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Charkha

The Harbinger
of Hope



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Charkha KV 128/2

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Harbinger of

HOPE

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The Charkha has come to occupy a very significant place in our economy. It came down to us as the symbol of a peerless textile tradition. It went out of use with the advent of the mills and during the days of foreign domination. But Mahatma Gandhi, with his profound insight into rural conditions and into the needs of rural India, revived it and made it the pivot of his Constructive Programme. The frail Father of the Nation carried aloft the banner of the Charkha and brought a ray of hope into the gloomy villages and into the lives of their inhabitants who were grovelling in grinding poverty. The Charkha became the symbol of our struggle against foreign political and economic domination. The All-India Spinners' Association founded by Mahatma Gandhi laid the foundations firm for the Charkha through its branches all over India making people spin and wear Khadi. But in the early years of two decades and more, it was an unequal struggle for Khadi; for, once it became the symbol of nationalism, it became also the red rag to the foreign authorities in power at the time. With the advent of Independence, the political significance attached to the Charkha faded into the background. It gained a new significance after people's representatives assumed power in the States. The Charkha again became a symbol—now the symbol of economic independence and self-sufficiency, of the struggle against poverty and of social equality.

POST-INDEPENDENCE PLANS

After the advent of Independence, there have been gigantic efforts at rebuilding the nation, politically and economically. Huge projects have been planned and executed or are under execution. In the First Five Year Plan, Rs. 2,356

crores were invested on development projects and programmes. The Second Five Year Plan, with an outlay of Rs. 4,800 crores, is on the last lap of completion. All these mighty efforts are directed towards opening out avenues of employment in all sectors so that people could have enough food and clothing and enjoy a higher standard of life. We have yet to travel a long way to achieve this objective and the Third Five Year Plan is in the offing.

THE WHEEL AND THE PROGRESS

In all the big plans and programmes, the Charkha remained a distant and indistinct speck in the early stages. But it was very soon realised that any development programme could not ignore the villages, that real India was rural India and that sound national economy should be based only on rural economy. Economists recognised that no plan could ignore the vital economic problems of the villages, the chief of which was not just unemployment but underemployment on a mass scale. The Charkha was brought into the picture, though belatedly, as one of the simple but effective solutions to this big problem; it gained an important place in the scheme of things, only when the Second Five Year Plan was half way through.

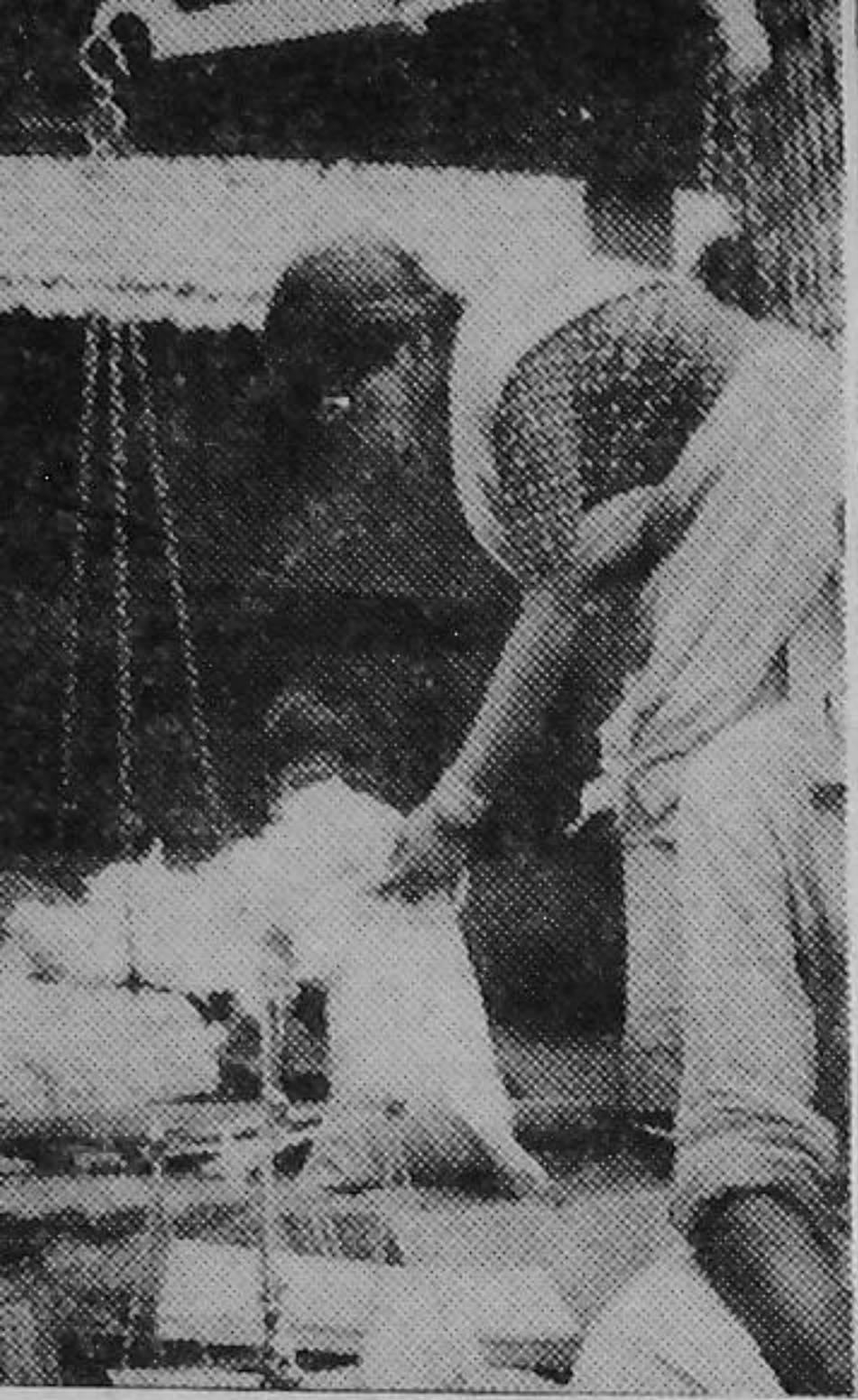
The advent of the Ambar Charkha raised new hopes and gave a great fillip to the Khadi programme. And Khadi was given a place in the Plan. But compared to the huge outlay on industrial and other projects, what has been allotted for the Khadi programme is but a microscopic fraction. In the total outlay of Rs. 4,800 crores in the Second Five Year Plan, the allotment for Khadi and Ambar Charkha Programme is only Rs. 55.5 crores. But the employment poten-

tial of the Charkha is much greater, comparatively and proportionately viewed. The total number of people who have found employment in all the big industries in the whole country does not exceed 50 lakhs. The number of under-employed peasants in the villages in the year 1958 was estimated at 30 crores. The Charkha, with a small allotment of Rs. 55.5 crores has been able to give employment to over 15 lakhs of people. In the Third Five Year Plan period the number of people for whom jobs have to be found is estimated to be approximately 2 to 2½ crores. If, as is expected, Rs. 10,000 crores would be the outlay for the Third Five Year Plan, about 1½ crores jobs are estimated to be created. The rest of the unemployed will have to seek for relief in other directions. Here comes the Charkha handy, ready and comparatively cheap.

MADRAS SHOWS THE WAY

The Madras State was the first to realise the potentiality of the Charkha for providing gainful employment to the peasants. The introduction of the Charkha in the villages involved no big capital outlay. Secondly, it is the one simple implement which, in the prevailing context of the peasants' poverty, illiteracy and lack of technical skill, could help them add a sizeable amount to their income in their own houses, without migrating to industrial areas or cities. Thirdly, it would also help the peasant families to meet their own clothing needs through spinning.

And so in 1946, the Government of Madras took over from the then All-India Spinners' Association four main production centres with 1,800 spinners and 500 weavers. The Government of Madras were the foremost and pioneer to take



A Spinner purchasing cotton from a Government Khadi Centre.

to the Khadi Programme as a rural development scheme. After 10 years of successful work, the State Government found it necessary in 1956, to create a separate Department to develop Khadi as an essential rural industry.

The object of the Government in including Khadi work in its rural development programme is twofold. The first is to provide remunerative employment to the unemployed and underemployed people in the rural areas. The second is to intensify Khadi development in selected areas with a view to make them self-sufficient in regard to their clothing needs. With these ends in view, the Government are implementing the programme under a fourfold scheme.

THE INTENSIVE KHADI SCHEME

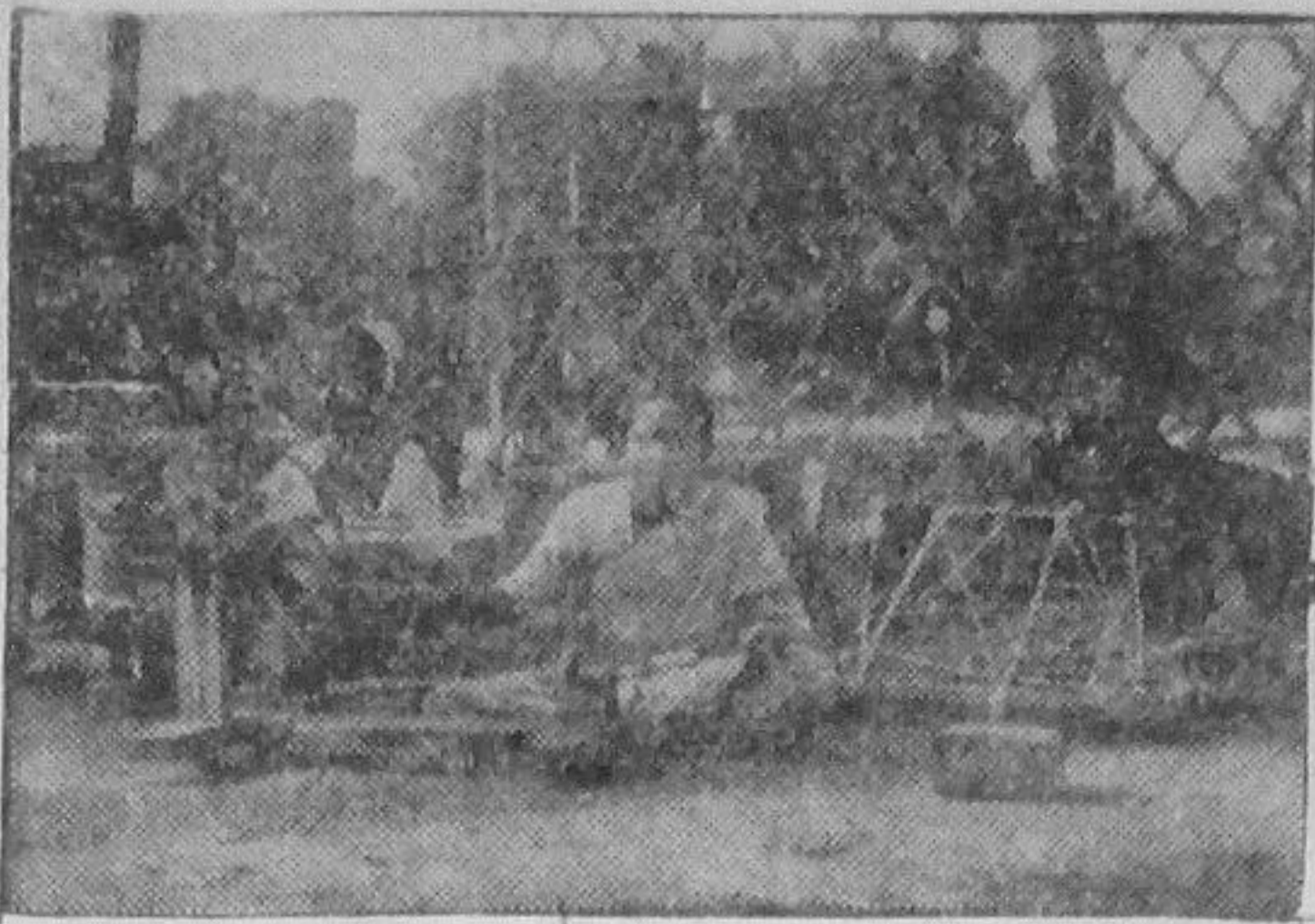
The twin objects of self-sufficiency and remunerative employment to the peasants are sought to be achieved through the Intensive Khadi Scheme. The Scheme is implemented in areas where there is a big concentration of spinners and where enough weavers are available to weave the yarn into cloth. Under this scheme, facilities are provided to spinners

to produce yarn and arrangements are made to purchase the yarn and convert it into cloth. While purchasing yarn from spinners, a part of the money due to them is held in deposit and Khadi cloth to the value of the accumulated deposit is given to them periodically whenever they need it. The other important facility given to them is an additional rebate of half-anna in the rupee on the price of Khadi they exchange for their yarn or its value.

During the Second Five Year Plan period, provision has been made for the enlistment of 40,000 additional spinners and 2,000 additional weavers under the Government's Intensive Khadi Scheme. It has been estimated that 169.16 lakhs hanks of yarn and 38.22 lakhs of yards of Khadi would be produced by the end of the fifth year of the Second Plan. Six main production centres with 60 Sub-Centres will be opened by Government in the Second Five Year Plan period to achieve the target.

Spinners waiting in Queue to sell the hanks of yarn they had made. Each one can be seen carrying a hand bag containing hanks.





