

# Tactful Management



## COLONIAL INDUSTRIES IN BELGAUM DISTRICT



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### ABSTRACT

This study is to know about industries in Belagavi district with respect to colonial period. British's were having an interest in many kinds. India a major market for British goods and a source of raw materials, but British capitalists, who invested in India, or who sold banking or shipping service there, continued effectively to enjoy monopolistic privileges. To come out of such practice of British, India also provided interesting and profitable employment for a significant portion, for that many industries like sugar, textiles, sweet manufacturing, Khadi industries and so on had come in to existence not only national level but also in Belgaum district.

**KEYWORDS :** Industries, colonial period, Belagavi district.

### 1.THEORITICAL BACKGROUND:

As we know, India were the major market for British goods and a source of raw materials to their industries and capitalists who invested in India, or who sold banking or shipping service there, continued effectively to enjoy monopolistic privileges. With regard to the mass of the population, colonial rule brought a few significant Changes. British educational effort was very limited. There were no major changes in the village Society.

They were buying India's resources for their industries at a low cost and selling their finished goods at high rate. British impact on economic and social development was, limited. Total output and population increased substantially but the gain in per capita output was small or negligible

To overcome from such practice of British government, India had started many industries like Iron, sugar, textiles, sweet manufacturing, and many more. At same time many industries had come in to existence in Belgaum district such as sugar, textile, and many sweat manufacturing units and so on. Some of the industries were also started by British government in Belgaum. There were some enterprises were started in Belgaum district in colonial period, such as follows,

### 1.1. Sugar Industry:

About sixty years ago The Ugar Sugar Works Limited, had been started in 1939 in small hamlet called Ugar Khurd of erstwhile princely state of Sangali by Shri V. S. Shirgaokar. It was the first sugar factory was started in colonial period of British. It was blessed with two great advantages i.e. perennial river Krishna on the north and Ugar khurd railway station on the meter gauge between Miraj-Bangalore.

The first crushing was started on the 21st April 1942 with 500 TCD. IMFL unit of The Ugar Sugar Works Ltd., produces 25 different brands of liquors and were the first to be granted the prestigious I.S.I mark. After this all developments, the great historian Edward Gibbons had said that, "The wind and waves are always on the side of the ablest navigator". In 1942 the area was rainfed and the farming community used to eke out just hand to mouth living. It was the great pride to the cane growers and it had become affluent and their standard of living had gone up.

### 1.2. Textile Industry:

Gokak Textiles Ltd is situated in the foot hills of Sahyadri hill, on the bank of River 'Ghataprabha', 6 KMs away from Gokak city. The Gokak Mills was registered in the year 1885 by Ritch Stewart Ltd (Henry Campbell) in the name of Gokak Water Power and Manufacturing Ltd, (GWPMML); it has commenced its operation on 5th October 1887 with the help of 250 HP pelton wheels.

In the year 1887 the first mill was started with 6000 spindles and spindles were increased to 29525 in the year 1890. In the year 1913 hydro power was generated by using turbines first time in the Asia. In the 1919 the company was registered in India as 'Gokak Mills Ltd.' And the company started its work with three turbines with 250 HP each. In the year 1924 the waste processing unit was started.

Mill is producing the wide variety of products and exporting approximately 50% of its output to more than 35 countries across the world. Gokak Mills places a high premium on employee welfare. The company hospitals, residential Complex, educational institutions, are one of the best in the region.



### 1.3. Khadi and Gramodyog Sahakari Utpadak Sangh Ltd., Hudli.

In the year 1923 on the advice of Mahatma Gandhi Khadi work started by the Lion of Karnataka Shri Gangadharrao Deshpande for the first time in the Karnataka in Hudali on his own responsibility. This is one among the six *Ashramas* in the country to implement constructive activities of *Khadi* during the colonial period. Shri Gangadharrao worked hard and went to every villages of *Kundarnadu* to implement *Khadi* movement. He donated a land to persons to do a *Khadi* work.

Khadi Work and swarajya movement education were given at these Ashrams as per khadi slogan "Charakha Chalake, Charakha Lenge, Swarajya Lenge. Shri Gangadharrao Deshpande carried out Khadi Work on his own responsibilities during 1923 to 1928.

