from abroad.  

1 In 1961, about 50% of such companies in the membership of the Bombay Chamber were controlled by foreign companies. B. Barker, Chambers of Commerce and Industry, Article in Commerce, 14 Oct. 1961, p. 749.
In case of Indian Chambers there is a large number of Association membership which is completely absent in case of Bombay Chamber. The constitution does not provide for accepting any trade association or Chamber of Commerce as the member of Bombay Chamber.

7.16 Membership and Finances of the Chamber

Table 7.6 shows the growth in membership and finances of the Chamber from the beginning. From this it will be seen that till the beginning of this century, the membership of the Chamber was more or less stagnant. Then there was some rise in its membership during the first four decades of the century. But the real impetus was given only after Independence. The membership has rapidly grown after 1946 -- from 237 in 1946 to 648 in 1971. This is again because of the rapid industrial development that took place during the period. Many new industrial units were started and many foreign collaborations were sanctioned during the period. Such large units located in Bombay have probably joined Bombay Chamber and hence this steep rise in membership.

It is important to note here that the Chamber makes very little effort to encourage membership. In case of many Indian Chambers there is a special staff to develop membership. But in case of Bombay Chamber, there is no such staff. Non-members get to know the services rendered by the Chamber and then they join the membership. Thus
Table 7.6. Membership and Income of Bombay Chamber of Commerce and Industries (from 1836 to 1971)

| Year | Total No. of members | Total Income | Total membership subscription | % of subscription to total income | Total Expenditure | Surplus or Deficit (for-)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1836</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1841</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1846</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1851</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1856</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
<td>-</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1861-62</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>18,953</td>
<td>10,371</td>
<td>54.83</td>
<td>16,010</td>
<td>+ 2,943</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1866-67</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>23,501</td>
<td>14,950</td>
<td>63.61</td>
<td>17,721</td>
<td>+ 5,780</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1871-72</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>32,182</td>
<td>20,113</td>
<td>62.50</td>
<td>24,956</td>
<td>+ 7,226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1876-77</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>34,753</td>
<td>19,753</td>
<td>56.84</td>
<td>25,826</td>
<td>+ 8,927</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1881-82</td>
<td>51</td>
<td>97,113</td>
<td>12,660</td>
<td>13.04</td>
<td>52,692</td>
<td>+ 44,421</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1886</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>85,846</td>
<td>10,921</td>
<td>12.72</td>
<td>34,888</td>
<td>+ 50,958</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1891</td>
<td>67</td>
<td>1,20,976</td>
<td>11,745</td>
<td>9.71</td>
<td>45,244</td>
<td>+ 75,732</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1896</td>
<td>76</td>
<td>86,693</td>
<td>13,332</td>
<td>15.38</td>
<td>50,176</td>
<td>+ 36,517</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1901</td>
<td>84</td>
<td>96,689</td>
<td>15,165</td>
<td>15.68</td>
<td>52,145</td>
<td>+ 44,544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1906</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>1,60,682</td>
<td>17,527</td>
<td>10.91</td>
<td>69,590</td>
<td>+ 91,092</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1911</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>1,92,623</td>
<td>19,511</td>
<td>10.13</td>
<td>90,657</td>
<td>+101,966</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1916</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>1,19,608</td>
<td>25,876</td>
<td>21.64</td>
<td>1,17,764</td>
<td>+ 1,844</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1921</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>3,48,703</td>
<td>54,750</td>
<td>15.70</td>
<td>2,88,439</td>
<td>+ 60,264</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1926</td>
<td>156</td>
<td>2,46,632</td>
<td>56,460</td>
<td>22.89</td>
<td>2,28,562</td>
<td>+ 18,070</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1931</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>2,05,072</td>
<td>63,750</td>
<td>31.08</td>
<td>2,24,149</td>
<td>- 19,077</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1936</td>
<td>192</td>
<td>2,07,941</td>
<td>70,560</td>
<td>33.93</td>
<td>2,04,880</td>
<td>+ 3,061</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1941</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>3,20,940</td>
<td>65,851</td>
<td>20.51</td>
<td>2,48,578</td>
<td>+ 72,362</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1946</td>
<td>237</td>
<td>3,42,953</td>
<td>81,900</td>
<td>23.88</td>
<td>3,09,709</td>
<td>+ 33,244</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1951</td>
<td>387</td>
<td>7,03,082</td>
<td>1,69,430</td>
<td>24.09</td>
<td>6,79,333</td>
<td>+ 23,749</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1956</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>6,47,581</td>
<td>2,00,820</td>
<td>31.01</td>
<td>7,03,141</td>
<td>- 55,560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1961</td>
<td>535</td>
<td>8,27,575</td>
<td>3,39,615</td>
<td>41.04</td>
<td>8,09,722</td>
<td>+ 17,853</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966</td>
<td>597</td>
<td>9,62,783</td>
<td>5,32,024</td>
<td>55.25</td>
<td>10,38,129</td>
<td>- 75,346</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1971</td>
<td>648</td>
<td>13,68,012</td>
<td>7,20,957</td>
<td>52.70</td>
<td>13,43,655</td>
<td>+ 24,357</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
the membership grows by reputation than by canvassing. The attitude of the Chamber is not so much that of a gentleman's club as that of a professional service organisation. The Chamber is also very careful in electing the members. Each member has to be proposed and seconded by other members; the proposal has to be accepted by the Committee of the Chamber and members of the Committee vote by a secret ballot and thus a member is elected. This whole procedure takes four to six weeks. The reputation of the Chamber is largely based on the ethical standards of its members and, therefore, the Committee is very cautious not to admit any member who may besmirch its good name. It is easier to achieve this end by being careful in electing new members than by trying to weed out any dishonourable members after they have been elected.

Finances of the Bombay Chamber since 1861-62 are also presented in Table 7.6. Figures for early years, i.e. from 1836 to 1860 were not available. The finances also show more or less same trend as that of the membership. Real growth in the Chamber's income seems to have taken place only after 1946. The income has gone up from Rs. 3.42 lakhs in 1946 to Rs. 13.68 lakhs in 1971.

There are references to indicate that the Chamber was in financial difficulties around 1848. There was a fall in the membership of the Chamber and the finances were not adequate to meet the expenses. But thereafter the
Chamber has not even once faced such a problem. As the accounts for the past years show, during most of the years, the Chamber has turned out a surplus and it never really faced any financial problem as such. It is only in three years i.e. in 1931, in 1956 and in 1966 the Chamber’s accounts show deficits.

This growth in membership and finances is presented in the accompanying graph.

The Chamber has during all these years not relied on membership subscription as the only source of income. Right from the beginning the Chamber has tried to develop other sources of income such as income from weighment and measures, arbitration court fees, fees from certificate of origin and analysis, income from publications, labour advisory service fees, secretarial service charges etc. These activities have been yielding sizeable revenue to the Chamber from the beginning. Table 7.6 has indicated the percentage of membership subscription to total income. In some years the amount of membership subscription is as low as 9.71% (1891). These figures also indicate that during recent years the subscription amount is assuming increasing importance and its proportion to total income is going up from 20.31% in 1941 to 52.70% in 1971. This is because now the Chamber has ceased to publish the statistical publications which yielded the Chamber a good revenue. The department of weighment and measures has
Membership, Income and Expenditure of Bombay Chamber

Membership ——— Income ——— Expenditure

Scale: X-axis 1.5 cm = 10 years
Y-axis 1 cm = Rs. 50,000
also been separated from the Chamber and a separate company has been formed for the purpose in collaboration with the Indian Merchants’ Chamber. Thus the Chamber has lost two major sources of revenue.

Even then the other sources of revenue of the Chamber, as its accounts of 1971 indicate, are sizeable. Table 7.7 indicates these sources of revenue. Thus even now the Chamber receives large income (23.69%) from other activities such as Labour Advisory Service, Certificate of Origin, subscription to sales tax etc. By offering secretarial services, Chamber collects about 15% of its income. The remaining sources are comparatively of minor importance.

Table 7.7. Sources of income of Bombay Chamber (1971)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Source of income</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>% to total income</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Membership subscription</td>
<td>7,20,957</td>
<td>52.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Subscription to shipping intelligence, sales tax, fees for certificate of origin and analysis and labour advisory service fees</td>
<td>3,24,105</td>
<td>23.69</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Secretarial fees</td>
<td>2,06,075</td>
<td>15.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Investment income</td>
<td>74,251</td>
<td>5.42</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Interest on fixed deposit</td>
<td>31,004</td>
<td>2.26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Advertisement revenue</td>
<td>7,885</td>
<td>0.23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Miscellaneous income</td>
<td>3,561</td>
<td>0.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Profit on sale of asset</td>
<td>174</td>
<td>0.04</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>13,68,012</strong></td>
<td><strong>100.00</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Amongst similar organisations, Bombay Chamber has the largest financial resources though the number of members is limited. Table 7.8 presents the income and membership of the different Chambers and all India bodies in Maharashtra for the year 1971.

Table 7.8. Membership and income of different Chambers and all India bodies in Maharashtra in 1971

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name of the Body</th>
<th>No. of members</th>
<th>Income Rs.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. All India Manufacturers' Organisation</td>
<td>1396</td>
<td>4,13,108</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Bombay Chamber of Commerce and Industry</td>
<td>639</td>
<td>13,68,012</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Employers' Federation of India</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>4,33,185</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Indian Merchants' Chamber</td>
<td>1756</td>
<td>8,23,452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Maharashtra Chamber of Commerce</td>
<td>1090</td>
<td>2,74,740</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Mahratta Chamber of Commerce and Industries</td>
<td>907</td>
<td>3,00,227</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thus as compared to other similar organisations, the Bombay Chamber has the largest income, though its membership is not as large as that of other bodies. In case of other organisations as majority of their membership comes from small and medium scale units, they have to charge membership fees at much lower rate. But the membership of Bombay Chamber comprises mostly of large units and hence the subscription rates are much higher than the other bodies. Secondly, the Bombay Chamber, as we have seen
earlier, has all along tried to develop other sources of income apart from membership subscription. Thus in case of Bombay Chamber, the membership subscription forms 52.70% of total revenue, in case of other Chambers this percentage is as follows:

- Indian Merchants’ Chamber 62%
- Maharashtra Chamber 77.23%
- Mahratta Chamber 66%
- Employers’ Federation of India 87.1%
- All India Manufacturers’ Organisation 82%

Bombay Chamber gets sizeable income through various specialised services and that is why its income position is much better than other Chambers of Commerce while other organisations seem to rely only on membership subscriptions as their principal source of revenue.

7.17 Services rendered by the Bombay Chamber

The Bombay Chamber renders following services to its members:

(A) Information

The Chamber keeps its members informed on all legislation, affecting trade and industry and the various amendments, public notices, gazette notifications those are issued from time to time on such subjects as income-tax, sales tax, import and export. A majority of these circulars is addressed to all members but those dealing
with customs, excise, import trade control and other special matters of concern in a certain business are issued only to those companies which are concerned in that business. Such circulars are also sent by other Chambers but the important difference is the promptness with which these circulars are sent by the Bombay Chamber. Every day the Chamber receives gazettes from State and Central governments and public notices, trade notices from the other authorities. Sometimes on important matters Chamber receives texts of such notifications on telex from the Delhi Office of Associated Chamber of Commerce of India. Immediately on receipt of these notifications copies are made at the Chamber's office and these copies are delivered by hand to the members in Bombay Fort area and posted to outstation and other members in Bombay. There are about 30 delivery boys on the staff of the Chamber who deliver these circulars by hand to the members in Bombay Fort area. This ensures a very prompt communication of the circulars -- sometimes before a member reads a news item about such a public notice in the papers, the text is in his hand by afternoon. These notifications and public notices are classified and kept in the library of the Chamber and they are made available to those who ask for them.

A member also gets 'Monthly Bulletin' of the Chamber which contains excerpts from the proceedings of Committee
meetings and other items of interest.

A member also receives a copy of the Annual Report which serves as a historical reference book containing information about almost all that has happened during the previous year as far as the commerce and industry are concerned.

The Chamber also publishes important Government Acts and Rules, card calendars, list of all India holidays and charter party holidays for the benefit of members.

It also runs a refill service on Maharashtra Sales Tax Act and rules made thereunder.

(b) Labour Advisory Service

The most notable of the Bombay Chamber's advisory services is that offered by the Labour Department. In 1951, this service was started and the Bombay Chamber was a pioneer in offering the retainer services to its members. Under the retainer scheme, member has to pay a fixed fee of Rs. 250/- per month to the Chamber and the Chamber offers the following services in return:

(i) Preparation of cases on proceedings before the Conciliator.

(ii) Attendance at the conciliation proceedings and representation before other Executive authorities appointed under Labour Laws.

1 The Millowners' Association had appointed a Labour Officer as back as in 1936. But it has not so far started a retainers service.
(iii) Advice on routine matters which may be referred to the Labour Department from time to time; a minimum of one visit per week by the Labour Advisor to the offices of the retaining firms.

(iv) Conducting negotiations with Trade Unions.

The Chamber also undertakes preparatory work and attendance at conciliation proceedings, other than that given under the Retainer Scheme on payment of additional charges, usually at Rs. 30 per hour.

Advice given on particular subjects, not involving long interviews, visits outside the Chamber, protracted correspondence or compilation of statistics is available to all members of the Chamber free of charge.

This service has become very popular and in recent years many Chambers and Trade Associations have started this service on the lines of the Bombay Chamber.