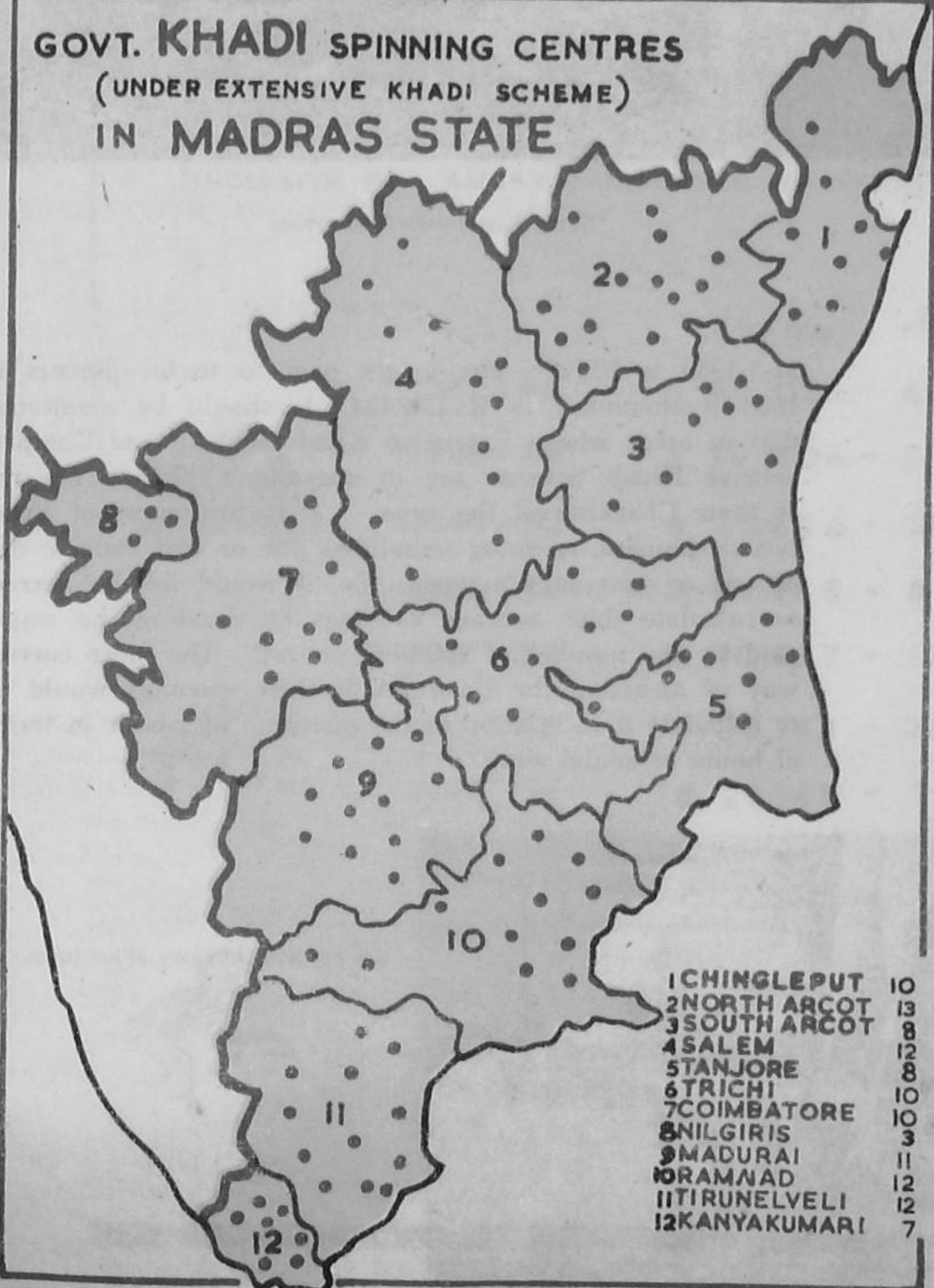
Ladies reeling Khadi

During the first three years of the Plan period ending with 1958-59, 65,657 spinners have been enlisted, bringing the total number of spinners in Intensive Khadi Scheme areas to 1,18,808. Wages paid to spinners during 1958-59 under this Scheme alone amounted to Rs. 27,94,282. The number of weavers enlisted during the first three years of the Plan is 3,715, bringing the total number of weavers to 4,077. Wages paid to the weavers in 1958-59 came to Rs. 16,33,457. In 1958-59, 28,70,901 yards of Khadi worth Rs. 68,82,239 and 22,964 yards of Khadi silk worth Rs. 3,19,382 were produced.

EXTENSIVE KHADI SCHEME

It is the aim of the Government to extend the frontiers of the Intensive Khadi Scheme areas with a view to cover ultimately the entire State. With this end in view, the Extensive Khadi Scheme is implemented in areas where the Charkha has not taken roots. Under this Scheme, Charkhas and implements are distributed at subsidised rates (at half cost), cotton is supplied at cost price and the yarn produced by the spinners is purchased at a fixed rate of four annas per hank for ultimate conversion into Khadi in the Intensive Khadi Scheme centres. During the first three years of the Plan, 116 spinning centres have been opened. The number of Charkhas distributed in these centres during the same period is 14,987 and the number of spinners on roll as on

GOVT. KHADI SPINNING CENTRES
 (UNDER EXTENSIVE KHADI SCHEME)
IN MADRAS STATE

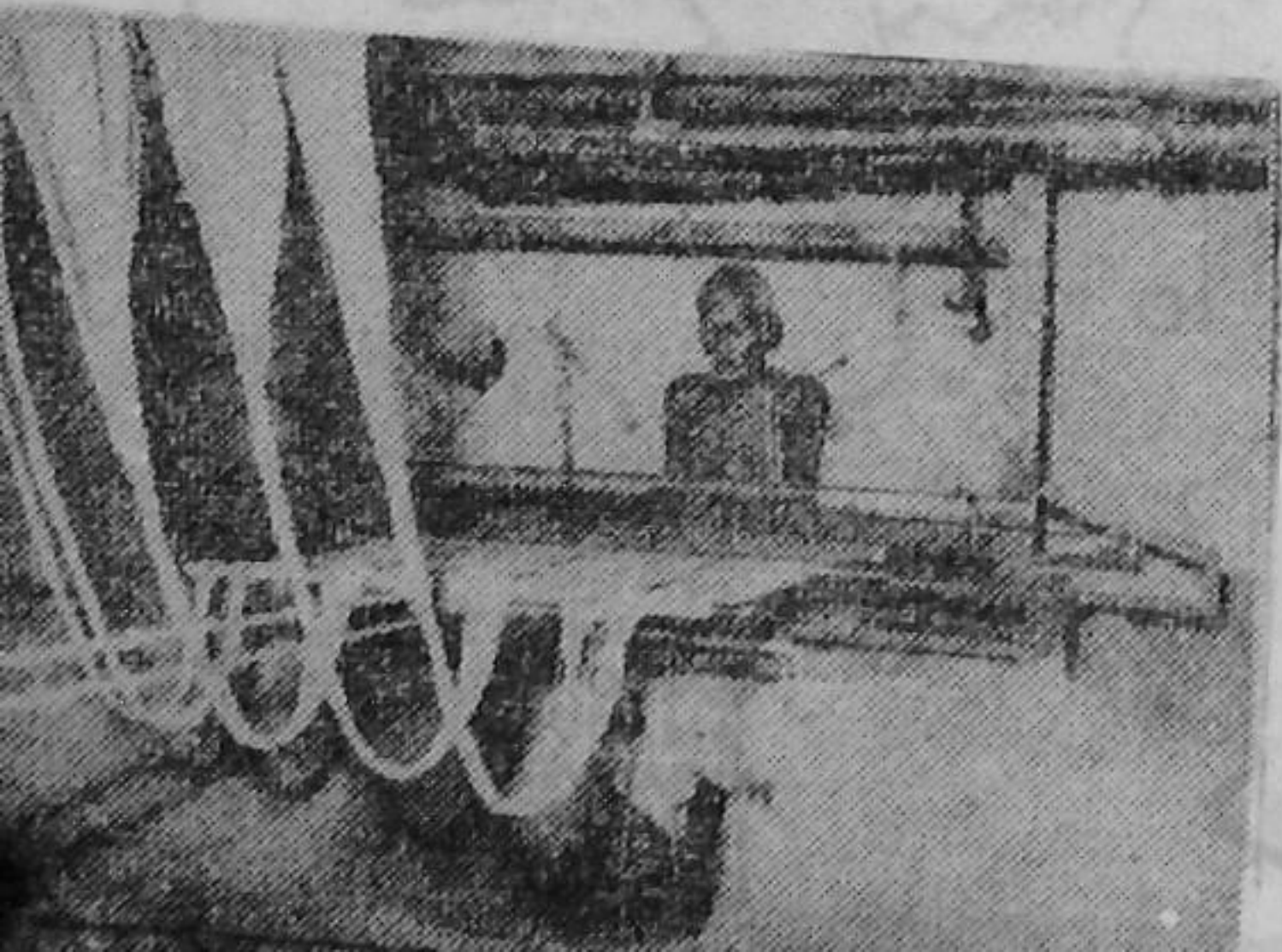


1	CHINGLEPUT	10
2	NORTH ARCOT	13
3	SOUTH ARCOT	8
4	SALEM	12
5	STANJORE	8
6	TRICHI	10
7	COIMBATORE	10
8	NILGIRIS	3
9	MADURAI	11
10	RAMNAD	12
11	TIRUNELVELI	12
12	KANYAKUMARI	7



Sizing Khadi yarn for weaving

31-3-1959 is 16,728. The wages paid to these spinners in 1958-59 amounted to Rs.1,06,414. It should be mentioned that in areas where Extensive Khadi Scheme and Comprehensive Khadi Scheme are in operation, spinners are not at their Charkha all the time. They are, most of them, casual spinners, spinning sometimes one or two hours a day or one or two days a week. So, it would not be correct to calculate their average earnings by dividing the wages paid by the number of spinners on roll. The more correct way of assessing the quantum of their earnings would be to calculate it in relation to the quantum of labour in terms of hours of actual work.



An old Khadi weaver at his loom.

**WAGES PAID
TO
SPINNERS WEAVERS AND
OTHER ARTISANS IN GOVT. CENTRES
[INCLUSIVE OF AMBAR SPINNERS & WEAVERS]**



YEAR	RUPEES	nP
1947 - 48	5, 94, 032 -	66
1948 - 49	6, 39, 406 -	51
1949 - 50	6, 15, 656 -	59
1950 - 51	7, 61, 978 -	81
1951 - 52	15, 90, 837 -	12
1952 - 53	16, 05, 743 -	24
1953 - 54	8, 28, 945 -	71
1954 - 55	13, 83, 557 -	20
1955 - 56	28, 27, 068 -	05
1956 - 57	32, 73, 892 -	37
1957 - 58	36, 12, 169 -	23
1958 - 59	57, 25, 403 -	42



A Spinner at work in front of her cottage a typical scene in the villages where khadi schemes are being implemented.

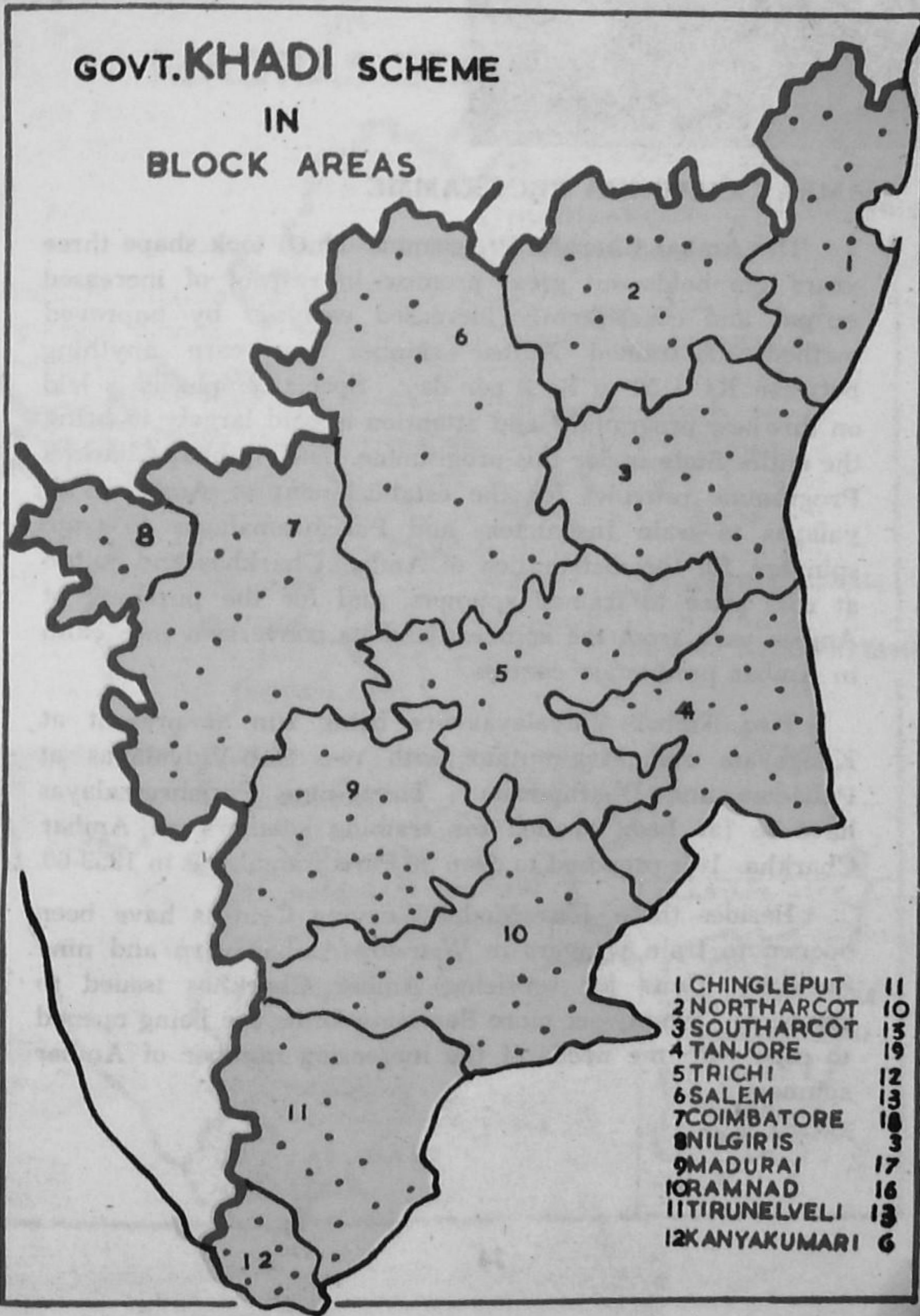
CHARKHA IN COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Foremost, again, among State Governments, the Madras Government have given the Charkha and spinning primary importance in the Community Development Programme under what is called the Comprehensive Khadi Scheme. This scheme is similiar to the Extensive Khadi Scheme in most respects. The scheme is being implemented in almost all the Blocks. The number of Charkhas distributed in all the Blocks as on 31-3-1959 is 70,597. Rs. 2,12,975 have been paid as wages to spinners and 14,98,590 hanks were purchased from them in 1958-59.

