



# 7 Industries Of Jammu, Kashmir And Ladakh

## INTRODUCTION

After independence, full attention was paid to the development of industries in three regions of J & K and Ladakh. The establishment of industrial estates in Jammu and Kashmir was the first step taken in this direction. Secondly, the industrial areas were set up at district headquarters and in major towns. In the year 1963, a State Public Sector Undertaking (PSU), J&K Industries Limited came into existence which opened number of units, providing employment to thousands of people. Some prominent industries of the Union Territory of Jammu & Kashmir and the Union Territory of Ladakh are briefly discussed in this chapter.

A. Handicraft and Cottage Industry

### 1. HANDLOOMS

The handloom industry plays a vital role in the economic development and generation of employment in J and K. The hand loom products include blankets, Tweeds, Lois, Pattu's, Raffal, Khadi, Pashmina and Silk. Blankets in colored patterns are made in Kishtwar, Bhaderwah, Doda, Padder and Billawar in Jammu region. There are many handloom and power loom units in and around Srinagar which produce woollen pattu, tweeds etc.



## II. HANDICRAFTS

The ancient and medieval rulers patronized the handicrafts, which flourished very well during the reign of Zain-ul-Abdin. At present a large proportion of population is involved in this work and is getting good economic returns. The Kashmiri handicraft includes the making of qaleens, paper mache, embroidery, metal ware, wicker work, leather and wood carving. The finished products are exported all over the world.

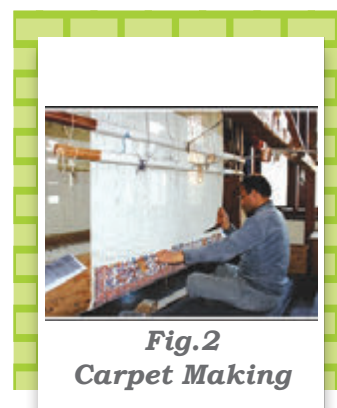
The handicrafts of Jammu region include hand knitting, bamboo craft, straw work, palm leaf and wood work. Tibetan Rugs and Pashmina Shawls are the important handicrafts in Ladakh region. In Kashmir Valley, Namdas are made of wool of inferior quality and old woollen blankets are used for making Gabbas. The art of felting wool into namdas has come from Yarkand. Namdas and Gabbas are embroidered with thread which gives them colour, beauty and strength. This industry is concentrated in Anantnag, Rainawari in Srinagar and Baramulla districts.

## III. CARPET MAKING INDUSTRY

The art of carpet weaving to Kashmiris is the gift of central Asia through Caravans. The products are highly priced all over the world with an excellent demand especially in Middle East and Europe, where most of the produce are exported. The workers of this industry are found in almost all districts of Kashmir, whereas the maximum units of carpet making are concentrated in an around the Srinagar city.



*Fig: 1 Carpet (Qaleen)*



*Fig.2  
Carpet Making*





**Fig.3**  
**Kangri Making**

#### **IV. KANGRI MAKING**

It is a cottage industry concentrated in the areas on the banks of Wullar lake near Watlab and at Chrar and Botingoo villages. Kashmir is known for its 'Wicker Willow'. Wicker is used for making baskets, boxes, lamp shades, chairs, tables, trays etc. Srinagar, Harwan, Shalabug, Hazartbal and Soura are the centres of its production.

#### **V. :PAPER MACHIE**

It is a unique, attractive and exclusive handicraft of Kashmir. Paper and pulp are shaped into a variety of decorative articles and colourful designs are painted on them. The centres of production include Rainawari in Srinagar and Anantnag Districts.



**Fig.4**  
**Paper Machie**

#### **VI, PASHMINA SHAWL INDUSTRY**

It is concentrated in Kashmir and Ladakh regions. Famous varieties of shawl manufactured in Kashmir are 'Shah toosh', Ring shawl, Jamwar, Kanijama. A lesser quality pashmina shawls are produced in Basohli area of Jammu, whereas a high quality yak wool is transformed in the form of shawl in Ladakh.

#### **VII. SILVER WARE AND IMITATION JEWELLERY**

Articles, like tea pots, cups, saucers, tumblers boxes, trays, mirror frames, items of decoration are chief articles of production by this industry. This work requires skill and craft. Engraving is a speciality of Kashmiri engravers. Moreover, Kathua District in Jammu region is famous for its handicrafts especially for Basohli paintings, Calico paintings and Phoolkari work. Ladakh region is also famous for, clay modelling and "Thanka paintings" .