(C) Statistical Department

The Chamber has rendered a singularly unique service in this field, and therefore, it would be interesting to look into the history to see the work done by the Chamber in good old days. These statistical activities of the Chamber are as old as the Chamber itself. From the early days, since 1840s the Chamber has carried on this work in close collaboration with the Government Department concerned, at first the Reporter-General's office and later the statistical department of the Customs House.¹ This

¹ Sullivan R.J.F., op.cit., p. 258.
collection was of a rudimentary description.

In 1837, the Chamber submitted a plan to collect statistics of the Port of Bombay and the Government authorised the Chamber to compile statistical reports on the basis of sharing one-third of total expenditure incurred for collecting these statistics - at first Rs. 79 per mensem. For some years the trade statistics continued to be produced under the joint responsibility of the Customs House and the Chamber. In 1860, the Chamber was placed in sole charge of all returns concerning the external trade of Bombay Port. The next forty years saw a steady development of the basic returns, including the export and import manifests and the daily arrivals return, until by the end of the century, they acquired a detailed form. At the request of members every year the returns were revised and new information was added. In 1902 some sort of standard returns were evolved. In October 1917 during the war, under instructions from the Government, the issue of statistical returns were suspended. But the confidential compilation was continued so that the continuity need not be broken. In 1936 about 11 different statistical returns were being published by the Bombay Chamber.

In 1905, as a result of the efforts of the Bombay Chamber, the Department of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics was created and the Secretary of the Chamber,
Mr. F. Noel-Paton, was appointed as its first Director-General. Similarly as a result of the persistent efforts of the Bombay Chamber and Associated Chamber of Commerce, Government of India created a Central Statistical Organisation at Delhi.

For a long time the original statistics of the Port of Bombay, such as Trade of Bombay and its subordinate ports, value of trade between the Port of Bombay and U.K., number and tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared cargoes through the Port of Bombay, daily shipping statistics etc., was collected and published by the Bombay Chamber for a long time. The Chamber took an initiative in collecting these statistics and as and when Government took over the responsibility of collecting these statistics, the Chamber discontinued this work.

Till recently it was collecting and publishing daily shipping intelligence which was giving details of the ships on the high seas which are destined for or have recently left Bombay as well as the ships which are presently in the port. The Chamber was also publishing rates of foreign exchange, current quotations etc. But an alternate private sources were developed in collecting these statistics, the Chamber discontinued this work in 1970. At present the Chamber collects statistics relating to imports and exports commodity-wise and it also publishes a weekly list of industrial licences issued by the Government of India.
(D) **Weighment and Measurement**

This is another activity of the Chamber whereby weighment and measurement services are made available to exporters, freight being charged on the basis of certificates issued by the Department. This Department was started in 1870 and the Chamber was again pioneer in this field. Now to avoid duplication of activities both the Bombay Chamber and the Indian Merchants' Chamber have jointly sponsored a company which undertakes these activities. Secretarial services to this company are provided by the Bombay Chamber. There were about 66 persons on the staff of this company in 1971.

(E) **Arbitration and surveys**

Since 1880, the Chamber has set up a machinery for the settlement of commercial disputes. The Chamber has framed rules, regulations and procedures for arbitration and a panel of arbitrators on shipping and technical matters has been fixed to which these matters are referred to. Every year about six to eight cases are referred to the Chamber for arbitration. The Chamber has also brought out a publication on 'Decisions on shipping and mercantile matters' which includes important decisions of arbitrators.

(F) **Certificates of Analysis and Origin**

The Chamber issues certificates of origin and analysis to the exporters. In order to meet the demands of overseas buyers of Indian produce and manufacture. The
Chamber issues certificates of weights and quality in respect of a large number of commodities, such as oils and oil-seeds, spices, drugs, medicines, Indian herbs etc.

(G) **Trade Introductions**

The numerous trade inquiries which the Chamber receives from firms all over the world are circulated among the members. The names of members concerned in specific commodities are also forwarded to foreign parties.

(H) **Employment Services**

The Chamber receives information regarding details of any staff retrenched from member-firms and these details are circulated confidentially to all members of the Chamber in case they are interested in well-trained and reliable staff.

(I) **Hindi Classes**

The Chamber conducts Hindi classes and examinations for foreigners employed in member-firms.

(J) **Good Library**

The Chamber has a well-stocked library of reference books on all subjects of commerce, industry and labour, which is open to members free of charge and to non-members on payment of a nominal charge.

(K) **Secretarial Service**

Though membership of associations is not allowed as per the Constitution of the Chamber, it offers secretarial services to some associations by charging suitable fees.
Chamber then looks after all the work of such associations including arranging meetings, sending representations to the Government, passing on information to members etc.

In 1971, the Chamber was giving secretarial assistance to the following seven associations:

1. Automobile Dealers' Association.
2. Bombay Licensed Measures Ltd.
4. Indian Engineering Association (Western Region).

*(L) Custom of Trade at Bombay Port*

Over a period of years, the Bombay Chamber, by means of a series of precedents has tried to build a custom of trade in Bombay. For instance, the weather working days for the Port of Bombay are published by the Chamber. Owing to the inadequacy of the weather during the monsoon, it is frequently impossible for ships in Bombay to load and unload the cargo. On the basis of the rainfall data during working hours at docks, the special Sub-Committee of the Chamber on Weather Working days, decides whether the day is to be considered as weather working day, a half weather working day or non-weather working day. It depends upon the rains during the monsoon. These decisions are
published in the press.

On the basis of the weather data during monsoon months, the Chamber decides whether certain days were or were not working days under charter parties. Members are advised to insert a clause in their charter parties and shipping orders agreeing to refer such disputes to the decision of the Chamber.

The Chamber has compiled case-law from 1882 to 1932 on these and other matters and published this case law in a book-form. This is a very useful reference for taking decisions on similar other matters regarding the custom and usage of the Port of Bombay. The foreign parties also invariably refer these matters to the Bombay Chamber.

(M) Representations to Government

The Chamber does not take up the difficulties of individual companies but takes up issues of general application with the State and Central Governments and other public bodies. When Government appoints a Committee to prepare a report on a particular subject or when legislation is referred to a Select Committee of Parliament for consideration, Chamber prepares memoranda and also appears before these Committees in a delegation for giving evidence. The Chamber also takes up various issues of general policy nature through its representatives on the Advisory Committee and directly with the concerned authorities.
How the Chamber works

(A) Sub-Committees

The Chamber works through its Sub-Committees and the General Committee. In 1971-72 following sub-committees were functioning:

1. Air Transport
2. Central Excise
3. Bombay Development
4. Company Law
5. Economics
6. Engineering and Contracts
7. Exports
8. Food and Agriculture
9. Import
10. Industries
11. Labour Affairs
12. Railways
13. Sales Tax
14. Shipping
15. Weather Working Days

Senior and experienced persons from the member-firms are appointed on these sub-committees. The number of members on these sub-committees usually varies from 3 to 8. Service on these sub-committees involves not only a good deal of time in attending to the problems of the day, but it also provides to the Committee members an insight into the various problems faced by other companies. These sub-committees are real backbone of Chamber's working organisation. It was in 1904 that Sir Henry
Proctor suggested the formation of sub-committees to cope with the different branches of Chamber's work. Since then the system has worked admirably well.

At this stage, it would be necessary to illustrate working of these sub-committees. For instance, if a member writes a letter on certain difficulties faced by him regarding central excise matters, the Assistant Secretary responsible for central excise matters will first consider this matter. He will then discuss this matter with Vice-President designate and decide upon the next course of action. The next course may be to issue a circular and collect information from the other members as to their experience in this matter. Once such facts are collected, the matter is placed before the concerned sub-committee usually by a circular passed to each member of the sub-committee in his office. On the envelope of this circular name of the member, date delivered, date collected has to be written and the member has to put his initials. The circular is eventually returned to the office of the Chamber with comments of each member on it. This is a bit long drawn procedure. But the Bombay Chamber has preferred this because it feels that, "When any responsible individual is asked to set down his comments in writing and sign it with his name, he is likely to give much more consideration to the matter under discussion than if he were merely to attend a meeting where he would make a speech ex tempore."  

If there is a unanimity in the members of the sub-committee, the Vice-President Designate takes the necessary action suggested by the Sub-Committee. If the matter is to be referred to the Associated Chamber or to the General Committee then after consulting the President or the General Committee necessary action is taken. In any case the General Committee is fully informed of the action taken.

If there is no unanimity of opinion among the various members of the sub-committee regarding the action to be taken then a meeting of the sub-committee is called and after discussions of the various points of view a unanimous decision is taken. Generally there is a unanimity in the sub-committees or the General Committee and the matters are never put to vote.

The members on these sub-committees are very senior members and specialists in the respective subjects and the Chamber benefits by the expertise of these members. The system works on the basis of mutual faith of members of the sub-committee and of members and the Chairman and it is also based on the efficiency and ability of the Secretariat. So far this has worked well and has produced very good results.

(3) General Committee

In Bombay Chamber, the controlling committee is the General Committee which consists of a President, Vice-President (or Vice-President Designate) and ten Ordinary
Members. These are usually the senior-most executives of their organisations in commerce or industry or their profession. The President and Vice-President and the Committee Members are elected every year and two members are coopted on the Committee. But this is only a provision in the Constitution. So far no elections are held. The retiring Committee usually appoints new Committee and no one would take any objection to this practice. There is also a convention that no member of the Committee serves for more than two years at a stretch, unless he takes up an office, though he may return after a period of absence. This is an important distinction from the Indian Chamber of Commerce, where in many organisations, political type party campaigns are held for elections to the Executive Committee.

The General Committee deals with matters of policy nature than technical problems which are dealt at the Sub-Committee level. These sub-committees by reporting on many technical subjects to the General Committee lighten the burden of work and also help the Committee to formulate its views on such matters. The Committee is also responsible for day to day administration of the Chamber. It usually meets once in a month on a fixed day.

7.19 **Secretariat of the Chamber**

The Executive Head of the Bombay Chamber is Vice-President Designate which is a full time stipendiary post.
The present occupant of this post is a Britisher who is a retired person from Indian Civil Service and who has held many senior posts in the Bombay Government. He is in this post since 1962. Then there are about 15 officers working under him including the Deputy Secretaries, Assistant Secretaries, Labour Advisor, Assistant Labour Advisors etc. Below them there is a staff of 42 persons including accountants, stenographers, typists, clerks, telephone operators, etc. Then there are 30 peons including the delivery boys who deliver daily circulars to the members in the Bombay Fort area.

Among the senior members of the staff, they specialise in certain subjects and look after one or two subjects, such as company law, taxation, customs, excise, labour etc. They deal with the matters connected on these subjects. Each one of them is also responsible for one or two associations for whom the secretarial services are offered by the Chamber. They look after the administration and work of such associations.

Over a period of years the Bombay Chamber has been able to build an elaborate information system and now even the oldest references are made available in no time. More particularly the sections relating to Government gazettes and public notifications have been kept up to date and old records are also preserved with meticulous care.

The Bombay Chamber has representation on about 37
public bodies and consultative committees. A list of all such public bodies is appended to the chapter (Appendix II). The Chamber takes up problems of members pertaining to various subjects, such as central excise, import, export, railways, port trust, customs, telephones, etc. through its representatives on these Committees.

7.20 Conclusion

The work of the Bombay Chamber can be considered in three aspects: firstly that of providing certain common services to its members; secondly to ventilate the grievances of its members and take up such cases with the Government and other public bodies and thirdly advising the Government on many issues. Before Independence, the Bombay Chamber had very intimate connections with the then British Government and the Government used to consult the Chamber on a number of issues. Now this aspect of the work is almost over and except asking the opinions of the Chambers of Commerce on certain legislation etc. the Government hardly consults these bodies on any matters.

The Bombay Chamber, right from the beginning, has offered common services to its members and over a period of years has continuously tried to improve its services. These tangible common services at present include a very quick dissemination of information unparalleled by any other similar bodies, labour advisory service, measurement of cargo for freight purposes by a trained and independent
staff, maintenance of arbitration machinery for settlement of commercial disputes, collection of statistical information, issuing of certificates of origin and analysis, running of Hindi classes, etc. Though these activities are undertaken by other Chambers of Commerce, the efficient manner in which these activities are organised definitely place the Bombay Chamber of Commerce on a different footing from other Chambers of Commerce in Maharashtra State. The large number of circulars that are issued every day from the Chamber on customs, excise, import, export, taxation etc. to its members and the arrangement to deliver, import, export, taxation etc. to its members and the arrangement to deliver and post them on the same day make the membership of the Bombay Chamber almost indispensable. This sort of quick and efficient service is hardly available from any other similar organisation.

The method of representation to Government and public bodies of Bombay Chamber is also different. The Bombay Chamber generally relies on presenting carefully prepared and documented memoranda, generally addressed to the officials of Government than to Ministers by name. We have already seen the careful preparation which goes into this work. In this task, the Chamber is usually guided by the advice given by Sir Frank Forbes Adam, who was a Chairman of the Chamber from 1889 to 1890. He said,

"Never act on imperfect information, always see that..."
representations and complaints are verified before they are taken up, beware of faddists, both inside and outside the Chamber and never be afraid of bold and open criticism."\(^1\)

It is this high standard and tradition of good work which the Chamber tries continually to preserve.

The Chamber does not invite Ministers or political leaders for discussions or for presenting memoranda. It relies more on the officials. Similarly, it generally does not release its memoranda to the press and try to get publicity for its arguments through the columns of the press, in which field the Indian Chambers seem to compete with each other.

It also does not arrange conferences or seminars on the various subjects as is done by other Chambers and Trade Associations.