Septegenarians at work
on the Charkha



**GOVT. KHADI SCHEME
IN
BLOCK AREAS**



1	CHINGLEPUT	11
2	NORTH ARCOT	10
3	SOUTH ARCOT	13
4	TANJORE	19
5	TRICHI	12
6	SALEM	13
7	COIMBATORE	10
8	NILGIRIS	3
9	MADURAI	17
10	RAMNAD	16
11	TIRUNELVELI	13
12	KANYAKUMARI	6



Ambar Instructors undergoing training at Ambar Vidyalaya at Kangayam.

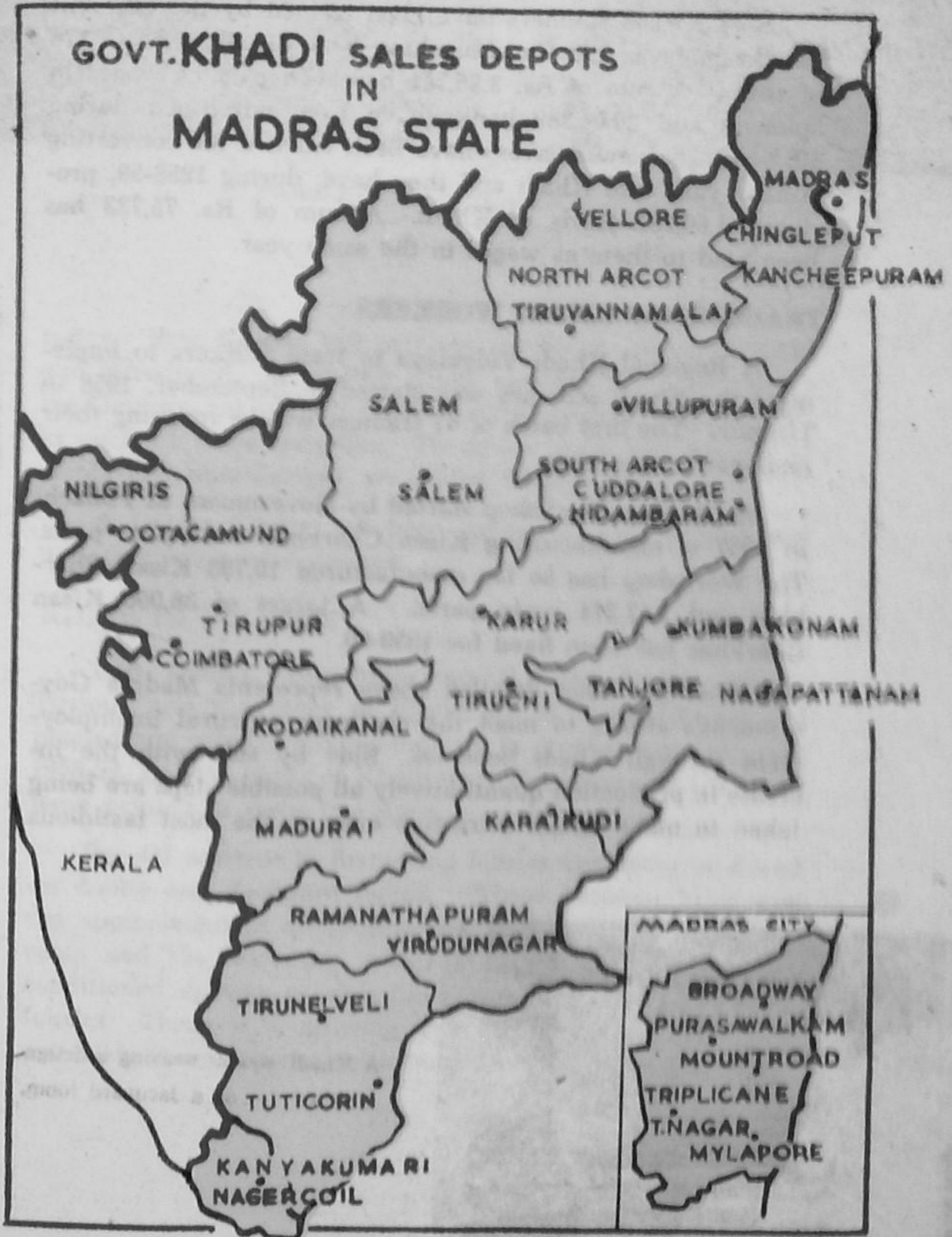
AMBAR CHARKHA PROGRAMME

The Ambar Charkha Programme which took shape three years ago holds out great promise in respect of increased output and consequently increased earnings by improved methods. A trained Ambar spinner can earn anything between Rs. 1.50 to Rs 2 per day. Special emphasis is laid on this new programme and attention is paid largely to bring the entire State under this programme. The Ambar Charkha Programme provides for the establishment of Ambar Vidyalayas to train Instructors and Parishramalayas to train spinners, for the distribution of Ambar Charkhas and cotton at cost price to trained spinners, and for the purchase of Ambar yarn from the spinners and its conversion into cloth in Ambar production centres.

Two Ambar Vidyalayas are being run at present at Kangayam and Manimuthar with two Sub-Vidyalayas at Palladam and Dharapuram. Thirty-nine Parishramalayas have so far been opened for training spinners on Ambar Charkha. It is proposed to open 20 Parishramalayas in 1959-60.

Besides these, four Model Weaving Centres have been opened to train weavers in Weaving Ambar yarn and nine Servicing Units for servicing Ambar Charkhas issued to spinners. Twenty-six more Servicing Units are being opened to cope with the needs of the increasing number of Ambar spinners.

**GOVT. KHADI SALES DEPOTS
IN
MADRAS STATE**



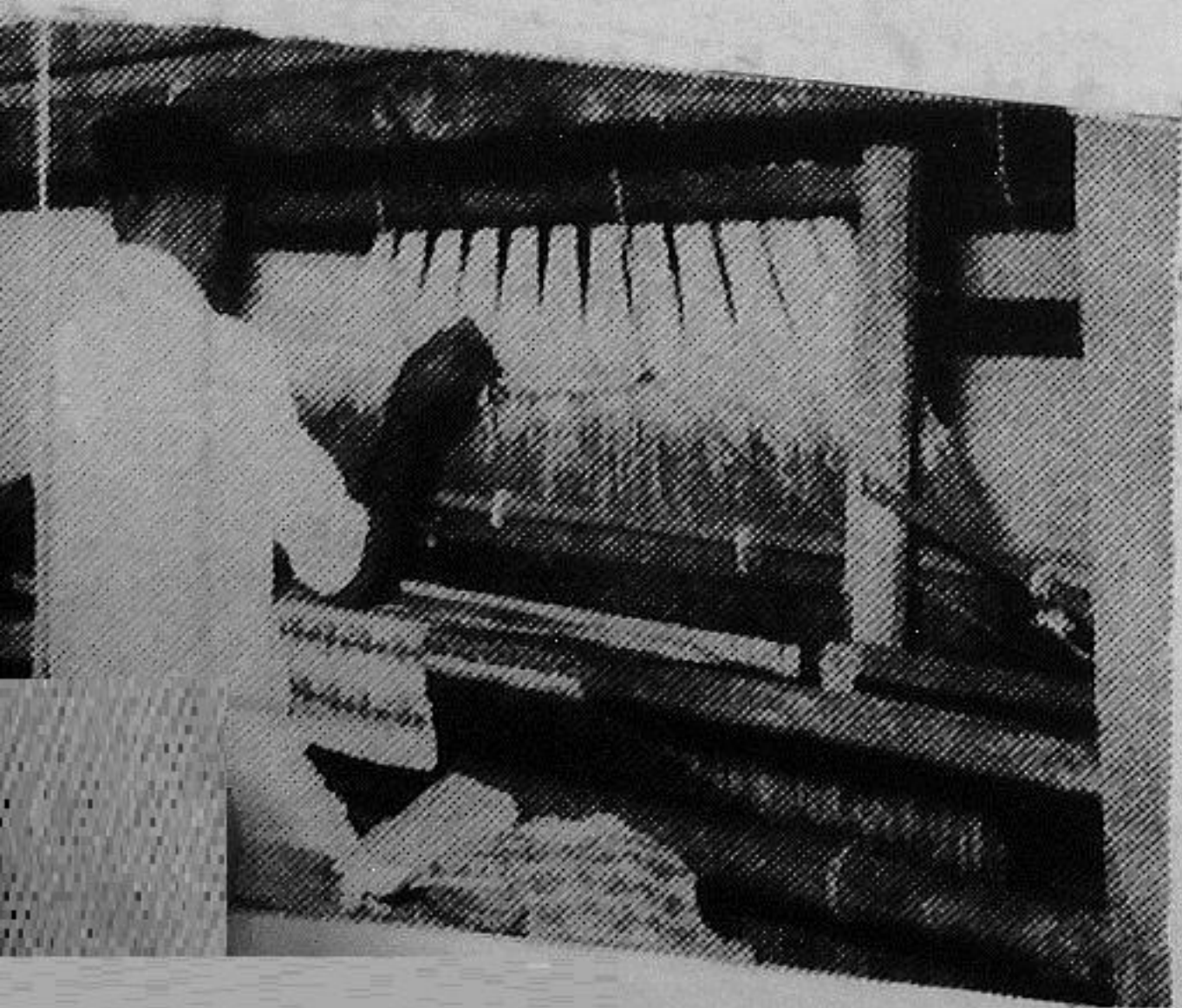
So far 8,006 spinners have been trained by the different Parishramalayas and Charkhas have been distributed to 7,176 of them. A sum of Rs. 3,85,741 has been paid as wages to spinners and 26,04,389 hanks have been purchased during 1958-59. 295 new weavers have been enlisted for converting Ambar yarn into Khadi and they have, during 1958-59, produced 1,66,321 yards of Khadi. A sum of Rs. 75,723 has been paid to them as wages in the same year.

TRAINING OF KHADI WORKERS

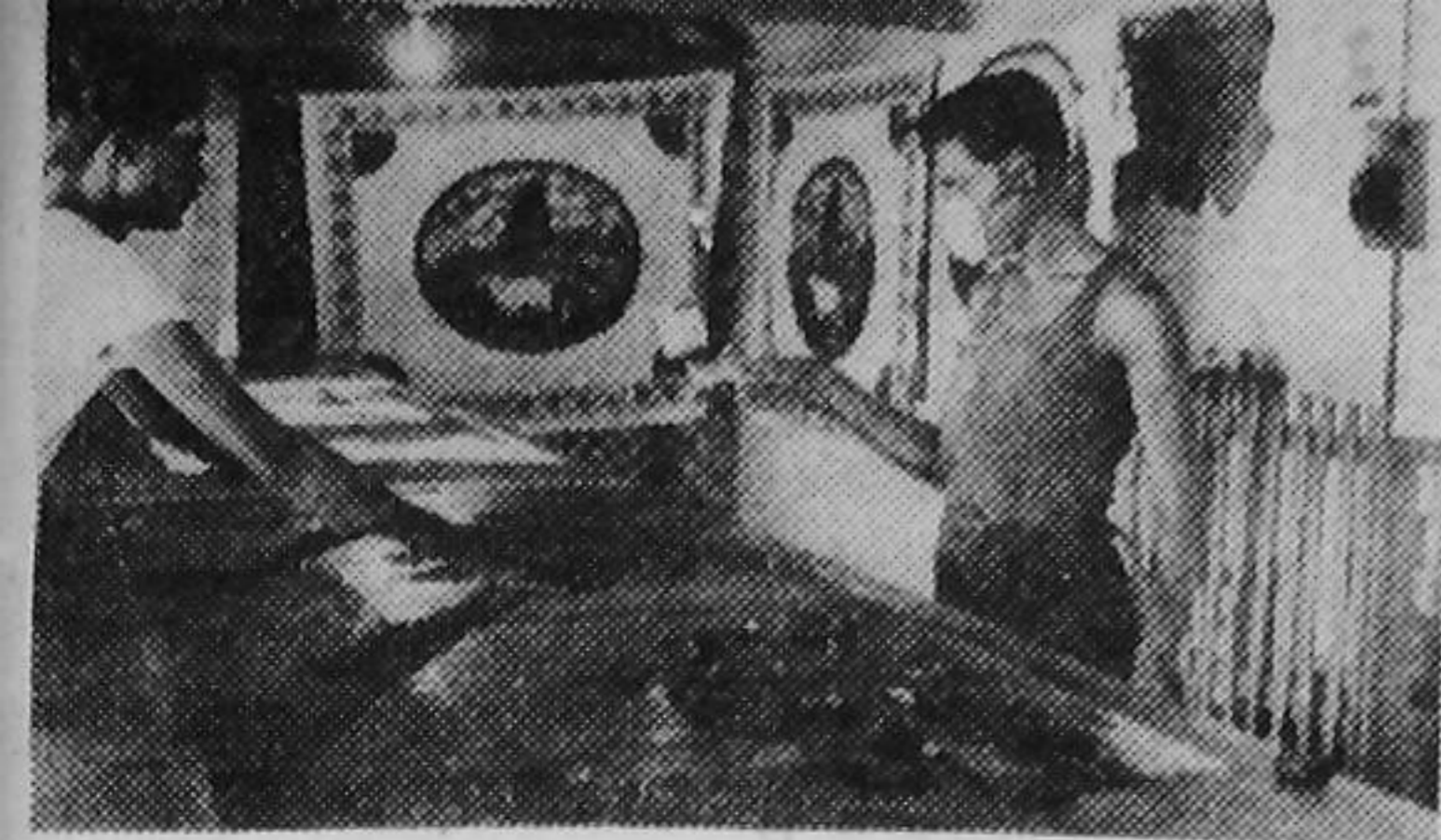
A Regional Khadi Vidyalaya to train workers to implement the Khadi schemes was started in September, 1958 in Tirupur. The first batch of 47 trainees will be finishing their one-year course soon.

A Charkha Workshop started by Government at Pollachi in 1957 is manufacturing Kisan Charkhas and spare parts. The Workshop has so far manufactured 10,793 Kisan Charkhas and 1,47,274 spare parts. A target of 36,000 Kisan Charkhas has been fixed for 1959-60.

What has been detailed above represents Madras Government's efforts to meet the challenge of rural unemployment through Khadi Schemes. Side by side with the increase in production quantitatively all possible steps are being taken to make Khadi attractive even to the most fastidious



A Khadi weaver weaving a design
on a Jacquard loom.



Printed Khadi is very popular, Screen printing (R) Spray Printing (L)

tastes. New designs and patterns are being constantly tried and introduced. Over 1000 Khadi varieties are produced by the Government in their centres and several varying patterns in each of these varieties. There are over 600 designs of prints and new designs are added frequently.