17th April, 1937 Mahatma Gandhiji visited this village on this day, 10,000 National level delegates participated in Gandhi service conference and stayed at Hudli for seven days. It was a golden day in the History of Hudli Village. The Council of British Government is taken at Exhibition of Khadi and Gramodyog in the conference decision.

Khadi work which was started by Gandhiji, carried out by Akhila Bharat Charakha Sangh at Hudli during 1928 to 1944. Gandhi Pundalikaji Katagade continued khadi work through integrated Rural Service Samiti during 1944 to 1954 as per decentralization policy Gandhiji. Khadi and Gramodyog Sahakari Utpadaka Sangh Ltd., was started at Hudli on 29th March, 1954 as per the Co-operative movement. This Institution started with share amount of only Rs.500/- and 11 members and 2 workers.





#### 1.4. Sweet Manufacturing:

##### Kunda:

*Kunda* is a kind of sweet which was come in to practice of preparation unexpectedly as product of milk in the beginning of 20th century at Raghunat Joshi's home in Belgaum. Later it had been started to prepare by others also. *Gajanan* Sweet mart has provided 1000 KG's of Kunda to Congress Conference which was conducted on 1924 at Belgaum. (Ramachandra Y; 2008)



##### Karadant:

Karadantu is a sweet delicacy unique to the state of Karnataka, India. 'SWEET', is a very pleasant, lovable, sensational tasty and multi meaningful word used sensibly in materials and expressions. Karadantu means fried-edible gum in the local language, Kannada. It is made of edible gum mixed with dry fruits and has a chewy texture. The other ingredients used in its preparation are fried Bengal flour, jaggery and seeds of marking-nut tree. Gokak is very famous for Karadant. It was found nearly about 1926 and preparing in small quantity at homes, now a day's it has a big market, which has been exporting too many countries.



#### 1.5. S.G.PHADKE & SONS, BELGAUM

S.G.Phadke , Tyre Remoulding company was established on 1st Sep 1939 at Khade Bazar, Belgaum. Initially it was established in a rented place and then shifted to khade bazaar. Khade bazaar at that time known was known for small oil refineries. One such oil refinery was shut and this place was bought by Phadke and thus started the Tyre Retreading company at 3108, Khade Bazar, Belgaum. In the initial days the company was run by Shri Moreshwar along with help of Shri Haribhau. One Shri

Kashnath Gowande was also a very important player in those days and contributed immensely. The machinery was purchased from Delhi.

This was a very brave effort on part of father- duo as Tyre remolding was relatively a lesser known business in whole of INDIA. Belgaum was selected carefully because of its strategic location. It was closer to the family town of Jamkhandi, was equidistant from Mumbai, Bangalore and Hyderabad, it was well connected by Rail, Road and by Air. It also had a Military Base and was closer to Kolhapur, Goa, Hubli, Gadag etc.

Post 1939 was a period of World war-2. There was a huge scarcity of Tyres and one had to have permitted to procure new tyres. This permit was available with S.G. Phadke & sons and it helped the company immensely to establish itself.

### 1.6. Ceramic Products Limited, Khanapur:

V.A Joshi from Pune started manufacturing unit to produce Packing Papers (like Corrugated Box) in the year 1946. The raw materials such as bamboos were bringing from the local and nearby places like Dandeli. In the same year the heavy flood was happened by Malaprabha River and so the factory suffered huge loss by debacle of Malaprabha flood. Later in the same place Ceramic Products Limited had come in to existence in the year 1947. Burned bricks, pterclay, drainage pipes manufacturing and coals were using as fuel in their manufacturing. The burned bricks were selling in Karnataka but also Maharashtra & Goa for construction of Sugar factory boilers, Foundries, paper mills & oil mills. They Invested about one crores of rupees and 600 employees were working. It has decreased its business gradually closed manufacturing of bricks because of huge competition.



### 1.7. Kirloskar group of industries:

Laxman Rao Kirloskar, founder of the Kirloskar group of industries, born in 1869 at Gurlhosur of this district, opened a cycle repair shop at Belgaum in the beginning and slowly switched over to other mechanical ventures. Later on the Kirloskar Companies and subsidiaries and associates spread over in four states.

## 2.0. CONCLUSION:

In the Colonial period many industries had taken birth in Belgaum district. It brought many changes in the industrial scenario, economic conditions and living standard of people. Some of the

industries were started by British government and many were started by local and near places people.

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