All this only indicates that the Bombay Chamber relies on quiet diplomacy than pronounced propaganda against any particular measure affecting trade and industry. So far this policy of the Chamber has paid rich dividends.

There is yet another factor -- which is of course not very important from the work or organisation of a Chamber of Commerce -- which distinguishes Bombay Chamber from other Chambers of Commerce. The general tendency of any

\(^1\) Sullivan, R.J.F., *op. cit.*, p. 269.
Chamber of Commerce or any trade association after the initial days of struggle and once a stability is achieved is to have its own building. Thus even a small association also tries to create a building fund as early as possible. The building is probably regarded as a sign of stability of the institution. But the Bombay Chamber surprisingly has avoided constructing its own building right from the beginning. Thus in the initial years the office of the Chamber was located in Dady's building, then it was removed in 1851 to a building on Rampart Row belonging to Lyon and Co. From 1885 the offices were moved to Graham's Building on Parsi Bazar Street, where the Chamber worked almost for fifty years. In 1934, the offices were shifted to Mackinnon Mackenzie Building at Ballard Estate and since then the offices continue to be in these premises for the last 38 years. But even though the finances of the Bombay Chamber were more than adequate during all these years it is surprising to note that no efforts were made to own a building. The reasons for this are not known.

We have earlier seen that though the membership of the Bombay Chamber is comparatively small, its financial resources are much larger than other similar organisations in the State. The number of staff members is also comparatively more than any other similar organisation. There are about 87 persons working at present in the Chamber's office. This includes officers, clerical and subordinate staff.
In 1968, the clerical and subordinate staff of the Chamber organised themselves into a union under the leadership of Mr. R.J. Mehta of Mumbai Mazdoor Sabha and presented a Charter of Demands to the Chamber. This was followed by demonstrations and other forms of labour agitation by the workers. The case was referred to the Industrial Tribunal for adjudication. The dispute was pertaining to the scales of pay, dearness allowance, classification, gratuity, leave, certain other allowances, uniforms, supply of umbrella, medical benefits, bonus, etc. A settlement was arrived at on 23rd January, 1971, in respect of all these claims.¹

This was the first instance in Maharashtra of a labour dispute in a Chamber of Commerce. The details of the scales of pay and other facilities offered are not so important for our study as the introduction of purely contractual relations between the staff and a Chamber of Commerce. The nature of work in a Chamber is different and such purely formal relations are bound to affect in the long run the working of the Chamber. We are told that this has already affected the working of Bombay Chamber to a great extent. But considering the present trends in industrial relations in our country, once the organisation expands, it is difficult to maintain informal relations and such types of

¹ Part IL of Maharashtra Government Gazette, April 8, 1971, pp. 1795-1799.
disputes between the management and labour are bound to come up. The case of Bombay Chamber only forewarns about things that are likely to come in the near future.
III. Millowners Association, Bombay

The Millowners' Association, Bombay, was formed in 1875 with 29 members. The main object of the Association was promotion and protection of trade, commerce and manufacturers of India in general and of the cotton trade in particular and the Association was empowered to take all suitable measures for that purpose. In 1874, the Government of India imposed import duties of \( \frac{31}{2} \) on yarn and 5% on cotton piece goods. The Manchester Chamber raised a great hue and cry against these duties as it felt that these duties were protective in nature. The Indian Cotton Textile interests felt that the Lancashire was agitating to prevent or at least to obstruct further growth of textile industry in India. Therefore, millowners of the day decided to come together and form an Association. This was the immediate cause of the formation of the Millowners' Association, Bombay.

7.21 Work done by the Association so far

(a) Through the history

In the early days activities of the Association were mainly confined to the tariff question and the threatened factory legislation. In 1896, under the Cotton Duties Act, excise duties were levied on cotton textiles. The main object was to hamper the growth of Indian textile industry and give the advantage to British Producers. The Association sent memoranda, met the officials in delegations and carried
on ceaseless propaganda against these excise levies. After almost 30 years of this struggle, in 1926, the duty was withdrawn.

Soon after winning the battle against the excise duty the Association addressed itself to the question of protection to the industry. As a result of the efforts made by the Association, a Tariff Board was appointed in 1926 under the Presidentship of Sir Frank Noyee. But the modest recommendations of this Board were also not accepted by the then British Government. But ultimately the Government was forced to recognise the need for protecting the industry from unrestricted foreign competition and in February 1930 Cotton Textile Industry Protection Bill was introduced in the Legislative Assembly.¹

The Second World War brought a radical change in the fortune and structure of the cotton mill industry of India. The burden of meeting domestic requirements and the enormous war order and export demand fell for the first time on the indigenous industry. The Government of India formed a Cotton Textile Advisory Panel on which a representative of the Association was taken.

The division of the country and the accession of some of the best cotton growing and cloth consuming areas of

¹ After Independence, in 1949, this duty was again imposed and since then revenues from this cotton excise duty form an important component of total excise revenues.
Pakistan posed a serious problem for the industry which was thenceforward compelled to depend more and more on costly foreign cottons and to find export markets. This necessitated attainment of efficiency and economy in production through rehabilitation and rationalisation. The Association handled these and many other problems of the textile industry during all these years.

(b) Technical Training

Right from the beginning, the Association attached a great importance to the technical staff of the industry being fully qualified and competent. It has, therefore, helped in setting up many a technical institutions in Bombay. In 1882, the Association set up a technical Sub-Committee to set up a technical institute and in 1887, Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute was established at Bombay. In 1922, the Association collected Rs. 1,04,500 through its members for the construction of the building of V.J.T.I. Till today it gives an annual donation of Rs. 2,000 to V.J.T.I. towards its maintenance. In 1943 the Association collected Rs. 3.50 lakhs for the creation of new department of Chemical Technology in the University of Bombay. The Association also encouraged conducting of literacy classes through Bombay Social Education Committee. Recently in 1960, it took initiative in setting up Bombay Textiles Research Association at Bombay.

(c) Labour

The Association appointed a Labour Officer on its
staff as far back as in 1934 to advice and guide member mills on labour matters. The Association was responsible in reforming the Badli Control System which had become subject of abuse by the jobbers. In 1935, the Association started a new system which ensured exercise of strict control by management over the recruitment of badlis and the distribution of work among them. In 1939, on the recommendations of the Association, mills opened fair price shops in Bombay in order to supply foodgrains to the workers at cost price. Association had reached an agreement at this time with Rashtriya Mill Mazdoor Sangh on the question of compensation payable to workers who are retrenched on account of rationalisation. The Association is responsible for negotiations with the Union and in fixing wages and employment conditions of textile workers in Bombay.

(d) Promotion of Institutions

The Bombay Millowners' Association is responsible in promoting several institutions and associations. In 1933, after the initiative taken by the Association, the Employers Federation of India was started. Out of the funds donated by member mills to the Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Fund, Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Hospital of 300 beds for textile workers was started and the initiative was taken by the Association. It donated Rs. 10 lakhs to Sardar Patel Memorial Fund. The Association also took initiative in establishing such organisations as Bombay Textile Industries Research
Right from the early years, the Association has been collecting mill statistics such as number of mills, number of spindles, number of looms, number of men employed, cloth produced etc. Statistics relating to Import and Export of cotton piece goods from the Port of Bombay was also collected by the Association for several years. Even now the Association collects detailed statistics from its members and publishes a mill statement every year which contains names of mills, names of directors or owners and addresses of registered offices of all cotton spinning and weaving mills in India, number of spindles and looms installed and working, quantity of cotton consumed, number of workers, number of days worked and the capital invested by each of them.

These are only some of the important areas in which the Millowners Association has worked so far. Apart from these there are numerous other achievements to the credit of the Association in its long and eventful history.

7.22 Organisation

The Millowners' Association is registered under Indian Companies Act. According to its memorandum and articles of Association, Mills in cotton textile industry can become its members. Though there is a majority of Bombay Mills
in its membership, it has also other mills in the mofussil areas in its membership. In 1971 there were 106 members of the Association. The membership subscription of the Association is decided every year by the Committee of the Association and for the year 1971 following subscription rates had been prescribed.

Table 7.9. Schedule of membership subscription of Millowners' Association, Bombay, in 1971

(Figures in Rs.)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Bombay City (including Kurla and Thana)</th>
<th>Upcountry</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Woollen Mills</td>
<td>Cotton Mills</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For every 1000 mule spindles or part thereof</td>
<td>60.75</td>
<td>42.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For every 500 ring spindles or part thereof</td>
<td>60.74</td>
<td>47.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For every 50 looms or part thereof setup in the mill or mills, factory or factories which for the time being shall belong to each member</td>
<td>47.25</td>
<td>100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For every Rs. 10,000 or part of Rs. 10,000 of the cost up to date without depreciation of the plant, buildings, and land of dyeing and/or bleaching and/or printing and/or mercerising factories or departments owned by a member</td>
<td>10.80</td>
<td>13.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In the case of minimum subscription, the rates were:

In the case of Cotton Mills, Woollen Mills and dyeing and bleaching establishments situated in the city and is/and of Bombay, Kurla and Thana .......... Rs. 1500

Situated elsewhere in India .......... Rs. 600
The Committee of the Association consists of 25 members and it is elected by the General Body of the Association.

The Association is represented on various public bodies and in 1970 it had representations on 30 public bodies (List reproduced in Appendix IV).

Earlier before Independence, the Association enjoyed representations on the Bombay Legislative Council and on the Bombay Municipal Corporation.

7.23 Finances of the Association

In the year 1970, the Association had a total income of Rs. 9,96,840.95 and an expenditure of Rs. 9,96,700.84 thus ending the year with a small surplus of Rs. 140.11.

The major source of income was membership subscription. During the year Rs. 8,66,293.26 were collected through membership subscriptions. Other sources of income were subscription for extra copies of circulars (Rs. 21,244.45), miscellaneous receipts (Rs. 13,162.65) and interest (Rs. 96,140.59).

On expenditure side, the items of expenditure were mainly of administrative type like salaries, allowances, office rent, printing, telephones, electricity, conveyance etc. Every year the Association gives donations to a few organisations and institutions and during 1970, the Association had donated Rs. 9,500 to the following institutions:
(a) Victoria Jubilee Technical Institute 5,000
(b) The Police Comforts Fund 1,000
(c) The M.G.Textile Technical School 700
(d) The Sir J.J. Hospital Poor Box 400
(e) The K.E.M. Hospital Poor Box 400
(f) The Naigaum Social Service Centre 350
(g) The Bombay Textile and Engineering Association 200
(h) The Gokuldas Tejpal Hospital Poor Box 200
(i) The Maharashtra High School 250
(j) The Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Hospital Patients’ Benevolent Fund 1,000

Total 9,500

7.24 Activities

As is said earlier, the Millowners’ Association, Bombay, is one of the active and efficient organisation and is rendering varied services to its members. Mere classifying these activities under the broad category of common services rendered to members and representational work is not enough. In order to understand the varied nature of activities of such an Association an attempt has been made to classify these activities in different broad groups in a detailed manner. Description of each activity is not attempted here as mere name of the activity is enough to indicate nature of such an activity. This list has been prepared after going through several annual reports of the Association and after discussions with the
staff of the Association. This list, it is hoped will indicate the large area covered by an active trade association and the varied nature of services rendered by such an association to its members. These activities have been classified in broad groups and details of activities under each group have also been mentioned in detail.

(A) LABOUR

1. To conduct negotiations with the representative Union on all industry-wise labour problems and also problems at the unit level as a representative of employers under the Bombay Industrial Relations Act for all member-mills in Greater Bombay.

2. (a) To frame proposals for approval of the Committee of the Association for laying down policy which the member-mills should adopt on wage structure and other conditions of service of their employees.

(b) To render assistance to mills in settling disputes regarding wage rates, complement, workload of workers, etc. on existing and new machines through the Joint Machinery set up by the Association and the Sangh.

(c) To assist mills in settling disputes regarding classification of clerks through the joint committee consisting of one representative each of the Association and the Rashtriya Mill Mazdoor Sangh.

(d) To advise member-mills on implementation of awards/
agreements/settlements regarding wage rates and other conditions of service of employees.

(e) To study and bring to the notice of mills by means of special circulars important judicial decisions on labour matters.

3. To study legislation and administrative steps taken by the Central and State Governments and represent against such steps wherever the interest of member-mills is adversely affected.

4. To represent the industry's case to various Commissions/Committees, Boards, Study Groups, etc., appointed by the Central and State Governments on labour matters from time to time.

5. (a) To appear on behalf of mofussil member-mills before the Industrial Courts, Tribunals etc. to present their cases on problems of wages, dearness allowance, bonus etc.

(b) To study labour problems peculiar to the mofussil member-mills and advise them suitably on all such matters.

(c) To represent to the State Government and other authorities concerned the difficulties of mofussil mills, wherever necessary relating to labour matters.

6. To advise all member-mills on the implementation of the various labour laws (as per list attached and marked LG) enacted by the Central as well as the
State Governments and to solve their day-to-day difficulties in respect of such Acts by correspondence/personal visits, wherever necessary.

7 (a) To represent the Association on the Central Employer bodies like the Employers' Federation of India.

(b) To represent the interest of the industry through the Central Organisation of employers at the conferences of the tripartite bodies such as Indian Labour Conference, Standing Labour Committee, Board of Trustees of the Employers' Provident Fund and Employees' State Insurance Corporation etc.

(c) To represent the industry on various State bodies dealing with all labour matters such as (a) State Labour Welfare Board, (b) State Apprenticeship Council, (c) Maharashtra State Social Education Committee, (d) Bombay Suburban and Bombay City Small Savings Advisory Committee, (e) Textile Employment (Decasualisation Scheme), Local Advisory Committee, (f) Advisory Board for the Special Employment Exchange for the Physically Handicapped, and (g) University Employment and Guidance Bureau.