A Design Centre has been opened in Gandhigram and it is producing new designs.

KHADI IN COLOURS

Two Dyeing, Bleaching and Printing Units, one at Tirupur and the other at Erode are at work turning out printed and colour varieties that are in great demand. During 1958-59, 2,41,464 yards of Khadi were dyed and 3,23,199 yards were printed in these two units.

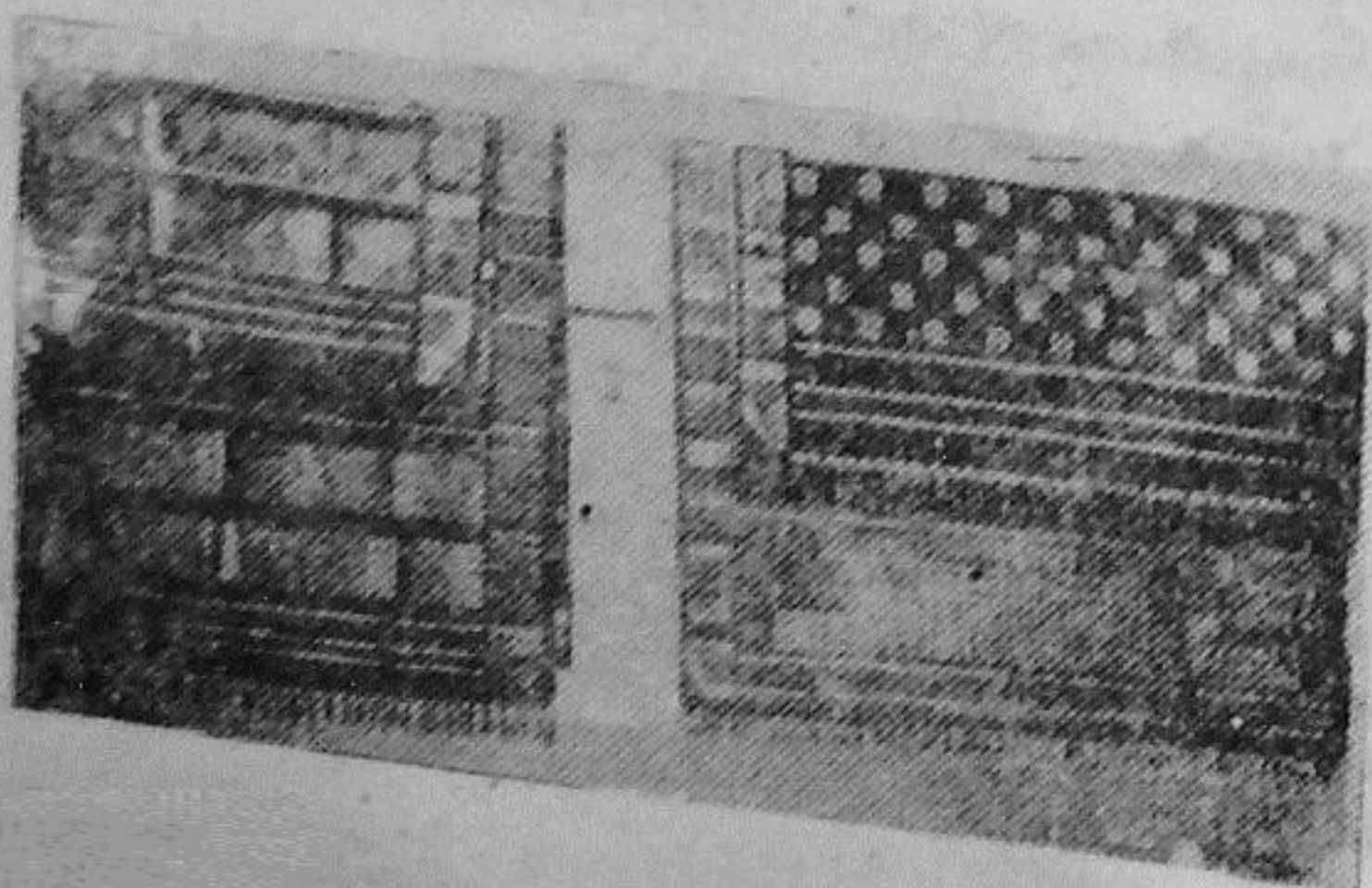
Special patterns in furnishing fabrics are being produced on dobby and Jacquard looms. These patterns have won the appreciation of all connoisseurs of art. The Governor's room and the Ministers' rooms in the Secretariat and air conditioned railway coaches have been furnished with these fabrics. There is a growing demand for these furnishing materials from private institutions and the public.

Special varieties like drill, corduroy, dobby pattern shirtings, drapery, special textured towels, table cloth, napkins, lace dhoties and angavasthrams, domestic linen and countless other varieties are being produced to meet every requirement and taste.

KHADI SILK

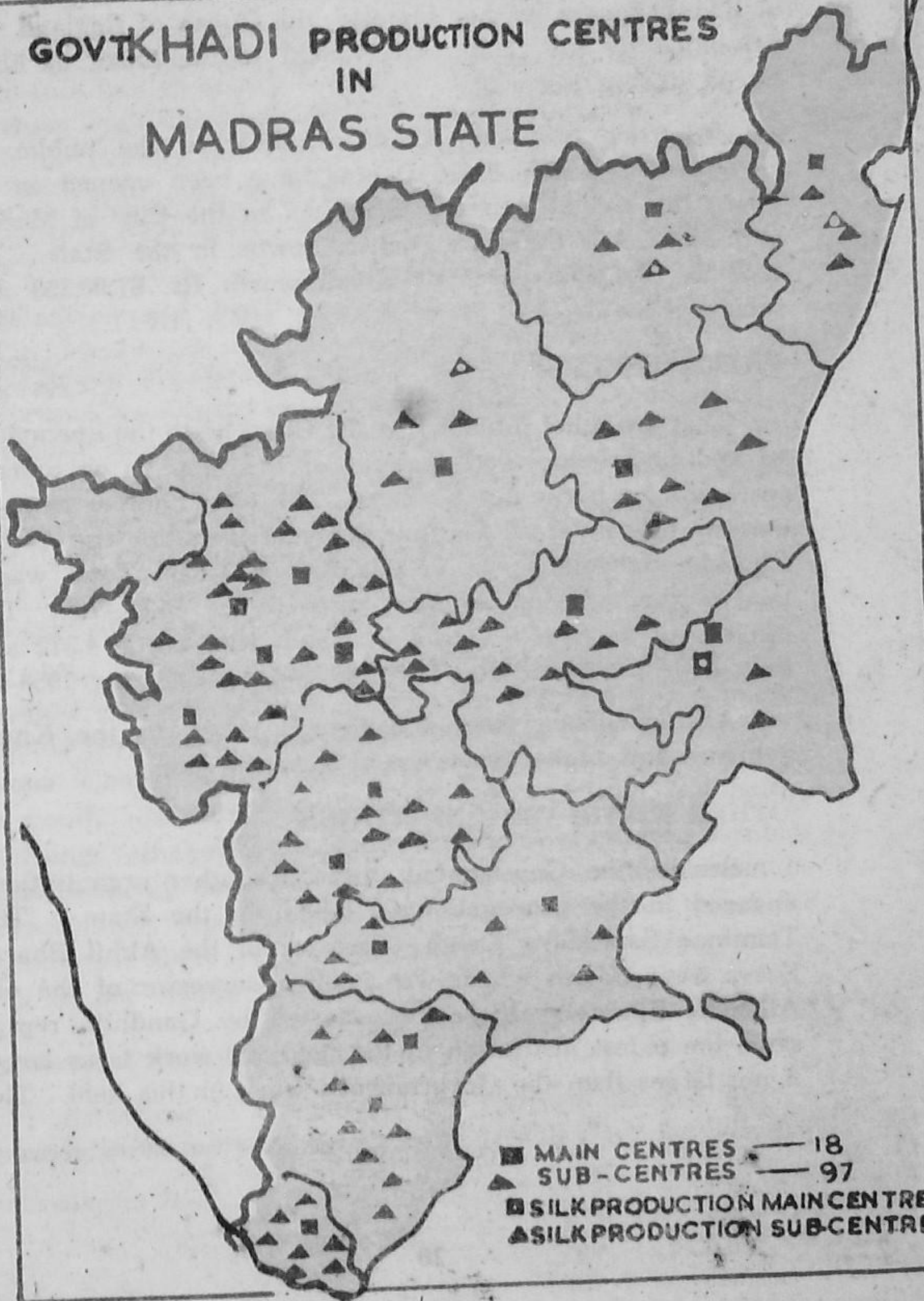
Besides producing a wide range of fine cottons in myriad colours and designs to cater to the needs and tastes of people, four Khadi Silk Production Centres have been opened with a view to meet the requirements of Khadi lovers. The Main Silk Production Centre at Kumbakonam was opened late in 1956. The sarees and silk varieties produced here became so popular and the demand for Khadi Silk varieties grew so heavy that the Government had to open three more Sub Centres at Kancheepuram, Arni and Hosur. Kancheepuram and Kumbakonam are famed centres which have preserved a textile tradition in silk weaving noted for originality in design and beauty of colour scheme. Sarees produced in these centres not only repeat well-known old designs but also try new ones with great success. During 1958-59, 22,964 yards of Khadi silk of the value of Rs. 3,19,383 has been produced in these centres. The lace and silk patterned sarees, woven at Kumbakonam and Kancheepuram have earned a reputation for durability, attractiveness and variety.

Tissue and brocade sarees and "Ponnadais" and lace shawls in Khadi silk and lace are produced for special occa-



Khadi Silk Sarees produced
at Kumbakonam

GOVT KHADI PRODUCTION CENTRES IN MADRAS STATE



sions and purposes. A lace brocaded silk shawl produced at Kumbakonam for her Majesty, the Queen of England was presented by the State Government to the Duke of Edinburgh during his visit.

In order to make Khadi available to the public, 31 Government Khadi Sales Depots have been opened so far (upto the end of August, 1959), six in the City of Madras and 25 in the different District towns in the State. In 1958-59, 24,43,805 yards of Khadi worth Rs. 67,90,358 was sold in these depots.

FACTS SPEAK

That the relief provided by the Charkha to the unemployed and under-employed peasants of the State 'is on a mass scale will be borne out by facts. The total number of spinners on roll under all the four Schemes including the Ambar Charkha Scheme as on 31-3-1959 is 2,13,309. Total wages paid to them during the year came to Rs. 34,99,413. The number of weavers engaged in Khadi weaving is 4,372 and they have been paid Rs. 17,09,180 as wages during 1958-59.

All the above facts and figures relate to the Khadi Schemes run under Government auspices alone.

OTHER KHADI ORGANISATIONS

Besides the Government, there are other organisations engaged in the propagation of Khadi in the State. The Tamilnad Sarvodaya Sangh, successor of the Akhil Bharat Sarva Seva Sangh which was itself a successor of the old All-India Spinners' Association started by Gandhiji, represents the oldest institution in the field; its work is as large, if not larger than the Government's work in this field. The

Gandhi Ashram, Tiruchengode operates in the Salem District in a limited area. The Gandhigram in Madurai District pursues multisided activities in rural uplift, one of which is hand-spinning and Khadi production. The Gandhiniketan, T. Kallupatti also in Madurai District has to its credit a number of training Institutes in which Khadi fills an important place.

THIS PICTURE AND THAT

Taking the Madras State as a whole as a result of the efforts of the Government and the other institutions working with the same objective, Khadi provides work for over five lakhs of spinners and weavers and distributes wages to the tune of Rs. 2 crores annually. When it is remembered that the total number of workers employed by all the 100 textile mills in the State is only 1.31 lakhs, the Charkha's role in relieving mass under-employment is indeed creditable.

The average income of an agricultural family of five members is estimated at Rs. 520 per annum, that is nearly Rs. 44 per month. If even two members work on the traditional Charkha, they can easily earn a minimum of Rs. 30 a month. This constitutes nearly 70% increase in the family earnings. If they work on the Ambar Charkha, the earnings can be easily doubled. In some cases the earnings can be much more, depending on the industry and capacity of the spinners. There are Ambar spinners who earn as much as Rs. 80 per month.

SIMPLE PANACEA

According to a report of the National Sample Survey, nearly three crores of people have gainful work for less than



*A Centenarian and her old age
companion*

Srimathi Annammai at 100 years, is going strong on the Charka equally old, -which is her old age insurance.

five days in the month, 3·9 crores less than ten days and 5·7 crores less than fifteen days in the month. And the spending power of the rural population is shockingly low. According to the Sample Survey Report, nearly one-fourth of India's population lives on a daily expenditure of four annas and one-fifth on an expenditure considerably low. It will not be possible for several years to come to create for the rural people avenues of work that would fetch them wages approximate to the wages of the industrial workers. The vast numbers of people in the rural areas cannot wait for the great days to come after industrialisation. An average

The old and the new - though the Kisan Charkha is popular, the old Charkha is still in use.



spinner working on the traditional Charkha for three to four hours can earn from 19 to 31 naye Paise per day; on the Ambar Charkha it can be anywhere between fifty to one hundred and fifty naye Paise per day. A sizeable percentage of the rural population can easily devote four hours a day for work on the Charkha and augment their resources by 100 per cent or more. Even if it is conceded the earnings on the Charkha are low, the *additional* resources a spinner family will get through spinning can be anywhere between 70% to 200% which can by no means be called low. From another point of view, the spinner who gets his or her family's clothing needs from his or her own yarn earnings, achieves self-sufficiency in cloth and to that extent it is a saving for the individual.

Not all the industrialisation can achieve so striking a result, nor can any large scale industrialisation hope to give an occupation so simple and homely, yet so effective and immediate in point of relief, and without disturbing the village families and uprooting them from their native soil. The cure for the ills of mass unemployment and under-employment can therefore be best found in simple remedies like the Charkha, which is more congenial to rural soil than any large scale industrialisation or mechanisation of production. It is because the Madras Government have fully appreciated this economic truth that they have given all the importance it deserves to Khadi.

