

the country's meagre supplies of copper and, together with the introduction of steam blueing, would constitute an additional and useful service to the electrical industry.

Dharamsi Morarjee Chemical

WITH the commissioning of the " 300-tonnes contact sulphuric acid plant at Ambernath, the original 50-tonne plant of Dharamsi Morarji Chemical is being shifted to Kumhari for more fruitful operations as that factory has been experiencing in acute shortage of sulphuric acid for raising the production of superphosphate and alumina sulphate. The company has been permitted to increase the capacity of superphosphate from 40,000 tonnes to 75,000 tonnes per annum.

two additional projects viz, a chlorosulphonic acid plant of 3300 tonnes per annum at Kumhari and a triple superphosphate plant of 27,000 tonnes per annum at Ambernath have also been licenced.

During the year to December 1964, the company's sales increased from Rs 2.90 crores to Rs 3.67 crores and gross profit was up from Rs 38.21 lakhs to Rs 52.79 lakhs. Of this, depreciation has taken up Rs 29.15 lakhs (17.80 lakhs), taxation Rs 4.50 lakhs (6.75 lakhs) and prior charges Rs 12.46 lakhs (0.81 lakh), with the result that, equity profit is almost halved to Rs 6.68 lakh from the previous year's level of Rs. 12.58 lakhs. The dividend of Rs eight per share now payable on an enlarged capital requires¹ Rs 7.72 lakhs, as against Rs 6.62 lakh a year ago.

Batala Engineering

THE machine tool manufacturing capacity of the Batala Engineering Company is proposed to be expanded, and the government's sanction is being sought for this purpose. The company could not achieve the expected target of machine tool production in 1964 owing to some teething troubles. However, it has now been able to standardise production technique as well as quality, and the rated capacity is expected to be reached before the end of this year. This should also help reduce the overall costs.

Meanwhile, the company has produced satisfactory results for the year to December 1964. These results are not strictly comparable to those of the previous period which was of nine months. The turnover expand-

ed from Rs 60.49 lakhs to Rs' 76.55 lakhs, and gross profit was up from Rs 9.60 lakhs to Rs 12.18 lakhs. After providing Rs 2.99 lakhs (2.19 lakhs) for depreciation, Rs 0.22 lakh (0.68 lakh) for development rebate reserve and Rs 4.50 lakhs (3.62 lakhs) for taxation, there is left a

balance profit of Rs 4.47 lakhs against Rs 3.12 lakhs, enabling payment of a dividend of 12 per cent on the old equity capital besides a pro-rata payment on the capital issued during 1964. The transfer to general reserve has been stepped up from Rs 1.29 lakhs to Rs 2.41 lakhs.

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