(d) To represent to the Central and State Governments on behalf of the members, individual or on industry's
level as the case may be safeguard the employer's interest.

8. To promote harmonious relations between employers and employees of the member-mills and for that purpose to organise welfare activities such as:
   (a) Organising annual Inter-Mill Sports Tournaments which commence in September and end in the month of February following.
   (b) Publication of a Marathi monthly magazine entitled 'Girni Samachar'.
   (c) Conducting literary competitions in Marathi and Hindi on the eve of the Diwali Festival every year.
   (d) Organising annual Inter-Mill Dramatic Competitions to encourage dramatic talent among mill employees.
   (e) Promotion and popularisation of family planning among mill workers.

9. To maintain up-to-date information regarding labour statistics regarding average earnings, dearness allowance, consumer price indices, absenteeism, strikes, hartals, etc.

10. To bring out the periodical publications on labour matters for the benefit of member-mills.

11. And generally to do all that may be necessary in the interest of member-mills in the field of labour.
12. To negotiate with the Municipal Corporation regarding the fixation on rateable value of member-mill properties for purpose of assessment to municipal property taxes and in the event of disputes in the fixation of rateable values, to advise mills to take such legal steps as might be deemed necessary.

13. To guide member-mills in the matter of obtaining permits from municipality for working of factories and assist them in obtaining exemptions from the requirements relating to licensing for storage purposes etc.

14. Assisting member-mills in obtaining commencement certificates for construction of new building or for making alterations to existing ones amounting to expansions.

15. Assisting member-mills in safeguarding their interests in municipal proceedings for acquisition of mill properties.

16. Assisting member-mills in their problems relating to adequate supply of water, including arrangement for expert surveys to achieve greater economy in the use of water and for suggesting ways and means of reusing of water.

17. To examine the annual water charges rules framed by the Standing Committee of the Municipality and
to make representations to the Municipal Corporation where water charges prejudicially affect the industry.

18. To advise member-mills on matters relating to levy, collection and refund of octroi duties and to take up with the Municipal Corporation individual cases of mills relating to matters where they are adversely affected.

(C) REGIONAL AND TOWN PLANNING

19. To scrutinise and advise member-mills on the provisions of legislation relating to building repairs and reconstruction and also to make suitable representations to the appropriate authorities where it prejudicially affected the industry as a whole or its individual units.

20. To represent to the Municipal Regional and Town Planning authorities and State Government on behalf of the industry and also on behalf of the member-mills on all matters arising out of Regional and Town Planning Schemes adversely affecting the industry or the individual mills.

21. To examine the schemes of the State and the Municipal Authorities for dispersal of industries from all points of view such as feasibility, cost, labour mobility etc. and take up with the Government difficulties, if any, arising therefrom.
Also to advise member-mills on schemes of incentives brought out by the Central, State and Local authorities for the dispersal of industries.

(D) **LAND TENURES**

22. To assist member-mills in the matter of periodical revision of toka land assessment.

23. To advise mills on matters arising out of abolition of free or concessional land tenures and in the case of disputes, to advise mills in the matters of land revenue assessments, compensations, etc.

(E) **COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS OF ENQUIRIES**

24(a) To attend to all questionnaires issued by the Tariff Commission and other bodies - Government, Semi-Government and Research Institutions - on costs, prices, production, protection, etc. with a view to guiding members as to how to deal with them.

(b) To appear before such bodies to tender oral evidence.

(c) To collect and collate requisite information from member-mills or otherwise effectively to deal with the questionnaires to make representations on behalf of the industry.

(F) **CONTROL AND REGULATION OF INDUSTRY**

25(a) To advise member-mills on the provisions of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act and Rules made and the notifications issued thereunder.
(b) To keep members informed of the general policy of the Government as to the licensing of industries under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951.

(c) To make representations to the Government regarding the licensing policy relating to the cotton textile industry.

(d) To keep a watch on the Government’s announcements on the policy relating to the establishment of new units, expansion of the spindleage and loomage capacities and other departments of the existing undertakings.

(e) To take up individual cases of mills with the Textile Commissioner and/or Government regarding the grant of registration or licence under the (Development and Regulation) Act.

(f) To keep the members informed of the opportunities available in foreign countries for establishing textile industries, etc.

26. To advise members on the provisions of Control of (Capital Issues) Act and also the Foreign Exchange Control Act and the rules and regulations made thereunder.

27. To advise members on the provisions of Import and Export (Controls) Act and the Import Trade and the Export Trade Control Orders made thereunder as
as also the various notifications, orders, etc. issued thereunder.

28. To advise members on the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act and the Control Orders promulgated thereunder and in particular the Cotton (Control) Order, Cotton Textiles (Control) Order and notifications issued thereunder.

(G) COTTON

29(a) To keep members informed of the regulations made by the Textile Commissioner from time to time regarding consumption, stocks and sales and loans of cotton.

(b) To keep members informed of the estimates of cotton production, availability, prices, etc.

(c) To keep members informed of the cotton import policy of the Government.

(d) To collect and collate information regarding prices of Indian and foreign cottons.

(e) To advise members on the cotton development measures.

(f) To take with the Government the question of ensuring adequate supply of indigenous cotton by suitable imports or augmenting local production and to collaborate with the Indian Cotton Mills' Federation for proper distribution of cotton.

(g) To advise member-mills on the provisions of the State Cotton Legislations.
(H) CLOTH AND YARN

30(a) To review from time to time the control measures affecting cloth and yarn production, with a view to urging modifications.

(b) To make representations to appropriate authorities regarding the fixation of proper realisation multipliers for working out the prices of controlled cloth.

(c) To advise members about the interpretation of the definitions controlled varieties of cloth, working out of the prices of controlled cloth and to prepare drafts of appeals/letters to be addressed by members to the Textile Commissioner and/or Government in individual cases.

(d) To assist individual member-mills in securing permissions or sanctions from the Textile Commissioner and the Government for deviation from the requirements relating to production and price controls on cloth.

(e) To assist Fair Price Shops, Co-operative Stores etc., in getting supplies of cloth from mills on a fair-cross section basis up to 10 percent of mills' production.

(I) SUPPLY OF SCARCE MATERIAL

31(a) To advise mills in the matter of prices, supply and distribution, etc. relating to materials like cement, iron and steel, dyes and chemicals, furnace oil, coal, kerosene, gur, etc.
(b) To correspond with the Government authorities and with manufacturers in obtaining supplies of starches, shuttles, bobbins, terene fibre, etc. in short supply, for the use of member-mills.

32. To collect and collate information regarding requirements of individual member mills in the above commodities and wherever possible and expedient to negotiate bulk supply and arrange for their proper distribution.

(J) STANDARDISATION AND INSPECTION

33. To consider the drafts of the Indian Standards Institution relating to standardisation of specifications relating to cloth and yarn, stores, machinery, etc. with which the cotton textile industry is concerned and to make appropriate representations.

34. To advise members on the provisions of the Textiles Committee Act and the Rules made thereunder.

(K) COMMERCIAL SERVICES

35. To review the Standard Contract Form evolved by the Association for sale of cloth and yarn for the internal market in consultation with the interests of the trading community.

36. To provide arbitration machinery under the auspices of the Association in case of disputes or difference arising out of standard contracts.

37. To draw up a Panel of Arbitrators and Umpires
consisting of the Millowners’ Association as well as the Dealers’ representatives for appointment as arbitrators and umpires in dispute arising out of the Standard Contract.

38. To deal with arbitration relating to export contracts entered into prior to the take over of Export Standard Contract by the Cotton Textile Export Promotion Council.

39. To keep a close liaison with the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council and the Indian Cotton Mills’ Federation and to give prompt information to mills regarding the export incentives applicable to various foreign markets and the changes made therein from time to time.

40. To keep mills informed of the developments in export trade and the changes of procedures in respect of licensing schemes, quota restrictions, etc.

41. To authenticate shipping bills for the purpose of export incentive scheme.

42. To study import policy announcements made by the Government from time to time and to keep the members informed of the policy changes made in imports of items required by the textile industry.

43. To correspond with the Office of the Textile Commissioner for the issue of essentiality certificates to member-mills for the import of goods which are
required by the textile industry.

44. To correspond with the import licensing authorities for the issue of import licences to member-mills.

45. To make representations to the authorities concerned urging the changes required to be made in the Import Policy for the import of such items as are required by the textile.

46. To advise member-mills on the various provisions of the Company Law and to make suitable representations to the Central Government and the Company Law Board on matters affecting the textile mill companies under the enactment.

47. To correspond with the Insurance Association of India on matters of revision of insurance rates on behalf of the member-mills and also on all matters arising under the Insurance Tariff.

48. To hold meetings from time to time with the representatives of the Bombay Piecegoods Merchants' Mahajan to discuss matters of mutual interest to the trade and the industry.

49. To correspond with the Telephone authorities and with the members of the Telephone Advisory Committee in the matter of sanction of telephone connections to mill executives on a priority basis.

50. To correspond with the Railway with a view to removing difficulties in the matter of booking of goods and also for adoption of measures necessary for preventing
pileferage of goods in transit.

51. To arrange for allotment of wagons on priority basis for movement of coal and of seasonal goods (like blankets in winter).

52. To correspond with the Railway Board on matters relating to railway rates and freights.

53. To correspond with the Bombay Port Trust for securing permissions for the mills for storage of textiles and items of machinery in the Port Trust Godowns in view of the scarcity of godown and to negotiate for the fixation of rentals of such godowns.

54. To advise members on the provisions of the Trade and Merchandise Marke Act and also on the weights and Measures Act.

55. To keep members informed of the measures adopted by Government in implementation of Trade and Merchandise Marks Act such as the enforcement of trade description, stamping of country of origin etc.

56. To keep members informed of the measures taken by the Government to implement the metric system of weights and measures and to secure exemptions for members from the Act for non-commercial weights.

57. To advise member-mills on the provisions of the Indian Petroleum Act regarding the storage, licence etc. relating to oils of petroleum origin in the mill premises.
STATISTICAL COMPILATIONS

58. Annual Mill Statement giving mill-wise information regarding installed and working spindles, looms, capital, labour employed, cotton consumed of all the mills in the country together with the names and addresses of all the mills and their Managing Agents/ Directors etc. The Statement also indicates the progress of the mill industry during the past 50 years.

59. Monthly statements of production and stocks of yarn and cloth with mills showing current month's position in juxtaposition with the position in the previous months of the year separately for (a) mills in Bombay City, (b) mills in Maharashtra State and (c) mills all over India with a view to keeping the members informed of the relevant data to enable them to chalk out their production programme.

60. Monthly statement of machine activity of mills in Bombay City showing the number of spindles and looms worked by mills in Bombay City in the previous two months with a view to keeping them in touch with the latest machine activity and also of quantity to be packed against outstanding contracts by mills to give an idea of the market position of cloth to members.

61. Monthly textile Barometre which is a comprehensive
statement showing Centre/State-wise, the figures of machine activity, consumption of cotton, labour employed, group-wise production of yarn, total as well as variety-wise production of cloth, etc.
The statement also contains the cumulative figures of the year previous months of the year.


63. Monthly statement showing quotations from mills for varieties of cloth.

64. Composite balance-sheet of the industry showing the important financial ratios to evaluate the financial health of the industry.

65. Monthly statements showing consumer price index numbers and dearness allowance paid in different textile centres in the country.

66. Annual survey of labour situation in the Bombay cotton mill industry showing, among others, absenteeism in the industry, family planning, welfare activities, etc.

67. Annual statement of bonus calculations of the Bombay cotton mill industry.

(M) INFORMATION SERVICE AND PUBLIC RELATIONS

68. To issue to members monthly publication entitled 'Notes and News' giving the developments concerning the industry during the previous month.
69. To issue weekly bulletins to report to members current news of topical interest.

70. To issue quarterly applications entitled 'Legal Notes' covering the judicial judgements on the matters concerning the industry.

71. Circular service to members bringing to their notice judicial decisions of important concerning the industry with a view to keeping the mills informed about the latest legal position.

72. To circulate literature in the shape of speeches, articles etc. of economic interest.

73. To write articles to the press to focus public attention on problems facing the industry.

74. To meet the representatives of the Press at periodical intervals for projecting proper image of the industry on the public mind.

(N) POWER SUPPLY AND POWER TARIFF

75. To hold negotiations with the Power Supply Companies and the State Government for securing fair power tariff for member-mills.

76. To make representations to Government and to Power Companies for ensuring steady supply of power to textile mills.

77. To negotiate, in the event of power cut, with the Power Companies, Government and the Labour in the matter of implementation of the power cut with least possible dislocation.
78. To secure financial assistance to mills for installing generating sets.

79. To obtain permissions to mills, for installation of generating sets, from the authorities like Municipal Corporation, Chief Inspector of Factories, Maharashtra State Electricity Board, Chief Inspector of Explosives, Government of India and also for storage of light diesel oil and high speed diesel oil required for feeding the generating sets.

80. To help mills to obtain permissions from local police authorities and from the Fire Brigade of the Municipal Corporation for the storage of the high speed diesel oil and light diesel oil.

81. To help mills in obtaining their requirements of high speed and light diesel oils by making representations to the State and to the Central Government and by persuading the Oil Companies to ensure prompt and timely supply of these oils to the mills.

82. To correspond with the Banking Institutions and also with the long-term Finance Institutions like the I.D.B.I., I.C.I.C.I., I.F.C. etc. for securing need-based credit assistance to mills in need of the same.