PROGRESS REPORT
KHADI PRODUCTION (IN LAKHS)

Year	Name of Institution	Yarn Produced		Khadi Produced		Khadi Sold	
		Hanks	Value Rs.	Yards	Value Rs.	Yards	Value Rs.
1952-53	Government	76.68	15.34	16.24	29.24	8.57	17.57
	Akhila Bharat						
	Sarva Seva Sangh	45.29	11.32	10.17	18.66	..	20.08
	Other Institutions. (Figures not available)						
	Total	121.97	26.66	26.41	47.90	8.57	37.65
1953-54	Government	43.31	8.66	6.76	15.01	5.43	12.74
	Akhila Bharat						
	Sarva Seva Sangh	104.92	26.23	24.16	48.66	..	35.70
	Other Institutions	3.51	.88	1.38	2.28	..	2.37
	Total	151.74	35.77	32.30	65.95	5.43	50.81
1954-55	Government	59.23	14.81	7.78	16.36	6.14	14.03
	Akhila Bharat						
	Sarva Seva Sangh	127.96	31.99	28.54	58.46	..	48.10
	Other Institutions	10.94	2.74	2.59	4.26	..	3.52
	Total	198.13	49.54	38.91	79.08	6.14	65.65

1955-56	Government	132.63	33.16	15.69	36.53	15.15	38.03
	Akhila Bharat	113.29	28.32	29.72	59.88	..	51.42
	Sarva Seva Sangh	19.69	4.92	3.21	6.01	..	7.40
	Other Institutions						
	Total	265.61	66.40	48.62	101.42	15.15	96.85
1956-57	Government	123.78	30.95	24.23	54.52	21.85	49.17
	Akhila Bharat	126.98	31.74	29.12	58.10	..	61.85
	Sarva Seva Sangh	21.17	5.29	4.19	8.24	..	8.69
	Other Institutions						
	Total	271.93	67.98	57.54	120.86	21.85	119.71
1957-58	Government	137.68	34.42	24.57	54.64	24.89	60.06
	Akhila Bharat	152.69	38.17	30.98	69.05	..	69.86
	Sarva Seva Sangh	17.73	4.43	4.64	9.29	..	8.39
	Other Institutions						
	Total	308.10	77.02	60.19	132.98	24.89	138.31
1958-59	Government	292.06	47.87	30.60	75.75	24.44	67.90
	Tamil Nad Sarvo-	196.12	41.51	35.16	77.69	..	80.18
	daya Sangh	23.09	5.77	5.47	10.45	..	11.56
	Other Institutions						
	Total	511.27	95.15	71.23	163.89	24.44	159.64

AMBAR CHARKHA SCHEME

Particulars.	Name of Institution	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59
No. of Spinners Trained.	Government	241	1,906	5,859
	Tamil Nad Sarvodaya Sangh	1,307	2,282	2,098
	Other Institutions	254	615	1,380
	Total	1,802	4,803	9,337
No. of Ambar Charkhas Distributed.	Government	145	988	6,043
	Tamil Nad Sarvodaya Sangh	1,427	2,049	2,068
	Other Institutions	204	279	958
	Total	1,776	3,316	9,069
No. of Hanks of Yarn Produced.	Government	61,915	5,80,781	32,36,520
	Tamil Nad Sarvodaya Sangh	11,62,000	18,33,000	30,06,870
	Other Institutions	2,000	2,12,604	4,36,427
	Total	12,25,915	26,26,385	66,79,817

Khadi Produced in Sq. Yds. (Pure Ambar Yarn).	Government	808	37,347	90,379
	Tamil Nad Sarvodaya Sangh	13,408	14,408	1,10,000
	Other Institutions	..	5,902	8,335
	Total	<u>14,216</u>	<u>57,657</u>	<u>2,08,714</u>

Khadi Produced in Sq. Yds. (Ambar and traditional charkha yarn mixed).	Government	208	55,607	73,970
	Tamil Nad Sarvodaya Sangh	4,78,600	6,84,595	10,70,000
	Other Institutions	211	23,319	78,931
	Total	<u>4,79,019</u>	<u>7,63,521</u>	<u>12,22,901</u>

Wages paid to Spinners (in Rs.)	Government	399.81	68,687	3,85,741
	Tamil Nad Sarvodaya Sangh	1,23,338.00	2,29,118	3,68,184
	Other Institutions	68,712
	Total	<u>1,23,737.81</u>	<u>2,97,805</u>	<u>8,22,637</u>

Wages paid to Weavers (in Rs.)	Government	472.28	40,676	75,723
	Tamil Nad Sarvodaya Sangh	1,88,291.00	2,62,125	5,90,000
	Other Institutions	40,476
	Total	<u>1,88,763.28</u>	<u>3,02,801</u>	<u>7,06,199</u>

WAGES PAID UNDER KHADI SCHEMES

Year	Name of Institution	Spinning wages paid in Rs.	Weaving wages paid in Rs.	Other Artisans paid in Rs.
1952-53	Government	7,09,893	7,08,834	1,87,016
	Sarvodaya Sangh	7,33,193	5,84,294	1,15,434
	Other Institutions (Figures not available)	<u>14,43,086</u>	<u>12,93,128</u>	<u>3,02,450</u>
	Total	<u>23,22,008</u>	<u>12,83,731</u>	<u>3,25,184</u>
1953-54	Government	4,10,960	3,20,684	97,301
	Sarvodaya Sangh	18,62,529	9,19,308	2,22,000
	Other Institutions	48,519	43,739	5,883
	Total	<u>23,22,008</u>	<u>12,83,731</u>	<u>3,25,184</u>
1954-55	Government	8,74,745	3,71,230	1,37,582
	Sarvodaya Sangh	21,91,476	11,78,033	2,37,000
	Other Institutions	1,81,061	82,443	12,176
	Total	<u>32,47,282</u>	<u>16,31,706</u>	<u>3,86,758</u>

1955-56	Government	19,75,916	7,54,223	96,928
	Sarvodaya Sangh	19,29,456	11,94,213	2,23,000
	Other Institutions	3,05,760	1,12,512	25,396
	Total	<u>42,11,132</u>	<u>20,60,948</u>	<u>3,45,324</u>

1956-57	Government	18,53,993	11,30,426	2,89,474
	Sarvodaya Sangh	21,74,017	12,89,363	2,62,000
	Other Institutions	3,25,736	1,56,894	17,112
	Total	<u>43,53,746</u>	<u>25,76,683</u>	<u>5,68,586</u>

1957-58	Government	20,04,072	11,48,067	4,60,030
	Sarvodaya Sangh	26,24,348	14,46,488	3,27,000
	Other Institutions	2,31,031	1,76,007	29,156
	Total	<u>48,59,451</u>	<u>27,70,562</u>	<u>8,16,186</u>

1958-59	Government	34,99,413	17,09,180	5,16,810
	Sarvodaya Sangh	32,74,184	17,79,782	2,24,742
	Other Institutions	2,13,250	2,11,013	45,391
	Total	<u>69,86,847</u>	<u>36,99,975</u>	<u>7,86,943</u>

Total Wages paid: Rs. 1,14,73,765.

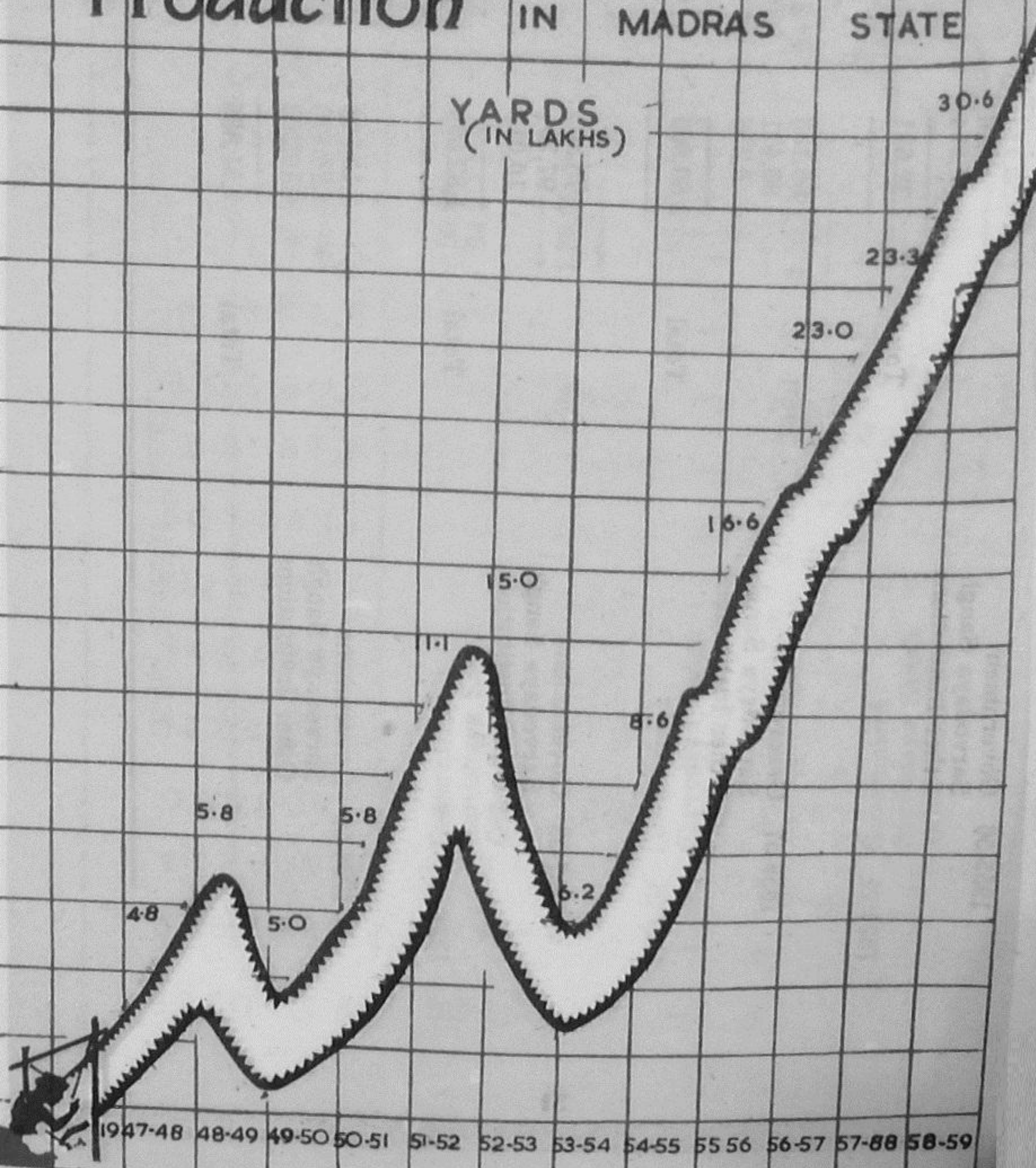
EMPLOYMENT UNDER KHADI SCHEMES

Year	Name of Institution	No. of Spinners on rolls.	No. of Weavers on rolls.
1952-53	Government	33,968	1,348
	Sarvodaya Sangh	94,114	1,842
	Other Institutions
	Total	1,28,082	3,190
1953-54	Government	33,637	1,163
	Sarvodaya Sangh	1,17,116	2,159
	Other Institutions	4,435	205
	Total	1,55,188	3,527
1954-55	Government	38,320	1,369
	Sarvodaya Sangh	64,713	2,242
	Other Institutions	6,062	318
	Total	1,09,095	3,929

1955-56	Government	53,151	2,414
	Sarvodaya Sangh	71,516	2,601
	Other Institutions	7,964	398
	Total	1,32,631	5,413
1956-57	Government	66,133	2,432
	Sarvodaya Sangh	86,471	2,703
	Other Institutions	8,256	425
	Total	1,60,860	5,560
1957-58	Government	75,805	2,747
	Sarvodaya Sangh	97,791	2,732
	Other Institutions	10,012	430
	Total	1,83,608	5,090
1958-59	Government	2,13,309	4,372
	Sarvodaya Sangh	1,28,376	2,981
	Other Institutions	10,200	430
	Total	3,51,885	7,783

GOVT. Khadi Production IN MADRAS STATE

YARDS
(IN LAKHS)



30.6

23.3

23.0

16.6

15.0

11.1

8.6

6.2

5.8

5.8

5.0

4.8

1947-48 48-49 49-50 50-51 51-52 52-53 53-54 54-55 55-56 56-57 57-58 58-59



GOVT.

Khadhi Sales



	Yds	Rs
1947-48	1,42,634	2,42,334
1948-49	3,14,825	5,37,828
1949-50	3,03,193	5,06,205
1950-51	3,07,492	5,54,185
1951-52	5,78,031	11,64,404
1952-53	8,56,648	17,57,365
1953-54	5,43,077	12,74,221
1954-55	6,14,114	14,02,790
1955-56	15,14,636	38,02,880
1956-57	21,85,124	49,16,529
1957-58	24,88,625	55,06,828
1958-59	24,43,805	67,90,358

COAL KHADI SCHEMES AT A GLANCE

GOVT. KHADI SCHEMES AT A GLANCE

Particulars.	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	Estimated for 1959-60	Remarks
State expenditure on Khadi Schemes (including Ambar Scheme).	Rs. 76.66 (lakhs)	Rs. 91.44 (lakhs)	159.60 (lakhs)	Rs. 193.70 (lakhs)	
Khadi production.	Yds. 23.01 (lakhs)	Yds. 23.34 (lakhs)	Yds. 30.60 (lakhs)	Yds. 35.00 (lakhs)	(Under IKS alone)
Value of production.	Rs. 54.52 (lakhs)	Rs. 54.64 (lakhs)	Rs. 75.75 (lakhs)	Rs. 75.00 (lakhs)	
Khadi sales.	Rs. 49.17 (lakhs)	Rs. 60.06 (lakhs)	Rs. 67.90 (lakhs)	Rs. 75.00 (lakhs)	
No. of Spinners:	Upto 56-57	Upto 57-58	Upto 58-59		
I.K.S.	66,133	75,805	1,18,808	1,35,000	
E.K.S. (Blocks)	20,958	37,497	70,597	75,000	
E.K.S. (Centres).			16,728		
A.C.S.	241	2,147	7,176	26,529	
No. of Weavers:					
I.K.S.	2,432	2,747	4,077	5,347	
A.C.S.	26	102	295	1,100	

Ambar Charkha Programme.