**Fig.5**  
**Basohli Painting**





## **VIII. SILK INDUSTRY**

Silk industry provides permanent and seasonal employment to large number of people directly and indirectly. There are two silk factories in the Union Territory; one at Rambagh (Srinagar) and another at Jammu. Rambagh silk factory was established in 1897 by Maharaja Ranbir Singh, which was one of the biggest silk factories of the world at that time.

## **B. FOREST BASED INDUSTRY**

Forests of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh support and sustain various industries like paper, sports goods, furniture, joinery etc. where a large number of people are related with this industry. The timber from these forests provides raw materials to many joinery mills, which have been established at different locations, prominent among them are Government Joinery Mill at Pampore and Bari Brahamana. Similarly sport goods industry has been established at Miran Sahib (Jammu) and in Anantnag district of Kashmir Valley. A number of sport goods industries in private sector manufacture cricket bats and related items in various parts of Jammu and Kashmir.

## **C. AGRO BASED INDUSTRIES**

Jammu and Kashmir is an agrarian economy, and agro based industry is the most important industry and even provides raw material for other industries. Paddy is produced in large quantities in this region. A modern rice plant has been established at Lethpora Pulwama in 1981. Horticulture is also well established in the valley and a large section of people are directly or indirectly associated with this sector. Fruits such as apples, cherries, apricots etc. are exported in large quantities, and also have a well developed infrastructure for producing finished products like jams, juice and beverages in and around Srinagar, Sopore and Bari Brahamana. Many cold storage chains have been established in Lassipora Pulwama, Srinagar and Jammu regions.



#### **D. MINERAL BASED INDUSTRY**

The extraction of the minerals has come up in various parts of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh and as such many mineral based industries have been established in both public and private sector. The calcareous and argillaceous minerals i.e. limestone, gypsum, bauxite, and clay are the main ingredients of cement industry and are mainly available in Baramulla, Anantnag, Reasi and Basohli. Some public sector cement plants have been established such as Wuyan cement factory, PCF Bari Brahmna run by JK Minerals Ltd. and Khrew cement factory run by JK cements Ltd. Besides bricks and tile factories are also located at varied locations over the regions. A modern industrial centre is fast emerging at Bari Brahamna Jammu which has provided boost to the manufacturing sector in J&K. It deals mostly with fast moving consumer goods (FMCG) and other consumer durables.



**Fig 6: Gandola Gulmarg**

#### **E. TOURISM INDUSTRY**

Tourism Industry is being considered as the backbone of the economy for Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh. The beautiful valleys, snow clad peaks, lakes and springs, attracts people from all over the world. Besides archaeological, cultural, religious places offer the opportunities for trekking, mountaineering, skiing etc. many high end hotels are fast coming up at various places across the union territories. Furthermore the growth of adventure tourism and cable car projects provide large employment opportunities across the regions especially in the hospitality sector.





## Exercise

### 1. Answer the following questions.

- i) Kashmir is known for its handicrafts. Discuss?
- ii) Discuss the mineral based industries of Jammu and Kashmir.
- iii) Write a short note on the agro based industry of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh?
- iv) Write a short note on the tourism industry of Jammu, Kashmir and Ladakh?
- v) Write a short note on 'Paper Machie'.

### 2. Match the following.?

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>i)</b> Carpets (Qaleens)        | <b>i)</b> Jammu Region                                |
| <b>ii)</b> Kangri making           | <b>ii)</b> Shahtoosh, Ring shawl, Kanijama.           |
| <b>iii)</b> Paper Machie           | <b>iii)</b> oldest industry                           |
| <b>iv)</b> Pashmina Shawl Industry | <b>iv)</b> Unique and exclusive handicraft of Kashmir |
| <b>v)</b> Basohli Painting         | <b>v)</b> wicker willow                               |

### 3. Fill in the blanks:

- i) The ancient and medieval rulers patronized the handicrafts and crafts were flourished very well during the reign of.....
- ii) Rambagh silk factory was established in.....

### Activity



- i) Prepare the list of small scale industries found in your district.
- ii) Visit any cottage industry in your area and make a list of raw material used in it.