83. To correspond with the Reserve Bank of India and the
E.C.G.C. and other bodies for the extension of cheap credit for export manufacture of mills.

84. To represent to the State and Central Governments for the provision of speedy financial assistance through the guarantees or otherwise to sick and marginal mills.

(P) TAXATION

85. To analyse critically annual budgets and to make representations to the Central Government on matters affecting the textile industry directly or indirectly.

86. To advise member-mills on the various provisions of the Central Excises and Salt Act and the Rules and Notifications made thereunder.

87. To compile manuals on tax laws with full commentaries including codification of judicial decisions.

88. To assist mills in the preparation and presentation of appeals to the appellate authorities on excise assessment matters and also revision petitions to the Central Government.

89. To assist the mill's lawyers in preparing and presenting writ petitions to the High Courts and Supreme Court.

90. To appear before the Central Excise Authorities to argue the appeals and revision petitions.

91. To correspond with the Excise Collectorates and the Government on procedural difficulties arising in the
implementation of excise rules and regulations.

92. To advise Government on matters relating to handloom cess, additional excise duty in replacement of sales-tax and penal excise duties.

93. To advise mills on matters arising under the Produce Cess Act.

94. To advise member mills on the various provisions of the Income-tax Act and other direct tax legislations, and to correspond with the Government on matters affecting the industry under such enactment.

95. To advise member-mills on the provisions of State Sales Tax Acts and the Central Sales Tax Act and to assist members in the preparation and presentation of petitions and appeals in sales-tax assessments.

96. To conduct research into tax structures obtaining in the country.

97. To advise member-mills on the various State legislations providing for tax on electricity, road transport, Education cess, stamp duties etc. to make representations on matters affecting the industry thereunder.

(q) LIBRARY

98. To maintain an up-to-date library for the benefit of members containing reference books and periodicals on a wide range of subjects including:

(i) The Canadian Labour Decisions.
(ii) The American Labour Decisions.
(iii) The All-India Reporter.
(v) The Supreme Court Reporters.
(vii) Economic Trade and Commerce Review publications of various countries.
(viii) Statistical abstracts of various countries.
(ix) Annual Reports of various Ministries of the Government.
(x) All import publications from the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.
(xi) Reference publications on Textile Technology.

7.25 Conclusion

The purpose in listing all these activities in detail is to indicate varied nature of activities of a trade-association and also to indicate how an active trade association serves its members in more than one ways and guards their interests. It is only through the activities and the services any association or a Chamber of Commerce can prove its utility and make its membership indispensable for the organisations in the concerned industry. The Mill-owners' Association has 100% membership of all Mills in Bombay and therefore it has emerged as a strong body guarding textile interests in Bombay. This has been achieved by the Association through its service and by providing its utility beyond doubt to the member-mills. As long as the trade associations and Chamber of Commerce, have voluntary membership, these bodies can only attract
membership by rendering useful services to their members. The Millowners' Associations' varied activities and services to its members are very significant in this context.
IV. Indian Cotton Mills' Federation

A Brief History

The Indian Cotton Mills' Federation was formed in March 1938 as a federated body of the millowners' associations of Bengal, Mysore, Kerala, Tamilnadu, Madhya Pradesh, Gujerath, Rajasthan, New Delhi, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, etc. Before the establishment of ICMF, there were very powerful regional associations of millowners at Bombay, Ahmedabad, Coimbatore, Calcutta, Indore and New Delhi. There were also attempts to bring these associations on a common platform but those efforts did not succeed. The problems of textile industry continued to grow and in fifties textile interests very strongly felt the need for an all India Organisation to represent their interests. ICMF was therefore formed in 1958 with Shri Kasturbhail Lalbhai as its Chairman. Since its inception the Federation is making strenuous efforts to present industry's point of view on the various problems affecting it and to meet undeserved criticism levelled against it.

Membership

At present the ICMF has following associations as its members:

1. The Millowners' Association, Bombay.
3. The Southern India Millowners' Association, Coimbatore.
4. The Bengal Millowners' Association, Calcutta.
5. The Employers' Association of Northern India, Kanpur.
6. The Upper India Chamber of Commerce, Kanpur.
8. The Federation of Gujarath Mills and Industries, Baroda.

Out of these 12 Associations, the first 11 associations are founder members of the Association and the Maharashtra Mofussil Mills' Association has joined ICMF at a later stage.

The membership subscription is fixed annually by the Committee of ICMF on the basis of spindles and/or looms and/or processing capacity and/or consumption of cotton.

7.28 Administration

The administration of the ICMF is managed by a committee consisting of not less than 10 and not more than 40 members. The appointment of the members of the committee are made on the basis of proportional repre-
sentation, the proportion being based on the actual spindles and of spindles equivalent to looms\textsuperscript{1} of the members of each Association member. In 1970, there were 24 members on the committee of ICMF. The committee every year elects a Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Vice-Chairman from its members.

7.29 Finances

The total budget of ICMF in 1970 was of Rs. 41,38,113. On income side the Federation had an income of Rs. 1,03,728, by way of annual membership subscription and Rs. 37,78,876 by way of interest\textsuperscript{2} on investments. On expenditure side, though the items of expenditure were of a routine administrative nature, in 1970 ICMF had contributed Rs. 14,52,000 to the ICMF Cotton Development and Research Association for cotton development and research activities of the Association. The year had ended with a deficit of Rs. 1,48,267.

7.30 Activities of the ICMF

The Federation was conceived as a self regulatory body of the cotton textile industry and fortunately it has so far kept up to its reputation. Instead of just criticising the government policies, it places before the government various difficulties faced by the industry and suggests alternate ways and means to be adopted keeping in view the motive behind these legislations. During the last decade of its existence, ICMF has introduced many

\textsuperscript{1} For this purpose each loom is regarded as equivalent of 35 spindles: Article 6.5 of the Articles of Association of ICMF.

Continued/*
a self-regulatory measure with success. On many occasions it has pulled the erring textile mills and has seen that no malpractices are resorted to by them in observing self-regulation. It is working in close collaboration with the Government and during the last 14 years ICMF has won the confidence of the Government to such an extent that today there is hardly any decision regarding textile industry such as export promotion schemes, price control, accumulation of stocks, distribution of yarn, distribution of imported cotton, problems of rationalisation and modernisation which the government implements without taking ICMF into confidence. This sort of work in close cooperation with the Government and the emergence of ICMF as a self-regulatory body for the textile industry is something unique in the history of trade associations of our country. In the following paragraphs an attempt has been made to describe the role played by ICMF in this field.

(a) Cotton Supply

There has been a shortfall between domestic cotton production and its consumption by mills since 1958-59 and this gap is widening year after year. The ICMF has all along tackled this problem effectively. In 1959 in order to bridge this gap, Federation suggested to the Government to import 10 lakh bales to meet the demand and to introduce quota system in respect of distribution of

2 This amount of interest is collected on the cotton export promotion fund which is collected by ICMF. The actual amount collected is not known as these figures are treated as confidential.
Indian Cotton to the mills. Both the suggestions were accepted by the Government. In 1961, when as a result of increased cotton production, the stocks began accumulating, the Federation requested the mills to step up their cotton purchases and thus liquidate the stocks with cotton growers. This was necessary otherwise it would have given a set back to the next year's crop.

In 1961-62, the prices of cotton went above the ceiling prices and therefore in order to keep these prices within the ceiling and in order to regulate the distribution, the Federation purchased 24,000 bales and allotted to mills on the basis of requirements registered with the Federation. This enabled the mills to get cotton within the ceiling prices. When the price dropped and touched the ceiling, the purchase operations were stopped by the Federation.

Towards the end of 1963, the prices of Digvijaya Cotton crossed the ceiling price and hence the Textile Commissioner requisitioned a few thousand bales and its distribution was entrusted to the Federation.

In November 1964, as a result of the increasing consumption of cotton by the mills, larger quantities of imports were allowed. But even then the prices of cotton kept increasing. The Federation introduced a scheme of self-discipline on mills in December 1964. Under this scheme the mills were asked 'not to buy any cotton above
the ceiling prices, no mill in Bombay and Ahmedabad to hold more than two months' stocks of Indian cotton and for four months in certain areas, each mill to declare its stock of cotton and kapas to the federation and also declare its stocks with merchants as well as forward purchases, the Federation to give to each mill purchase/delivery certificate for a quantity and the mill should conform to the prescribed limit of stocks; if mills fail to get cotton within the ceiling, the Federation would help to procure cotton for these mills; the Federation assured that it would purchase cotton at 5 percent below the appropriate ceiling. For enforcing this scheme, a high powered committee was set up. The names of mills who did not cooperate with the implementation of the scheme were communicated to the Textile Commissioner who was requested to withhold export incentives and other benefits due to them and also to requisition their cotton in excess of specified limits.

In 1965, the Federation, at the request of the Textile Commissioner imported 7200 bales of American Cotton against the export of cotton textiles to Indonesia. These bales were allotted to mills under actual user and retention quotas.

The failure of domestic cotton crop to meet the

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internal demand of mills continued in later years. In 1963-69, the crop was 58.50 lakh bales as against 59.40 lakh bales in the preceding year. In 1969-70 the crop was even smaller at 56.70 lakh bales and in 1970-71 it was disastrously low at 52 lakh bales. In contrast the mill consumption has been steadily rising: 61.66 lakh bales in 1967-68, 61.99 lakh bales in 1968-69, 63.71 lakh bales in 1969-70 and 64 lakh bales in 1970-71. In order to meet acute shortage of cotton in 1970-71 season, the Federation proposed to the Government, a block closure of mills for 15 days initially and for another 15 days later in the season if need be. But the Government rejected this suggestion and decided to allow more imports of cotton and staple fibre to ensure the smooth working of mills. In March 1970, the Federation's proposal to continue the existing scheme of allocation of foreign cotton to mills on the basis of their spindle working was approved by the Government.

(b) ICMF Cotton Development Project

In order to meet shortage of domestic cotton production, the Federation on its own launched in September 1964 a scheme of cotton development. ICMF felt that the slow improvement in cotton production is due to lack of proper education of the cotton growing farmer in the modern methods of cultivation and of convincing demonstrations to enthuse him to adopt improved practices. Therefore the
Federation took up the cotton development project in order to educate the farmers and improve the acre yields of all cottons grown in any locality. This programme was essentially to supplement the work done under the cotton development package schemes by the Central and State Governments. This scheme is being implemented by taking up massive demonstration of improved methods of cotton cultivation over about 1000 acre blocks in compact areas spread over three to four villages in the different cotton growing tracts, operated by the growers on their own fields with their own efforts.

Adequate technical staff is posted at each centre to guide farmers on the spot on methods of irrigation, fertilisation and protection of the crop against pests and diseases. The members of the staff maintain close contact with the cultivators to induce them to pay maximum attention to the adoption of the schedule of cultural operations. Difficulties of farmers are studied and steps are taken to implement the suggestions made. Arrangements are made not only to supply the inputs in their own villages as far as possible but also provide the necessary implements and plant protection equipment for use either free or on nominal hire charges to enable them to derive maximum benefits.

In addition, mass plant protection campaigns are also organised by the Federation by taking up ground and
aerial spraying work over large areas in collaboration with the State departments of agriculture. These campaigns have a great educative value because a large number of farmers get an impressive practical demonstration of the utility of plant protection in the enhancement of yields in a very short time.

The following improved methods of cultivation are used by the Federation in its cotton development centres:

1. Use of improved seed
2. Application of fertilisers as basal and top dressing.
3. Provision of irrigational facilities.
4. Plant protection measures.
5. Adoption of improved cultural practices such as sowing at the proper time, with adequate spacing, line sowing, weeding, thinning, inter culture etc.

The efforts of ICMF have borne fruit and the average yield per acre of cotton in quintals has gone up considerably in the project areas. In some areas the rise in yield is as high as 166%.

The following table (Table 7.10) shows the area covered by the ICMF project from 1964-65 to 1970-71.

Thus during 1964-65 only one centre covering about 1100 acres was established. The area has gone up to 2,36,000 acres in 1970-71. The number of holdings served by this project have also gone up from 200 to 44,000.
Table 7.10. Yearwise area covered under the ICMF Cotton Development Project (1964-71)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Area in acres</th>
<th>No. of Holdings</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Irrigated area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1964-65</td>
<td>1000</td>
<td>200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965-66</td>
<td>10000</td>
<td>2700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966-67</td>
<td>11000</td>
<td>3400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967-68</td>
<td>14000</td>
<td>5200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968-69</td>
<td>14000</td>
<td>4600</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969-70</td>
<td>40000</td>
<td>13000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970-71</td>
<td>96000</td>
<td>30000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>186000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Unirrigated area</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967-68</td>
<td>7000</td>
<td>900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1968-69</td>
<td>8000</td>
<td>900</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1969-70</td>
<td>95000</td>
<td>9500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1970-71</td>
<td>140000</td>
<td>14000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>250000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mass Campaigns</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1965-66</td>
<td>4000</td>
<td>800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1966-67</td>
<td>13000</td>
<td>1200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1967-68</td>
<td>33000</td>
<td>1800</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>50000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Grand Total</td>
<td>448000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The project and mass campaign together have served 4,48,000 acres and 88,200 holdings so far.

The project centres are spread over all India such as Punjab (7), Haryana (2), Rajasthan (8), Madhya Pradesh (4), Gujarat (12), Maharashtra (8), Mysore (4), Andhra Pradesh (4), Tamil Nadu (14), Uttar Pradesh (1). Figures in the bracket indicate the number of project centres and mass campaigns in each state.