	Rs. 1.89 (lakhs)	Rs. 8.27 (lakhs)	Rs. 26.41 (lakhs)	Rs. 59.73 (lakhs)
State expenditure.				
No. of Parishramalayas.	4	12	39	20
No. of Vidyalayas.				
	Kangayam 1	Dharamuthar 1		
	Tirupur 1	Palladam 1*		
Ambar Khadi.	Pure 828	Pure 37347	Pure: 1,28,554 sq. yds.	15,00,000 (Ambar Scheme)
Produced (in yds.).	Mixed 208	Mixed 56607	Mixed: 1,28,785 sq. yds.	
	1956-57	1957-58	1958-59	1959-60
Ambar Instructors trained.		72		540
Ambar Spinners trained.	241	1,906	5,859	21,000
Ambar Weavers enlisted.	26	76	183	1,100
Charkhas distributed	145	988	6,027	21,000

I.K.S.—Intensive Khadi Scheme.
 E.K.S.—Extensive Khadi Scheme.
 A.C.S.—Ambar Charkha Scheme.

KHADI DEPARTMENT — CENTRES AND UNITS

HEADQUARTERS

Office of the Director of
Khadi, 36E, Mount Road,
MADRAS-2.

The District Khadi Office,
12, Chokkia Vathiar St.,
Opposite C.M.C. Hospital,
VELLORE,
North Arcot District.

REGIONAL OFFICES

The Regional Office
(Khadi),
Devji Colony,
Post Box No. 15,
TIRUPUR,
Coimbatore District.

The District Khadi Office,
No. 111, Sankaran Naidu
Street, Tirupadiripuliyur,
CUDDALORE (N.T.),
South Arcot District.

The District Khadi Office,
9/1591, Pavadai Street,
SALEM-1.

The Regional Office,
(Khadi),
180, North Veli Street,
MADURAI.

The District Khadi Office,
Devji Colony,
TIRUPUR,
Coimbatore District.

The Regional Office
(Khadi),
27 & 29, Vandipalayam
Road,
Tirupadiripuliyur,
CUDDALORE (N.T.),
South Arcot District.

The District Khadi Office,
4, Andar Street,
TIRUCHIRAPALLI-2.

The District Khadi Office,
No. 5, S.P.G. Mission High
School Road,
Manambuchavadi,
TANJORE.

DISTRICT OFFICES

The District Khadi Office,
62, Velacheri Road,
SAIDAPET,
Madras-15.

The District Khadi Office,
180-North Veli Street,
MADURAI.

The District Khadi Office,
Paramakudi,
Ramanathapuram Dt.

The District Khadi Office,
71, Salai Road,
Vannarpet,
TIRUNELVELI Junction.

The District Khadi Office,
22/229-A, Yesudian St.,
NAGERCOIL,
Kanyakumari District.

CITY KHADI OFFICE

The City Khadi Office,
86-Broadway,
MADRAS-1.

UNITS

Government Central
Godown, Devji Colony,
TIRUPUR,
Coimbatore District.

The Khadi Special
Assistant, Devji Colony,
TIRUPUR,
Coimbatore District.

Government Dyeing
Bleaching and Printing
Unit, No. 5 & 6, Nanjappa
Chettiar Road,
ERODE,
Coimbatore District.

Government Dyeing
Bleaching and Printing
Unit, Devji Colony,
TIRUPUR,
Coimbatore District.

Government Khadi Silk,
Production Centre,
No. 100, J. S. 1487-89,
Kumbeswaran North St.,
KUMBAKONAM,
Tanjore District.

VIDYALAYA

Regional Khadi Vidyalaya,
TIRUPUR,
Coimbatore District.

AMBAR VIDYALAYAS

Ambar Vidyalaya,
Kangayam,
Coimbatore District.

Ambar Vidyalaya,
MANIMUTHAR,
Tirunelveli District.

Ambar Vidyalaya,
DHARAPURAM,
Coimbatore District.

No. OF MAIN AND SUB-CENTRES IN INTENSIVE KHADI AND AMBAR
 CHARKHA SCHEMES AND THE No. OF SPINNERS AND WEAVERS
 UNDER THE INTENSIVE KHADI SCHEME AS ON 31-3-1959.

Main Centre	Sub-Centre	No. of Spinners	No. of Weavers
I. Avanashi	1. Main Centre Production Section	16,367	688
	2. Karuvalur		
	3. Vadugapalayam		
	4. Cheyur		
	5. Vemandampalayam		
	6. Kavilipalayam		
	7. Bhavanisagar		
	8. Ramaiyampalayam		
II. Perumanallur	1. Main Centre Production Section	4,541	516
	2. Perumanallur		
	3. Perundurair		
	4. Getticheviyur		
	5. Guruvareddiyur		
	6. Rasipalayam		
	7. Vadachittoor		

III. Tirupur			
1. Main Centre Production Section			493
2. Somanur	10,969		
3. Vanjipalayam			
4. Karattupalayam			
5. Pongalur			
6. Velampalayam			
IV. Kulathupalayam			
1. Main Centre Production Section			241
2. Madathukulam	9,477		
3. Kannivadi			
4. Poolavadi			
5. Sankarandampalayam			
6. Alampalayam			
V. Vellakoil			
1. Main Centre Production Section			614
2. Muthur	17,121		
3. Ayyampalayam			
4. Olapalayam			
5. Puduppai			
6. Nathakadaiyur			
7. Kanmalayampatti			

Main Centre	Sub-Centre	No. of Spinners	No. of Weavers
VI. Tirumangalam	1. Main Centre Production Section	8,321	221
	2. Chinnakattalai		
	3. Appakarai		
	4. Vadakkampatti		
	5. Usilampatti		
	6. Madurai		
	7. Tiruparankundram		
	8. Melur		
	9. T. Kallupatti		
VII. Karur	1. Kodanthur	10,402	134
	2. Thoddampatti		
	3. Thennilai		
	4. Aravakurichi		
	5. Chinnadharapuram		
	6. Pasumbalur		
	7. Arumbavoor Metur		
	8. Tiruchirapalli		
	9. Gudalur		

VIII. Chinnasalem	1. Main Centre Production Section		
	2. Sirupakkam		
	3. Kallakurichi		
	4. Kugaiyur		
	5. Thittagudi	9,393	261
	6. Kachirapalayam		
	7. Kurinjipadi		
IX. Poonamallee	1. Main Centre Production Section		
	2. Thiruvallur	485	—
	3. Thirur		
	4. Tambaram		
	5. Madras		
X. Salem	1. Puliankuruchi		
	2. Rasipuram	568	32
	3. Veerahanur		
	4. Kaveripattinam		
XI. Vellore	1. Chetput	—	—
	2. Pennathur		
XII. Kumbakonam	1. Ammapet		
	2. Vedaranyam	483	15
	3. Pattukottai		

Main Centre	Sub-Centre	No. of Spinners	No. of Weavers
XIII. Srivilliputhur	1. Main Centre Production Section		
	2. Rajapalayam		
	3. Watrap		
	4. Rengappanaickempatti	4,088	164
	5. Muhavoor		
	6. Aruppukottai		
XIV. Paramakudi	1. Kamuthi		
	2. Thondi	1,077	11
XV. Dindigul	1. Solavandan		
	2. Alanganallur		
	3. Vadipatti		
	4. Narikkalpatti	558	—
	5. Gujiliamparai		
	6. Nilakottai		
XVI. Tirunelveli	1. Valliyur		
	2. Tiruchendur		
	3. Keelapavoor		
	4. Veeravanallur		
	5. Kurukalpatti		
	6. Panavadali	5,781	226
	7. Tirunelveli		

XVII. Koilpatti

1. Kuruvikulam	
2. Tiruvengadam	
3. Kadayanallur	
4. Ilayarasanendal	3,586
5. Ettayapuram	
6. Idaiseval	8

XVIII. Vadaseri

1. Main Centre Production Section	
2. Rajakammangalam	
3. Kanyakumari	
4. Boothapandi	
5. Marungur	
6. Alagappapuram	15,591
7. Valvachagoshtam	
8. Themgamputhur	453

GOVT. KHADI SILK PRODUCTION CENTRES

1. Kumbakonam	..	Tanjore District.
2. Kancheepuram	..	Chingleput District .
3. Hosur	..	Salem District.
4. Arni	..	North Arcot District.

SPINNING CENTRES UNDER EXTENSIVE KHADI SCHEMES

Name of District	*D. K.O. to whom spinning Centre is Attached	Name of spinning centre
Chingleput	Saidapet	1. Acharapakam
		2. Arappakam
		3. Arni
		4. Madarpakkam
		5. Kancheepuram
		6. Gummudipoondi
		7. Polambakkam
		8. Singaperumalkoil
		9. Tiruporur
		10. Damal
North Arcot	Vellore	11. Wandiwash—I
		12. Vengalapuram
		13. Sathuvacheri
		14. Wallajah
		15. Wandiwash—II
		16. Thellar
		17. Munagapattu
		18. Akkur

19.	Anakkavoor	
20.	Tiruvattipuram	
21.	Vakkadai	
22.	Odugattur	
23.	Pakkampalayam	
24.	S. Kottakuppam	Cuddalore
25.	Vikravandi	
26.	Vanur	
27.	Kanyanur	
28.	Mundiambakkam	
29.	Ariyalur	
30.	Kiliyanur	
31.	Tittagudi	
32.	Vattar	Tanjore
33.	Koradacheri	
34.	Tirukattupalli	
35.	Naducavery	
36.	Gandharvakottai	
37.	Thiruneiper	
38.	Thirupagalur	
39.	Manambuchavadi	

Name of District	*D. K.O. to whom spinning Centre is Attached	Name of spinning centre
Tiruchirapalli	Tiruchirapalli	40. Koyampalli 41. Karambakudi 42. Viralimalai 43. Kunnam 44. Gandhinagar 45. Vangal 46. Ponnamaravathi 47. Annavasal 48. Kaveripattinam 49. Udayarpalayam
Salem	Salem	50. Erumpatti 51. Kelamangalam 52. Denkanikotta 53. Puduchatram 54. Mallasamudram 55. Karimangalam 56. A. Pallipatti 57. Vennandur

- 58. Attayampatti
- 59. Kadathur
- 60. Morappur
- 61. Thali

- 62. Irumbarai
- 63. Velli-Tirupur

- 64. Kotagiri—I

- 65. Coonoor

- 66. Kotagiri—II

- 67. Gudimangalam

- 68. Nagamam

- 69. Vettaikaranpudur

- 70. Kinathukadavu

- 71. Krishnampatty

- 72. Kurichi at Olagadam

- 73. Kunnathur

- 74. Seenapuram

- 75. Kallimandyam

- 76. Bodupatti

- 77. Gujiliamparai

Tirupur

Coimbatore
and Nilgiris

Madurai

Madurai

*District Khadi Officer.

Name of
District

*D. K.O. to whom
spinning Centre
is Attached

Name of spinning
centre

- | | | |
|-----|----------------|------------|
| 78. | Ayyalur | |
| 79. | Koviloor | |
| 80. | Vedasendur | |
| 81. | Thoppampatti | |
| 82. | Kodaikanal | |
| 83. | Oddanchatram | |
| 84. | R. Pudukottai | |
| 85. | Chinnamanur | |
| 86. | Arupukkottai | Madurai |
| 87. | Madagupatti | Paramakudi |
| 88. | Tirupattur | |
| 89. | Sivaganga | |
| 90. | Paramakudi | |
| 91. | Aviyoor | |
| 92. | Ramanathapuram | |
| 93. | Nerkuppai | |
| 94. | Okkur | |
| 95. | Ilayathangudi | |
| 96. | Thulukkulam | |
| 97. | Agathakkulam | |

Ramanathapuram

Madurai

Paramakudi

Tirunelveli

Tirunelveli

98. Vallanad
99. Kadayanallur at
 Krishnapuram
100. Kadayanallur
101. Sambavarvadagarai
102. Munanjipatti
103. Kalakadu
104. Kulasekarapatnam
105. Veerakeralamputhur
106. Kallidaikurichi
107. Gangaikondan
108. Udangudi
109. Vanaramutti

Kanyakumari

Nagarcoil

110. Aramboli
111. Kadukkarai
112. Villukuri
113. Mekkamandapam
114. Asaripallam
115. Puthukada
116. Elavuvilai

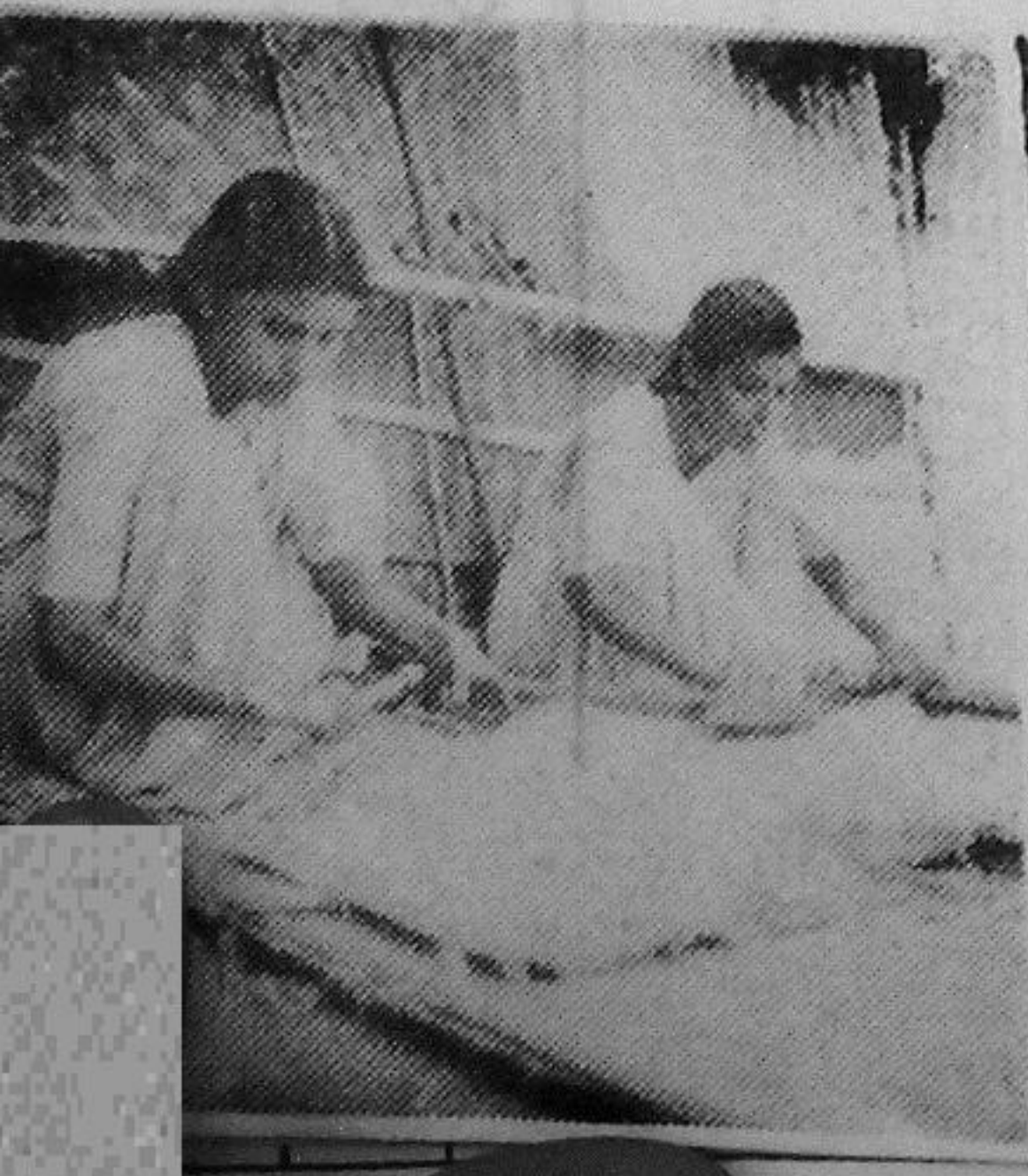
*District Khadi Officer.