In 1969-70, under self-supply for cotton by mills some 70 sponsoring mills adopted areas ranging from 500 to 10,000 acres and helped the growers to improve the productivity of their lands. The self supply principle involved arranging for supply of inputs like fertilizers and plant protection chemicals on loan to the cultivators through finance provided by the scheduled commercial banks. The project cultivators in turn were required to offer the produce to the sponsoring mills who would purchase it by paying a small premium over the market price provided the quality was satisfactory. IC MF as usual provided the technical guidance to the cultivators. But this scheme was not pursued in 1970-71. In this year the minimum area for a centre was increased to 10,000 acres for irrigated and 30,000 acres for rain fed block.

The total expenditure on the IC MF Cotton Development Project till 1970-71 was Rs. 80 lakhs. In 1970-71 about Rs. 26 lakhs were spent on the project.
In December 1969, the ICMF decided that the cotton development work which was being carried on directly under its aegis be brought under a separate organisation called the ICMF Cotton Development and Research Association. This association has been registered under the Societies' Act 1960 and all the cotton development activities of the Federation were transferred to the new Association with effect from 1st January 1970. The ICMF as usual continues to contribute funds to the Association and in 1970, a sum of Rs. 14.52 lakhs was contributed by ICMF to the Association.

This is a unique project undertaken by any Trade Association in our country.

C. Statutory control on production and prices of cloth

The ICMF has been dealing with the problems of increasing cloth prices right from the beginning. Thus in 1960, it took the following measures to arrest the rise in cloth prices:

(a) All cloth to be stamped with ex mill price, retail price and excise duty.

(b) Assurance from the mills to sell cloth at agreed prices.

(c) Opening of retail shops to sell cloth at reduced prices.

(d) Mills to sell yarn directly to handloom cooperative societies at the revised prices.

(e) Mills to submit to their respective associations price
returns to ensure sale of cloth at fixed prices.

(f) Appointment of Supervisory Committees to see that the scheme was effectively carried out.

In order to have a continuity of supply of popular varieties of cloth, the Federation requested the mills to stick to varieties termed as popular and have no change for six months. Any change in popular varieties was to have the approval of the Regional Millowners' Associations and the Textile Commissioner.

The Federation also attempted in 1961, pooling of the demand of cooperative handloom societies and allocate among member mills of the association on the basis of their known pattern of production of different counts.

In July 1962, the Textile Commissioner, in consultation with the Federation, fixed prices of yarn of counts of 40's and above and also evolved a scheme to distribute a minimum quantity amongst the handloom cooperatives.

Because of the increase in the prices of raw cotton and import duty, there was a necessity to revise upwards the cloth and yarn prices of mills. The Federation persistently invited the attention of the Government to this fact and in 1963, the revised schedule of yarn prices was approved and announced by Government. The Federation also suggested the removal of quota system and of price control on staple yarn which was accepted by the Government.

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In 1964, the Federation felt that the Voluntary Price Regulation Scheme 1960 was not in conformity with the changed conditions and suggested to the Government its replacement by either full statutory control, full decontrol or partial control. The government brought about 45 per cent of the total production of cloth under control in November 1964.

At present a rebate in controlled cloth obligation is given for supplies of cloth for export and defence. A rebate is also given for supplies of cloth to manufacturer exporters of readymade garments and made ups for export purposes. At the instance of the Federation from the quarter November 1970 - January 1971, this concession has been extended to cover supplies of cloth to merchant exporters of ready made garments and made ups for export purposes.

As a result of the unremunerative prices of controlled cloth, its production has come down from 206 million metres per quarter in 1968-69 to 45.8 million metres in August-October 1970. The Federation has been making efforts to get an increase of these prices but it has not succeeded so far.

In July 1972, after having a series of discussions with the Textile Commissioner, the Federation evolved a voluntary scheme for supply of cotton yarn of counts 60s and above in hanks and cone forms to nominees of State Governments at regulated prices with a view to holding
price rise for such yarn. The monthly quantum of yarn to be delivered by each mill from August 1972 under this scheme is up to 50 per cent of the average monthly packings for civil deliveries of such yarn in cones and hanks during the months of April and May 1972. Export packings are allowed to be set off against obligations under this scheme. This yarn is to be supplied to the nominees (i.e., powerloom and handloom owners) of the State Directorate of Industries.

(d) **Modernisation of Mills**

The Federation has been inviting attention of the Government and the various working groups and sub-committees appointed by the Government regarding the need for modernising the mills. The finances involved for this purpose would be enormous. The working group for the Cotton Textile Industry NIDC (1960) had estimated about Rs. 800 crores for this purpose. The Federation has estimated Rs. 1,000 crores as a result of rise in prices.

In March 1965, the Industrial Development Bank of India after consulting the Federation announced deferred payment arrangements for a period of 6 months to 5 years. But the bank's capacity to assist the industry has been limited - Rs. 50 crores or at the most Rs. 100 crores which means very few can get advantage of this scheme.

The Federation since 1964 has been urging the Government to declare the cotton textile industry as an industry of national importance and give it a rebate in income-tax
and super-tax. But so far Federation has not met with success.

In April 1970, Federation submitted to the Textile Commissioner a draft scheme for the modernisation of cotton textile mills. This was a concrete but modest proposal to modernise the exporting mills. In view of the increasing competition in the overseas markets and the decision of the British Government to abolish duty free quota system, modernisation of the exporting mills was necessary. The Cotton Textile Consultative Board in its meeting considered this proposal and appointed a sub-committee to go through this question. In its report the sub-committee felt that there was need to modernise not only the exporting mills but also the non-exporting mills. The sub-committee recommended all exporting mills irrespective of their export performance should be eligible for importing sophisticated machinery required for modernisation. It estimated the import of machinery worth Rs. 20 crores per year during the next few years.

(e) Exports

In 1958, when the exports of yarn and cloth fell, the Federation worked out an export incentive scheme which was acceptable to the Government and came into force from July 1958. In 1959, the exports of cloth and yarn were linked to the import of cotton and also to the import of textile machinery.

In 1962, the Federation implemented the export obligations
scheme under which every mill had to export $12\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of its turnover of cloth and 3 per cent of its turnover of cotton yarn and staple fibre yarn. The Federation could withhold cotton quotas if mills did not fulfill their obligations. In July-December 1962, the Federation advised 355 mills about their export obligations which amounted to Rs. 31 crores.

The ICMF has created an Export Promotion Fund by introducing a levy on imported cotton and this Fund was used with the object of assisting mills and exporters to compete in the overseas markets. The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council also contributes from time to time to this ICMF Export Promotion Fund certain funds from its levy on exports.

To promote exports to countries in E.E.C., Australia and Switzerland, ICMF formed a consortium of 14 members which is working since January 1964.

In July 1972, ICMF devised voluntary measures to fill the gaps in the export performance to U.K. and Soviet Russia. Exports to U.K. up to 30th June had been only 36 million square yards against the quota of 207 million square yards. It was not possible to cover 20 million square metres for export against the cotton conversion deal with Russia. In this context when the Government was considering to impose compulsion on mills to export 15% of their production, the ICMF came forward with a set of voluntary measures to which the Government agreed. Under this voluntary
scheme all mills had to take an obligation to export 115 million square metres of cloth to U.K. and 20 million square metres to Soviet Russia, and the obligation of each mill was calculated in proportion to its loom working in 1971. Mills had the facility to fulfil their obligation either by themselves or by getting other mills to do the export on their behalf. Defaulting mills had to pay to the Export Promotion Fund of ICMF a penalty of 25 paise per square metre for the shortfall in its performance.

To finance the additional exports by the above measure, ICMF decided to collect from all mills both spinning and composite, additional spindle loom levy at the rate of 75 paise per spindle shift per year and Re. 1 per inch of reed space per loom shift per year for one year starting from July 1972.

For the implementation of this voluntary scheme, the regional associations of mill owners were requested to constitute special sub-committees to supervise this scheme. All mills were requested to send their returns to the regional associations. The ICMF also constituted a special committee to supervise the operation of this voluntary scheme.

(f) **Trade Agreements**

The ICMF has carried on negotiations and entered into agreements with foreign countries on behalf of Indian textile industry. Federation signed an agreement with U.K.
in January 1960. The total imports in U.K. for retention were not to exceed 175 square yards in any one year and the shortfall and excess to the extent of 10 per cent was to be carried in the following year. Pakistan was also a party to the agreement. Federation also succeeded in bringing Licensing machinery of U.K. to India.

Federation also succeeded in increasing the quota of textiles to U.K. in 1965 and in reducing the surcharge imposed by U.K. on Indian textiles by 5 per cent.

Federation also signed inter industry agreements regarding export quotas with the parallel organisation in Austria, Canada and United States.

7.31 ICMF and various Government Departments

The ICMF has very close liaison with various government departments, authorities and public bodies such as the office of the Textile Commissioner, Cotton Textiles Consulting Board, Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council, Ministry of Foreign Trade, Ministry of Industrial Development etc. Out of these, the Federation has the closest liaison with the office of the Textile Commissioner. Many decisions pertaining to the textile industry are taken in close association with the Textile Commissioner and a number of voluntary controls of the ICMF are introduced and implemented as a result of the cooperation of the Textile Commissioner's office. Similarly the operation of ICMF Export Promotion Fund is being operated by the
Federation as a result of the cooperation from Cotton Textile Export Promotion Council and Joint Chief Controller of Imports and Exports.

7.32 Conclusion

The role played by ICMF in the development of the Indian textile industry and in introducing certain measure of self discipline in the industry is significant. Like other business associations, the Federation has not stopped at sending memoranda and inviting the attention of the Government to the difficulties of the industry. This it has of course done. But it has gone beyond this by introducing the much needed self discipline in the textile industry and by trying to replace statutory controls by its voluntary measures with a great amount of success.

Government has powers of devising and enforcing statutory controls. But the presence of controls undoubtedly brings more rigidity in the system and their enforcement is equally cumbersome. Therefore if business associations like ICMF succeed in enforcing self-discipline in the industry, regulatory functions of the Government can certainly be curtailed and the much needed flexibility can be introduced in the whole system. Federation has been trying to emphasise this point to the associations and mills. Sometimes it has not succeeded in its efforts - as in the ceiling prices of cotton and in the regulation of cloth prices - but its efforts to enforce such measures is noteworthy.
In introducing the voluntary measures, the Federation has in many cases full government support and backing. For instance, there is always a fear that if the mills do not abide by the voluntary measures, the Government may impose similar measures through legislation. The mills, therefore, probably prefer to deal with the office of ICMF than with the Textile Commissioner's office or other Government office. The voluntary measures of the Federation are not followed by any punishment for erring members and therefore many times the Federation had to request Textile Commissioner or other Government offices to take action against such mills.

The strength of ICMF comes not merely by introducing such voluntary measures but because it is also rendering concrete services in a big way in the interest of the textile industry. For instance as we have seen earlier, it is operating an Export Promotion Fund to assist mills and exporters to compete in the overseas markets. It has signed agreements with many foreign countries for promoting Indian textile exports. It is also organising an extensive cotton development scheme all over the country for increasing per acre yield of domestic cotton crop. The funds involved in Export Promotion Fund and Cotton Development Scheme are huge and both these activities have produced very useful results for the textile industry.

ICMF has also a very close liaison with various Govern-
ment departments especially with the office of the Textile Commissioner and the Joint Chief Controller of Imports and Exports. The Federation is an agency which collects the premium and licence for the import of cotton which is given by Joint Chief Controller of Imports and Exports only on the production by the mill of the premium receipt issued by the Federation. The Federation has a close liaison with the office of Textile Commissioner and has worked hand in hand in pursuing many policies concerning textile industry such as control on production and prices of cloth, modernisation of mills, exports of cotton textiles, accumulation of stocks, etc. The Federation has also played a great part in the formation of various policies of the Government on the above subjects as well as other subjects concerning textile industry. It has been consulted by the Central Government, by the Cotton Textile Consulting Board, by the Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council and other similar organisations and authorities on all matters concerning textile industry. On the part of the Federation its attitude has been not one of criticism, but it has offered constructive suggestions and in many cases has assumed full responsibility of implementation of any policy once it is convinced of the need to do so.

Because of the active role played by ICMF in the policy making as well as in the implementation of these policies and because of the various concrete services rendered by the Federation, it stands apart from many other
trade associations and federations in our country. It has derived strength because of the work it is putting in and the way it has been organised right from the beginning.

This was possible because the textile industry is one of the well organised industries in our country. It has very effective and efficient regional associations and therefore it was easy for the Federation to approach the mills through their regional associations. Federation's present membership shows that the coverage is to the tune of 80 to 85 per cent of the total mills in our country. This gives the necessary strength to the Federation in implementing any policies regarding the textile industry. The regional associations are also there to assist the Federation to implement its decisions. Moreover, there is a growing awareness on the part of mills regarding the usefulness of such voluntary self-discipline. That is why the Federation could achieve so many things in the span of just fifteen years.

Though the Federation has achieved a fair amount of success in achieving self-discipline in the industry, it is too early to think these efforts will ever replace all the statutory controls. There are such matters of social policies such as the role of mill sector vs powerloom and handlooms, and questions relating to monopolies and industrial licensing, where there are conflicting interests and
it would be difficult to achieve these objectives of the law makers by mere self-discipline. But within the industry, if there are enlightened producing units and a strong central body like ICMF, it should not be very difficult to achieve success in introducing self-disciplinary measures in such matters as production of different varieties of cloth, distribution of cloth and yarn, exports of cloth and yarn, etc. Even in these internal matters, the Federation has not been able to enforce voluntary price controls. In 1960 ICMF introduced voluntary price control measures. But in 1964 it had to request to the Government to enforce statutory controls. Even with such limitations, success achieved by the Federation in introducing voluntary self-discipline measures in various other fields is significant and the pioneering efforts of the Federation in this field must be commended.

The Federation does not want to stop at this. It wants that the office of the Textile Commissioner should not undertake mere regulatory work but it should be a promotional organisation. The Federation would like the Textile Commissioner's office to assist the Indian Textile Industry in its aspirations for world leadership. It feels that functions like utilisation of foreign credits for machinery and spare parts, grant of essentiality certificates for import of machinery, allocation of imported cotton, inter-mill transfer of machinery entitlement, permission for
expansion of loomage and spindlege, distribution of cement, iron and steel can be delegated to the Federation instead of being handled by the Textile Commissioner's office.¹

Thus the Federation feels that it should emerge as a strong central organisation of Indian textile industry controlling all aspects of the industry. We do not know whether the Government will agree to part with all its powers of regulating the textile industry to the Federation. But ICMF has already made a lot of progress in enforcing voluntary measures and as an apex organisation has influenced most of the Government policies regarding the textile industry and has brought, in many cases, the desired changes therein. The Government and other authorities hold ICMF in high esteem and it is consulted from time to time on all such policy matters. This itself is a great achievement.

For the student of trade associations, ICMF has opened a new chapter in this field and by its example has shown what concrete services can be rendered to the industry, and how the desired policy changes can be brought about by a strong trade-association.

¹ Memorandum to the Study Team to go into the question of the working of Textile Commissioner's Organisation, November 16, 1965.
APPENDIX I

Important subjects handled and memoranda submitted by the Mahratta Chamber of Commerce and Industries, Poona (1934-1971)

MATTERS REGARDING DEVELOPMENT OF POONA

1. Discussions with Hon'ble Shri P.G. Kher, Minister for Urban Development, regarding recommendations made by Gadgil Committee.
2. Survey of Industrial Poona.
3. Application of Beggers' Act to Poona.
5. Memorandum on the Gadgil Committee Report on Regional Planning.
7. Inadequate supplies of foodgrains in Poona under Rationing Scheme.
8. Grant of facilities like electricity, telephone, transport, railway siding, etc. to Hadapsar Industrial Estate.
10. Facility of adhesive stamps at Poona.
11. Industrial Housing in Poona and Pimpri-Chinchwad Area.
13. Demand for a branch of small industries service institute at Poona.
14. Submission to Chief Minister, Hon'ble Shri Yeshwantrao Chavan regarding development of industries in Poona.
15. Problems of flood affected industrial units in Poona.
17. Demand for planned development of Poona Region.
18. Demand for a Facility Centre in Poona.

MATTERS RELATING TO INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS

1. Certificates purchases from provident fund accumulations.
2. Provision about canteen in Factories Act.
3. Growing indiscipline among the staff of nationalised banks.


5. Memorandum to Committee appointed to Study Factories Act.

6. ESIC Contribution on interim relief payment.

7. Difficulties regarding ESIC Schemes.

8. Opening of ESIC Office at Sangli.

9. The Bill tabled before Bombay Legislative Assembly to regulate working hours of persons employed in shops.

10. Contribution to ESIC on the interim relief payment.


12. Workers under foreign rule and their wages.

13. Concessions extended by Government to industrial workers.


15. Evidence before Wages Committee appointed by Maharashtra Government.


17. Sharing gains/profits by workers.


19. Problem of working overtime in factories.

20. Weekly off to workers engaged in motor transport industry.

21. Reverification of wholesale price index.

22. Employment of unemployed goldsmiths.

23. Applicability/Application of employees' provident fund to other industries.


25. Amendment suggested by Maharashtra Government to Industrial Disputes Act.

26. Application of Employees State Insurance Scheme to Poona ... discussions regarding.

27. Memorandum to National Commission on Labour.

28. Integration of forms to be filled under workers' Acts.

29. Memorandum to Engineering Wage Board.

30. Memorandum to Bonus Review Committee.
31. Reduction in the number of Public Holidays.
32. Paid Holidays on Election Day.
33. Extended working hours for factories engaged in Defence production.
34. Employees' State Insurance Scheme ... Clarification and explanation of amendments introduced in the Act
35. Deliberations on the questionnaire issued by National Labour Commissions.
36. Submission to Engineering Wage Board.
37. Family Pension Scheme - extension of date.
40. Submission regarding Engineering Wage Board and Bonus Act.
41. Wages earned by employees in public sector undertakings.

**TAXATION**

1. Submission to Direct Taxes Board.
2. Preliminary submission to Direct Taxes Enquiry Commission.
5. Late payment of Income Tax dues because of bank workers strike.
6. Submission regarding restrictions on expenditure on advt.
7. Levy of super-tax on small companies proposed by Government of India.
8. Memorandum to Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes.
9. Matters connected with Direct Taxes.
10. Amendment to Section 139 of the Income Tax Act.
11. Memorandum to Bhootalingam Committee on simplification of Tax Procedures.
12. Assessment of tax on the profits earned by small Ltd. Companies.
13. Compulsory (time) deposits.
16. Adoption of a common policy in taxation measures.
17. Difficulties regarding Direct Taxes.
18. Tax measures should be congenial to productivity.
20. Memorandum to Taxation Enquiry Commission.
21. Levy of Tax on property over Rs. 1 lakh of a deceased.

MATTERS RELATING TO SALES TAX

2. Sales Tax on cloth produced on powerlooms.
3. Resolutions passed by Maharashtra Industrialists Conference.
4. Levy of Sales Tax on Steel trunks at a reduced rate of 5%.
6. Protesting Bombay Sales Tax Bill.
7. Submission to Sales Tax Enquiry Committee.
8. To completely review proposed Sales Tax Levy.
11. Sales Tax on export goods.
13. To appoint a Sales Tax Enquiry Committee.
14. Sales Tax on Steel trunks.
15. Sales Tax on Perfumery and Agarbattis.
16. Sales Tax levied on steel trunks.
17. Acceptance of Bank Guarantee in respect of disputed amount of Sales Tax.
EXPORTS

1. Ship - Freight - Discriminatory treatment to Indian exporters.
3. Extending cash assistance to exporters.
4. Concession in railway freight to export goods
5. Permission to export onions from Nasik District.
6. Problems arising out of restrictions on the export of Indian goods.
8. Delays in settling drawback claims and in fixation of drawback rates.
10. Difficulties pertaining to export inspection.
11. Authority to chamber to issue certificates of origin under GSP.
12. Difficulties regarding export procedures.

PIMPRI-CHINCHWAD-BHOSARI INDUSTRIAL AREA

1. Difficulties faced by Industrialists at Bhosari.
2. Repairs of internal roads in Pimpri area.
3. Demand to set up civic authority for Pimpri-Chinchwad area.
4. Fire Brigade Station in Pimpri area.
5. Water supply to Pimpri area.
6. Submission to Shri S.G. Barve, President, MIDC.
7. Submission to Hon'ble Shri Jag Jivanram, Union Minister for Transport and Communications relating
to opening of post offices at Pimpri, Hadapsar.

Telegraph facility, sanction of telephone connections.

9. Overbridge at Chinchwad level crossing.

10. Siding charges at Chinchwad Railway station.

11. Industrial Housing in Pimpri Chinchwad area.

12. Request to allot postal district No. to Pimpri Chinchwad area.


14. PMT Buses in Bhosari Estate.


16. Repairs of Crane installed at Chinchwad Rly Station.

17. Separate Civic Authority for Pimpri Chinchwad Area.

18. Complaints regarding Industrial Housing in Pimpri.

19. Supply of water to industries in Pimpri.


22. Need to increase time for sending money orders through Chinchwad Post Office.

23. Night postal service from Chinchwad Post Office.


26. Need for expanding the capacity of Pimpri telephone exchange.

MATTERS RELATING TO COMPANY ACT

1. Memorandum on Company (1956) Bill.

2. Company/Amenity Bill - Submission to Shastri Committee.
3. Amendment to Companies Act.
5. Government Controls on new companies.
7. Adverts relating to company prospectuses.

AIR SERVICES
1. Construction of civil aerodrome at Poona.
2. Starting of Poona Bombay air service.
3. Morning air service between Poona and Bombay.
4. Suspension of air services between Poona and Bombay.
5. Demand to connect Kolhapur by air.
6. Request to connect Poona to Belgaum, Bangalore and Hyderabad by air.
7. Bombay-Delhi air service via Poona.
8. Air Service to Sholapur.
9. Need to connect important developing centres in Maharashtra by air.
10. Reduction in air freight charges for exporters.
11. Submission of traffic survey report relating to Poona region to Indian Airlines.
MATTERS CONNECTED WITH RAILWAY

1. Increasing number of trains running between Poona-Bombay rail line.
2. Private Cranes in Railway Yard.
3. Submission before Railway Minister regarding difficulties about railway.
5. First Railway Budget of Free India.
6. Request to construct a goods shed at Kirkee Railway Station and installation of a 20 tonne crane.
7. Despatch of Pig iron in railway wagons.
8. Railway Container Service to Madras Station.
9. Booking of parcels from Kirkee Railway Station by Swastik Rubber Products, Ltd.
11. Classification of railway fare on movement of goods.
12. Introduction of Chinchwad-Saswad and Nagar Aurangabad railway line.
15. Declaration of Poona-Bonavala area as Industrial Area.
17. Improvement in railway.
18. Demand for railway line from Lonand-Kurduwadi.
19. Submission to Hon'ble Shri Shah Navaz Khan, Dy. Minister for Railway regarding declaration of Poona-Lonavala area as suburban area, increase in number of local trains etc.
20. Conversion of Kolhapur-Miraj railway into BG.
21. Letter received from Railway Board regarding Diva-Dasgaon railway line.
22. Demand for Malegaon-Nardhana railway line.
23. Railway freight on cardboard.
24. Introduction of express delivery on subdays at Satara Road.
25. Expansion of Chinchwad Railway Station.
27. Appointment of Area Officer at Poona.
28. Transport of heavy machinery on railways.
29. Reorganisation of Indian Railways.
30. Demand for Nagar-Aurangabad railway.
31. Introduction of QTS between Poona and other cities.
32. Poona Bombay Janata Express.
33. Disputes relating to Hamal Panchayat at Chinchwad Railway Station.
34. Sudden stoppage of local trains.
35. Time Table of Maharashtra Express.
36. Classification of Thermocol and other goods under Railway goods tariff.
37. Shuttle service in Pimpri, Chinchwad and Bhosari.
38. Making available return travelling tickets at concessional rates to third class passengers.
39. Introduction of QTS between Poona and Delhi.
40. Submission regarding levy of demurrage.
41. Re-introduction of Poona-Hubli Janata Express.
42. Request to continue Londha-Poona passenger train.
43. Running of Deccan Express on Poona-Bangalore rail line.
44. Demand to construct overbridge near Miraj station on Miraj-Ichalkaranji road.
45. Overbridges on level crossing at Chinchwad and Hadapsar Railway Parcel booking.
46. Shortage of railway wagons.
47. Adjustment in railway time table suiting to shift working of workers in industries at Pimpri Chinchwad area.
48. Survey of traffic through Shivajinagar Railway Crossing.
49. Railway budget contributes to spiralling prices.
50. Settlement of railway claims.
51. Managers of Central and Southern Railway visit the Chamber regarding railway siding at Hadapsar.
TELEPHONES

1. Request to introduce telex system in important centres in Southern Maharashtra.
2. Request to make available funds to expand telephone exchanges at Poona, Pimpri, Hadapsar.
3. Need to connect centres like Kolhapur, Sangli, Kirloskarwadi, Karad etc. by telex.
4. Memorandum to Chairman, Post and Telegraphs Board.
5. Decentralisation of telephone billing system.
6. Difficulties of telephones in Poona, Pimpri, Chinchwad area.
7. Request not to shift telegraphic office at Laxmi Road.
8. Introduction of telex system in Poona.
9. Request to introduce independent telephone line between Ichalkaranji-Poona.
10. Request to expand Hadapsar telephone exchange.
11. Demand for starting a telegraphic office for industries situated on Poona-Nagar Road.
12. Deteriorating service of telephone department.
13. Submission to Hon'ble Dr. Subbarayan, Union Minister for Transport and Communications.
15. Necessity of Telephone Advisory Committee for Poona.
17. Making available telephones instruments at low rate in Poona.
18. Telephone facility in Poona.

IMPORT

1. Tariff protection to wartime industries (Prabhakar Lanterns and Sathe Chocolate).
2. Problems faced by marine engine and compressor industry.
3. Ban on import of Turquoise Blue.
4. Difficulties connected with the operations of MMTC.
5. Reduction of import duty on raw materials required by organic pigments.
6. Difficulties regarding import replenishment licences.
7. Small industry vis-a-vis competition offered by import of foreign goods.
8. Import of bifocal blanks.
9. Ban on import of marine engines from abroad.
11. Revaluation of German mark and consequent increase in the value of import licences.
13. Making available sufficient foreign exchange to small industries in Maharashtra.
15. Review of import licensing procedure.
16. Recommending permission to import machinery by paper and Pulp Conversions Ltd.
17. Recommendation of import of machinery by Brihan Maharashtra Sugar Syndicate.
18. Recommending permission to import machinery from New York by Sathe Biscuit Company.
19. Grant of tariff protection to electric motors produced by Kirloskar Brothers, Ltd.
20. Import duty on the paper manufacturing machinery.
22. Utilisation of Release orders by CCI.