AMBAR PARISHRAMALAYAS

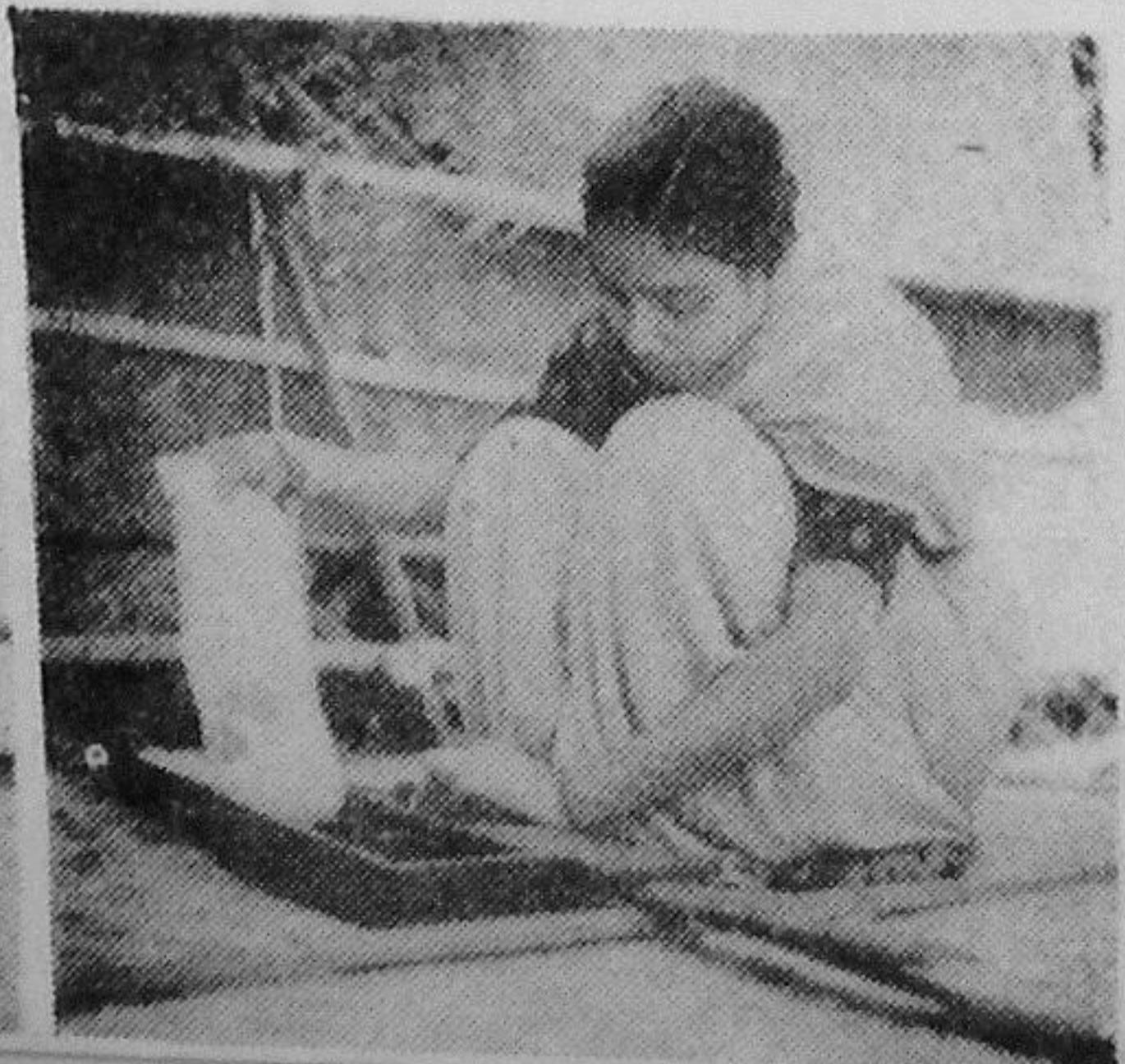
1. Madras City	..	Purasawalkam
2. Chingleput District	..	East Tambaram
		Sreeperumbudur
		Poonamallee
3. North Arcot District	..	Vellore
		Chetpet
		Santhavasal
4. South Arcot District	..	Sankarapuram
		Cuddalore
		Ulundurpet
5. Tanjore District	..	Tanjore
		Mayuram
6. Salem District	..	Tharamangalam
		Kaveripatnam
7. Tiruchirapalli District	..	Chinnadharapuram
		Esanai
		Aravakurichi
8. Ramanathapuram District	..	Sathur
		Arupukottai
		Abiramam

DIFFERENT PROCESSES IN AMBER CHARKA SPINNING

Carding



Pressing

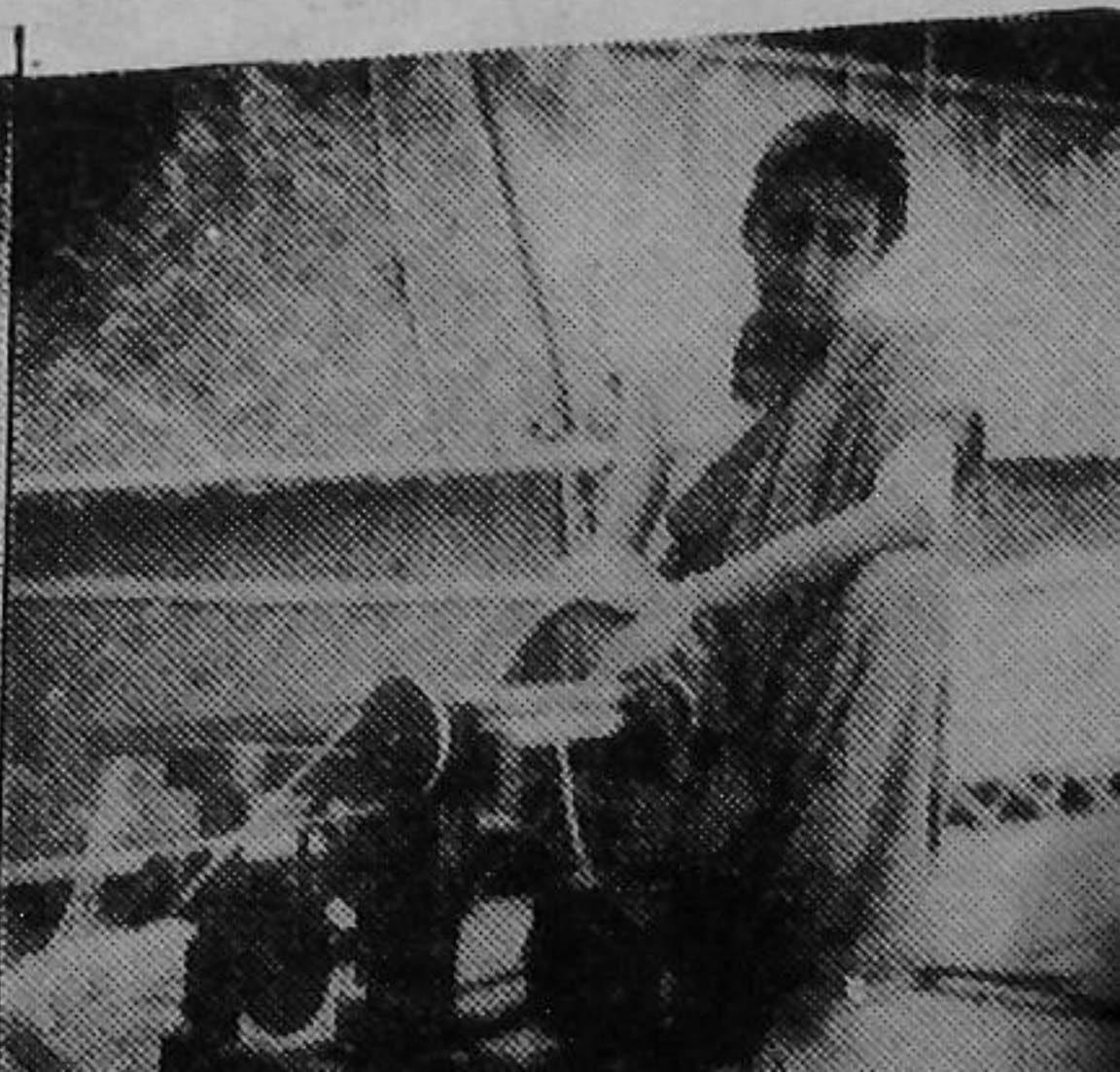


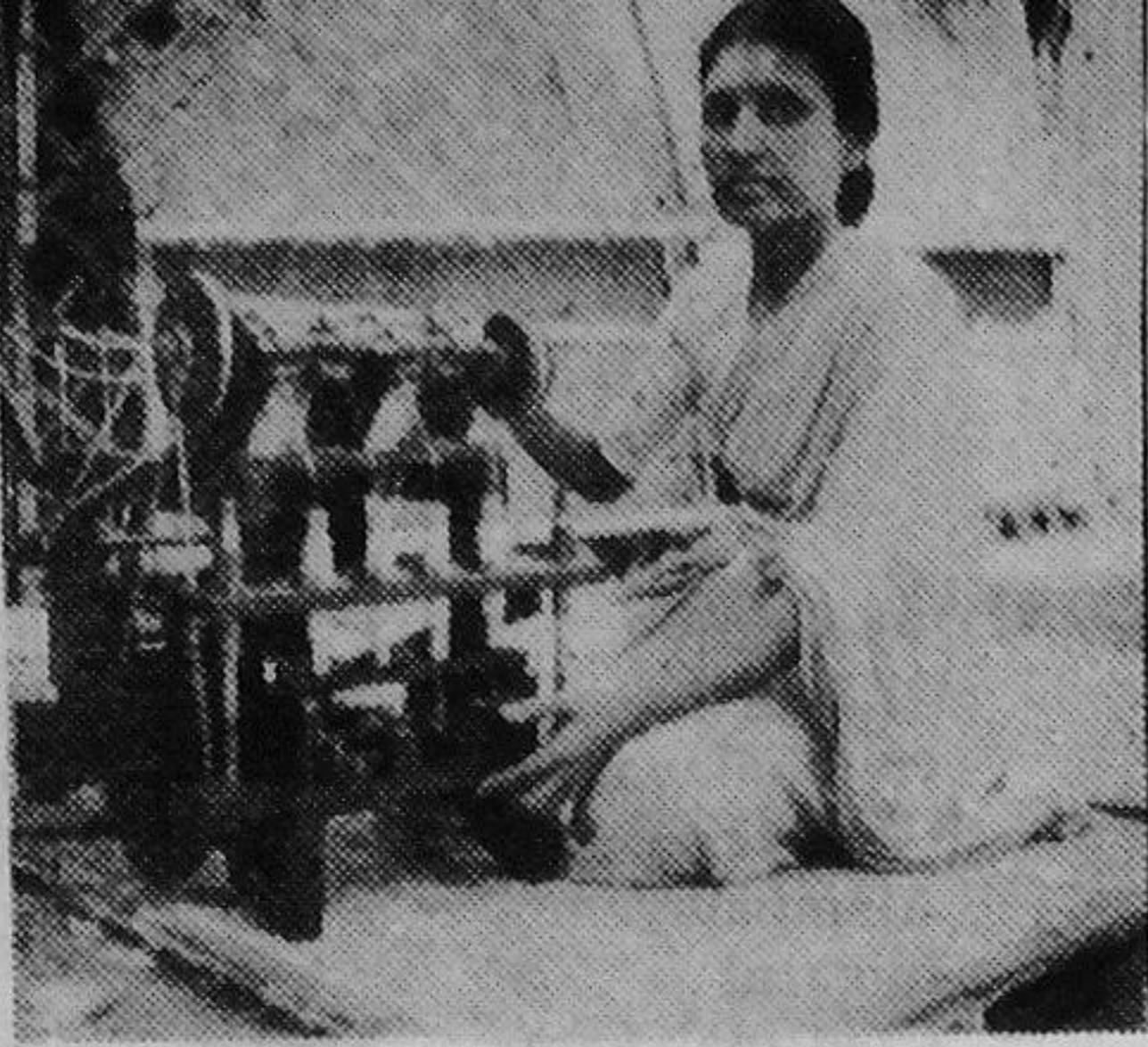
9. Coimbatore District	..	Somanur Cheyur Kanmalayampatti Guruvareddiyur Alampalayam Idigarai Chettipalayam
10. Madurai District	..	Thirupparankundram Kottampatti Gujiliamparai Narikkalpatti Nilakottai Melapalayam Valliyur Ettayapuram Thachanallur Tiruchendur Cheranmahadevi Nagercoil
11. Tirunelveli District	..	
12. Kanyakumari District	..	

DIFFERENT PROCESSES IN AMBER CHARKA SPINNING

Lapping

Roving





Spinning

AMBAR SERVICING UNITS

1. Poonamalle	..	Chingleput District
2. Sankarapuram	..	South Arcot District
3. Vellore	..	North Arcot District
4. Veerahanur	..	Salem District
5. Perumanallur	..	Coimbatore District
6. Gudalúr	..	Tiruchirapalli District
7. Tirupparankundram	..	Madurai District
8. Kurukkalpatti	..	Tirunelveli District
9. Valliyur	..	Tirunelveli District

(26 more Servicing Units are being started)

WEAVERS TRAINING CENTRES (I.K.S.)

- | | | |
|--------------------|----|----------------------|
| 1. Rallipadi | .. | Chingleput District |
| 2. Panruti | .. | South Arcot District |
| 3. Alathambadi | .. | Tanjore District |
| 4. Tirumamudaliyur | .. | Coimbatore District |
| 5. Usilampatti | .. | Madurai District |
| 6. Vadaseri | .. | Kanyakumari District |

Winding



MODEL WEAVING CENTRES (A.C.S.)

1. Amsi	}	Kanyakumari Dt.
2. Manikattipottal		
3. Nilakkottai	}	Madurai Dt.
4. Avaniyapuram		
5. Gudiyattam	}	N. A. Dt.
6. Vadamadimangalam		
7. Karunguzhi	}	S. A. Dt.
8. Thookkanampatti		
9. Aruppukkottai	}	Ramanathapuram Dt.
10. Sevalpatti		
11. Mandalamanickam	}	Salem Dt.
12. Krishnagiri		
13. Taramangalam	}	Tiruchirappalli Dt.
14. Mallasamudram		
15. Elavanur	}	Tirunelveli Dt.
16. Unniyur		
17. Talappatti	}	Tirunelveli Dt.
18. Inam Jayam Kondam		
19. Melapalayam	}	Tirunelveli Dt.
20. Chintamani		
21. Paramakurichi	}	Coimbatore Dt.
22. Ettayapuram		
23. Pothampalayam	}	Coimbatore Dt.
24. Pattuthorai		
25. Guruvareddiyur	}	Tanjore Dt.
26. Ammapet		
27. Mannargudi	}	Chingleput Dt.
28. Perunagar		

GOVT. KHADI SALES DEPOTS

Madras City

1. George Town, 86, Broadway.
2. Mount Road, 60, Wallajah Road.
3. Triplicane, 3, Pycrofts Road.
4. T. Nagar, 22, Thyagaraya Road.
5. Mylapore, 82, Royapettah High Road.
6. Purasawalkam, 6, Thana Street.

District Towns

7. Coimbatore, 14/114, Oppanakara Street.
 8. Tirupur, 5 & 6, Kamraj Buildings, Opposite the Municipal Office.
 9. Madurai, 261, West Masi Street.
 10. Tiruchirapalli, 27, Chinnakadai Street.
 11. Kumbakonam, 100 JS 1487.89, Kumbeswaran North Street.
 12. Cuddalore, 27 & 29, Vandipalayam Road, Tirupadiri-puliyur.
 13. Karaikudi, 63. E, Bharat Buildings, Sekkalai Road.
 14. Kancheepuram, Vijayalakshmi Vilas, Gandhi Road.
 15. Vellore, 78, Arcot Road.
 16. Nagercoil, S.M.V. Buildings, Cape Road.
 17. Tirunelveli, Industrial Emporium Building.
 18. Kodaikanal, 8/199, Bazaar Road.
 19. Ootacamund, 57, Commercial Hall, Commercial Road.
 20. Salem, 21, Main Bazaar Street.
 21. Tiruvannamalai, Talagiri Iyer Street.
 22. Tuticorin, Municipal Stall, No. 5, Great Cotton Road.
 23. Virudhunagar, 371/W7, Big Bazaar Street.
 24. Chidambaram, 6B, Bava Mudaliar Street.
 25. Villupuram, 145, Bazaar Street.
 26. Karur, 216/17, Jawahar Bazaar Street.
 27. Nagapattinam, Yadhava Street.
 28. Pollachi, 38, Venkataramana Iyer Street.
 29. Erode, Nataji Road.
 30. Krishnagiri, Opposite to the Bus Stand, Pudupettai.
 31. T. Kallupatti, Gandhiniketan Ashram.
- (Temporary Sales Depot at Courtallam during the Season)

VIGNETTES FROM THE VILLAGES

In the following pages are given a few cameos from life in the villages; each human story tells its tale which should go to any human heart.

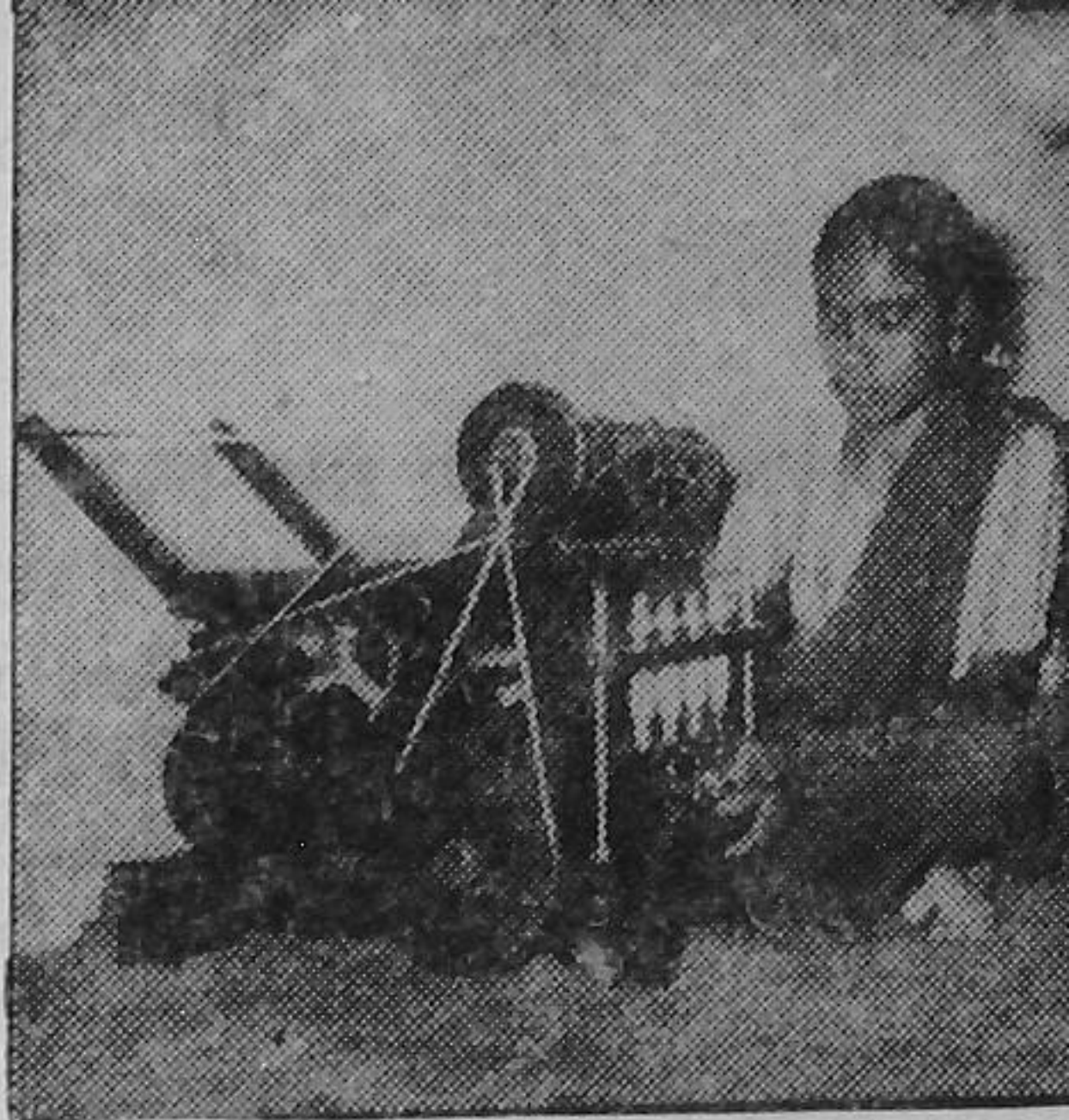
Agriculture which is subject to the caprices of the monsoon is never a dependable source of income to the small peasant. The land-owning peasant in most parts of Madras State is often faced with dark days of poverty and want. The fate of the landless agricultural labourer and his dependents is still worse. No avenues of gainful employment are open to him. The peasant, so fond of his home and his holding, would not move out of his village. To him the Charkha brings a message of hope and cheer. To the aged and the infirm, to the helpless and the orphaned, the Charkha provides an honourable way of earning enough to lead a life of marginal felicity. To the lower income groups living in urban areas too, the Charkha holds out bright hopes of adding to the family income.

Here are a few facts gathered at random from the villages where the Government Khadi Schemes are in operation. These true records of men and women who have found the Charkha a great redeemer would make even scoffers of the Charkha and its place in the rural economy of India sing its praise.

DILIGENT DAUGHTER

Kumari Subbathal, a young girl aged 18 who spins nearly 20 hanks a day is the second daughter of Sri Ramasamy Gounder and a registered spinner, in the Government

An expert Ambar Spinner Kumari Subbathal—Spins 150 hanks per week and earns Rs. 18 per week.



Sub-Centre at Perumanallur, Coimbatore District. The family consisting of five members, owns 6 acres of land of which 3 acres are dry lands. The average annual income of the family through agriculture is Rs. 250. At the time of exceptional rainfall, the well will receive adequate water and the family's income may rise upto Rs. 2,000. But Ramaswami Gounder has seen rarely such years of plenty in his village.

During the agricultural season all the five members of the family are at work in their fields. During the off season they all spin on the Charkha.

The 27th April, two years ago, was a red-letter day for Kumari Subbathal; after successfully completing her training in the Ambar Parishramalaya at Perumanallur, she received an Ambar Charkha on that day. She has been at the new wheel ever since and has set a record. During the last four months, she has produced 10,082 hanks of yarn. Now she is spinning on an average 150 hanks a week and thereby earning nearly Rs. 18 per week. Her elder sister helps her by preparing the slivers.

INVALID AND HIS WIFE

Srimathi Sivakami Ammal hailing from Panagudi Village, in Kanyakumari Dt. has a husband, who became an invalid, as a result of prolonged illness. They have six children, in the family, three through the first wife and three through Sivakami Ammal. With eight mouths to feed, the family had to face a daily struggle for existence. When the Instructor of the Ambar Parishramalaya at Panagudi came upon this poor family and persuaded Sivakami Ammal to join the Parishramalaya, a ray of hope was brought into the family. The lady joined the centre and as soon as she completed her course of training in November, 1958, she got an Ambar Charkha. In the first month itself she produced 300 hanks of yarn. During April, 1959 she produced the maximum number of hanks viz. 402. Her husband has learnt the art of making slivers for his wife. On an average, by the joint effort of this couple, the family earns Rs. 40 per month and it hopes to earn more. The entire family is now happier.

A REDEEMED FAMILY

Harigopal is an agricultural labourer belonging to Therkuthamaraiikulam village in Kanyakumari District. He owns 48 cents of land around his hut. He has a wife, two daughters and two sons as dependents. The wages earned by him as an agricultural labourer were far from sufficient to run his family. The result was that he mortgaged his 48 cents of land with a few cocoanut trees on it. The amount so secured was spent out soon. The family was on the brink of starvation. His wife and a grown-up daughter and three other children did not know what to do. Then came the Ambar

Charkha to their rescue. Gomathi, the 17 year-old first daughter joined the newly opened Ambar Parishramalaya. After training, she commenced spinning and the wages earned by her per mensem was over Rs. 40 after deducting the cost of cotton etc. The family is now able to maintain itself. More, it has found it possible to pay a small amount towards the debt incurred by mortgaging their land. The family is now well on its way to prosperity and the girl's mother is confident about repaying all the debt and redeeming the mortgaged land within another year.

THE GRANDMA WHO SPINS

Srimathi Narayana Vadivu of Therkuthamaraikulam Village in Kanyakumari District has left 85 ripe years behind her. She is just able to walk within her tiled hut. The family is poor and so was finding it difficult to feed and clothe all its members. The old lady obviously felt that she should not be a burden on the family and so she turned for comfort in her advanced age to the one unfailing companion—the Charkha. She plies with vigour a Kisan Charkha and spins regularly three hanks per day, and is able

At 75, this old lady insists on working for her bread through the Charkha.



to pay for her food and clothing. Her grandson Hari-krishna Perumal beseeched her not to strain herself. But the grand old lady refused to sit quiet and live on the charity of the younger generation; she wanted to be independent. She finds joy in the music of the wheel. Her resoluteness to live on her own earning is helping the family in getting an additional income of about six annas a day.

BUS DRIVER'S DAUGHTER

Here is the true story of a bus driver of Panagudi in Kanyakumari District and his family. The driver is earning Rs. 60 per month in his job as a driver. He has a big family consisting of eight children including three daughters of marriageable age. One of the daughters who has completed the Teacher's Training course could not get employment. The income of the driver was not sufficient for maintaining this big family. Hearing about the Ambar Charkha and the opening of a Parishramalaya at Panagudi, one of his daughters offered to join Ambar training. The driver was wise enough to let her undergo the training and he had no regrets. The daughter supplements the income of the family substantially by spinning on the Charkha. *Papa alias* Mary Kamalam, second daughter of the driver, spins 330 hanks per month and earns Rs. 40 on an average per mensem. No small help, says the happy father.



An enthusiastic Ambar Spinner
Mary Kamalam spinning 330 hanks per month helps to augment the family income in a substantial way.

HER ONLY COMPANION

Srimathi Naini Ammal who belongs to Sirupakkam in South Arcot District is very old and is having still two score and odd years to make a century. With no one to support her, she placed her unflinching faith in her only companion—a Charkha as old as she was and which perhaps came to her as her dowry. And her one and only companion has not let her down in her old age. She is able to produce only 10 hanks a week and though what she earns is no fortune, she is able to maintain herself and make an independent living—for she unlike many of her age and condition can never stoop to begging or living on other's charity.

A WIDOW'S TALE

Srimathi Bangaru, also hailing from Sirupakkam village, in South Arcot District is a widow aged 45. She has two daughters aged 7 and 9 respectively.

She earns her livelihood by carding the cotton. Her two daughters help her in slivering the carded cotton. She is able to earn Rs. 50 per month.

Srimathi Bangaru is also a good spinner. She won the first prize in the spinning competition conducted by the sub-centre at Sirupakkam.

The above are but a few random records from different villages in different parts of the State. Thousands of such people have come to look upon the Charkha, as a boon and a blessing, sceptics or no sceptics; for, to them it is much more real and precious than all the airy castles and horns of plenty which are beyond their vision and humble lives.





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