**CENTRAL EXCISE AND CUSTOMS**

1. Reduction in customs duty on Resin Keymone.
2. Memorandum to SAP Review Committee.
3. Procedural difficulties in excise for SSI units.
4. Excise duty on aluminium extrusions made out of duty paid scrap.
5. Reduction in duty on PVC tubing.
6. Excise duty on mosaic tiles, steel furniture nuts, bolts and motor vehicle parts.
9. Classification of laminates for excise purposes.
10. Custom duty on cocoa beans.
12. Concession in rate of excise on small H.P. oil engines.
13. Delay in payment of excise duties because of strike in the State Bank.
14. Excise duty on the laundry machinery.
15. Memorandum on Sea Customs Act.
16. Appellate Tribunal for Excise matters.
17. Opening of excise collectorate at Poona.
18. Definition of Confectionary items.
19. Excise duty on steel furniture, paper and cardboard.
20. Submissions to members Central Board of Excise and Customs.

VARIOUS LEGAL ENACTMENTS

1. Amendment to Indian Boiler Act, 1923.
5. Non-Ferrous Metal Control Order 1956.
7. Fourth Amendment to Indian Constitution.
8. Indian Accountancy Board.
9. Moneylenders' Bill.
10. Water Pollution Act.
11. Stamp Duties Unification Bill.
12. Inclusion of motor vehicle parts under the Essential Commodities Act.
SOCIAL AND POLITICAL

1. Liberation of Goa.
2. Inclusion of Bombay in Samyukta Maharashtra.
3. Claim of Mysore on Sholapur city.
4. Memorandum to States Reorganisation Committee.
5. Fasting undertaken by Mahatma Gandhi.
6. Memorandum to official Languages Commission.
7. Renovation of Shanwarwada.

MATTERS RELATING TO ELECTRICITY

1. Enhancement of electricity charges.
2. Supply of electricity vis-a-vis industries at Ichalkaranji.
3. Electricity duty levied on printing presses in Poona area.
4. Increase in power rates for high tension consumers.
5. Supply of electricity to small industries at concessional rate.
7. Supply of electricity to industries in Pimpri-Chinchwad.
8. Request to set up an Experts Committee to study working of State Electricity Board.
9. Increase in Power factory.
10. Problems pertaining to electricity cut.
12. Electricity cut in Maharashtra - various suggestions made to the State Government.

INFRASTRUCTURE FACILITIES

1. Industrial Housing.
2. Phaltan Industrial Development Scheme.
3. Early development of industrial estates.
4. Testing centre at Kolhapur for oil engines and centrifugal pumps.
5. Test certificates for oil engines.
MATTERS RELATING TO TRADE

1. Bombay Ware Housing Act passed by Government of Bombay.
2. Difficulties of merchants and hundekaries regarding Poona Station Goods Yard.
3. Sale of war surplus materials in India.
4. Good Control Ordinance and problems faced by traders.
5. Position of good supply in Maharashtra.
6. Supply of Rice and Chana Dal.
7. Scheme of distribution of paper produced by indigenous paper mills.
8. Contracts entered into in connection with Government construction work.
9. Inter-state movement of spiritual medicinal preparations.
11. Purchase of engines on tagai through Marketing Federation.
12. Regional consideration in development of Trade and Industry.
14. Lift of ban on (inter-provincial) inter-state trade.
15. Free movement of Jowar.

AGRICULTURE

1. Raising of agricultural crops in the vacant areas of factories.
2. Movement of vegetables through Borghat during night time.
3. Irrigation Plans of Shima River Valley.
5. Memorandum to National Planning Commission pointing out befitting land conditions prevailing in Maharashtra to grow sugarcane.
6. Valuation of agricultural property in Poona region.
MATTERS RELATING TO ROAD TRANSPORT

1. Attaching meters to taxis in Poona.
2. Redressing grievances of motor owners.
3. Construction of overbridge on Hadapsar Railway crossing.
4. Levy of Passenger tax on company transport.
5. Repairs to Poona-Sholapur Road.
7. Broadening of Bombay-Poona Road (Highway).
8. Demand to introduce express bus between Ichalkaranji-Bombay.
10. Repair and maintenance of Poona-Bombay Highway.
14. Differential treatment given to motor transport industry.
15. Opposing nationalisation of road transport industry.

TEXTILES

1. Restoration of facilities to textile mills in Maharashtra after the war.
2. Memorandum to Powerloom Enquiry Committee (Kanji Committee).
3. Increase in the number of spindles in the mills in Maharashtra.
4. Manufacture of coloured sarees on powerlooms.
5. Levy of excise duty on powerlooms.
6. Supply of yarn to powerlooms.
7. Licences to start textile mills in Maharashtra.
8. Memorandum to Textile Enquiry Committee.
9. Control on yarn and on mills having less number of looms.
10. Submission to Ashoka Mehta Powerloom Enquiry Committee.
11. Processing of cloth in Poona.

MATTERS RELATING TO MUNICIPAL CORPORATIONS AND LOCAL BODIES

1. Levy of octroi on cocoa beans.
2. Taxation policy of Poona Corporation.
3. Increase in Octroi Rates by P.M.C.
5. System of octroi refund of P.M.C.
6. Abolition of octroi duty.
7. Municipal Corporation Act Section 376 thereof vis-a-vis Raja Bahadur Motilal Poona Mills Ltd.
8. Abolition of Octroi duty in Maharashtra.
9. Octroi levied by Poona Municipality on newsprint paper.
10. Refund of octroi duty by cheques.
11. Submission of Poona Municipal Corporation not to allow residential construction in Industrial area.
12. Memorandum submitted to P.M.C.
13. Levy of octroi on Bullion (gold and silver) and cotton thread imposed by Poona Municipality.
14. Difficulties regarding administration of octroi PMC.
15. Payment of professional tax to PMC.
16. Levy of octroi by Manmad Municipality.
17. Maharashtra municipalities (octroi) rules.
18. Octroi levied on raw material required to produce thin-wall bearings.
19. Octroi duty on non-ferrous metals.
20. Octroi duty on copper, brass and aluminium.
21. Town duty levied on biscuit and chocolate.
24. Difficulties relating to the administration of octroi rules by PMC.
27. Octroi Exemption in Hadapsar Estate.

**INDUSTRIAL POLICY**

1. Restrictions on Flour Mills.
2. Industrial Policy of Bombay Government.
3. Exclusion of small units from Aluminium Control Order.
5. Reconstitution of Bombay State Industrial Committee.
7. Restrictions on the use of copper and non-ferrous metals.
10. No new licences in cocoa chocolate industry.
11. Request not to allow foreign collaboration in Biscuit Industry.
12. Post-war development of Food Industry.

**RAW MATERIAL**

2. Adequate supplies of iron and steel to engineering industries.
3. Reassessment of capacity of foundries in Kolhapur.
4. Difficulties of getting furnace oil in Poona.
5. Shortage of pig iron to foundries in Southern Maharashtra.
6. Shortage of railway wagons to carry pig iron.
7. Inadequate supplies of wheat and Maida to industries.
8. Supply of cement to small industries.
VARIOUS IMPORTANT MEMORANDA

2. Recommendations of Pharmaceutical Enquiry Committee and Small Scale Units.
4. Memorandum to the Press Commission.
5. Memorandum to Finance Commission.
6. Competency of government recognised actuaries.
7. Non-enforcement of Tenancy Act to industrial units.
8. Memorandum to Development Commission (SSI), Delhi.
9. Memorandum to Hon'ble Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri, Union Commerce and Industry Minister.

WATER SUPPLY

2. Supply of water to Pimpri area.
3. Supply of water to Sudarshan Chemical Industries.

POST-WAR PROBLEMS

1. Return of land acquisitioned in war-time by Government to M/s. Sathe Biscuit and Chocolate Co., Ltd.
3. Problems arising out of incoming of rich displaced persons from Pakistan.
4. Damages to industries as a result of riots in Southern Maharashtra in 1948.

KOYNA SCHEME

1. Conference at Helwak.
2. Delegation to Planning Commission.
4. Opening of fertiliser and aluminium industries in Koyna region.
5. Co-ordination in the help rendered to earthquake affected population at Koyna.
GOVERNMENT ORGANISATIONS

1. Supporting establishment of Indian Standards Institution.
2. Working of Maharashtra Small-scale Industries Development Corporation.
3. Instalments of machinery obtained from MSSIDC and NSIC.
4. Difficulties connected with State Trading Corporation and MAIC.
5. Policies of NSIC.

SUPPLY OF SUGAR

1. Sugar at reduced rates to industrial canteens.
2. Supply of sugar for industrial production.
3. Sugar at controlled rate to pharmaceutical industry.

EDUCATION

1. Request to start Commercial Training School in Maharashtra.
2. Establishment of Regional Technological Institute in Poona.
3. Industrial Training School at Poona.
4. Practical Training to students in Commerce and Engineering Colleges.
5. Training for apprentices under the Act.

POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS

1. Money order Form - space for writing.
2. Working on Sundays by postal department.
3. Opening of post office at Miland, Taluka Rajapur.
4. Stamping of letters and articles received from post.
5. Delegation of powers to local officers.

MISCELLANEOUS

1. Quality Control of indigenous motors.
2. Territorial Army.
3. Problem faced by gin manufacturers.
4. Payment of earnest fees for tenders to Khadi Commission.
5. Broadcasting of advertisements on commercial radio.
6. Adaptation of Khapa method in Bidi industry.
7. Charity fund for public institutions.
10. Representation to regional chambers outside Bombay on Bombay State Legislative Assembly.

APPENDIX II. REPRESENTATIONS OF MAHRATTA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRIES ON VARIOUS PUBLIC BODIES (1971)

1. Poona University Court.
2. Export-Import Advisory Committee, Western Zone, Bombay.
3. Regional Posts and Telegraph Advisory Committee, Maharashtra Circle.
4. Poona Railway Station Advisory Committee.
8. Regional Railway Equipment Advisory Committee (C.R.).
9. All India Manufacturers Organisation, Central Committee, Bombay.
10. All India Manufacturers Organisation Working Committee, Bombay.
12. Mormugao Port Trust Advisory Committee.
13. All India Organization of Industrial Employers Governing Body.
14. Board of Trustee, Mahatma Phule Industrial Museum, Poona.
15. Ad hoc Traffic Advisory Committee.
17. Maharashtra State Electricity Consultative Council.
18. Poona Regional Directorate Local Advisory Committee, Workers Education Centre.
19. Direct Taxes Advisory Committee, Poona.
20. State Board for Export Promotion, Maharashtra State.
22. Employees State Insurance Scheme, Poona Regional Advisory Committee.

APPENDIX III. REPRESENTATIONS OF BOMBAY CHAMBER ON VARIOUS PUBLIC BODIES (1971)

1. Advisory Committee for Special Employment Exchange for Physically Handicapped.
2. Bombay Civic Trust.
3. Bombay Customs Advisory Committee.
4. Bombay Labour Institute Advisory Board.
5. Bombay Port Trust - Board of Trustees.
6. Pre-slinging and Palletiation of Cargo.
8. Central Board of Workers' Education Local Committee.
9. Central Board of Workers' Committee - Literature Committee.
10. Central Excise Regional Advisory Committee.
11. Consultative Committee of shipping interests in the overseas trade.
15. Customs and Central Excise Advisory Council.
17. Employers' Federation of India - Western Regional Committee.
20. Federation of Commonwealth Chamber of Commerce.
22. Indian Cotton Development Council.
26. Large and Medium Scale Industry - Sub-Committee.
28. Maharashtra Commerce and Industries Rehabilitation Society.
29. Maharashtra State Electricity Consultative Committee.
31. Norms Committee.
32. Railway Consultative Committees - Divisional Railway
    Users' Consultative Committee - Western Railway.
33. Railway Consultative Committee - Divisional Railway
    Users' Consultative Committee - Central Railway.
34. Central Railway - Wadi Bunder Consultative Committee.
35. Central Railway - Zonal Railway Users' Consultative Committee.
36. Regional Import-Export Advisory Committee.
37. Royal Bombay Seamen's Society.
38. Senate of the Bombay University.
39. Sick and Destitutes Amenities Fund.
40. Small Scale and Cottage Industries Sub-Committee.
41. State Advisory Council of Industries.
42. State Insurance Corporation - Employees' Regional Board.
43. State Insurance Corporation - Employees' Local Committee.
44. State Trading Corporation - Consultative Committee.
45. Traffic Advisory Committee.
APPENDIX IV. REPRESENTATIONS OF MILLOWNERS' ASSOCIATION.
BOMBAY ON VARIOUS PUBLIC BODIES (1971)

1. The State Advisory Council of Industries.
2. The Textiles Committee.
3. State Board of Export Promotion.
4. Regional Advisory Committee on Central Excise at Bombay and Poona.
5. Employees Provident Fund Advisory Committee (Central).
6. Employees' Provident Fund Advisory Committee (Regional).
15. Employer's Federation of India and its regional and screening committees.
16. Board of visitors of the University of Bombay - Chemical Technology.
17. Senate of the University of Bombay.
18. Maharashtra State Housing Advisory Committee.
19. Maharashtra Labour Advisory Board.
20. Smoke Nuisances Advisory Committee at Bombay and Sholapur.
22. Bombay Social Hygiene Committee.
23. Territorial Army Advisory Committee.
24. Mahatma Gandhi Memorial Hospital.
25. Nowrosjee Wadia Maternity Hospital.
27. Industrial Safety Council.
28. Advisory Committee on Workers' Education Scheme.
30. Labour Welfare Board.