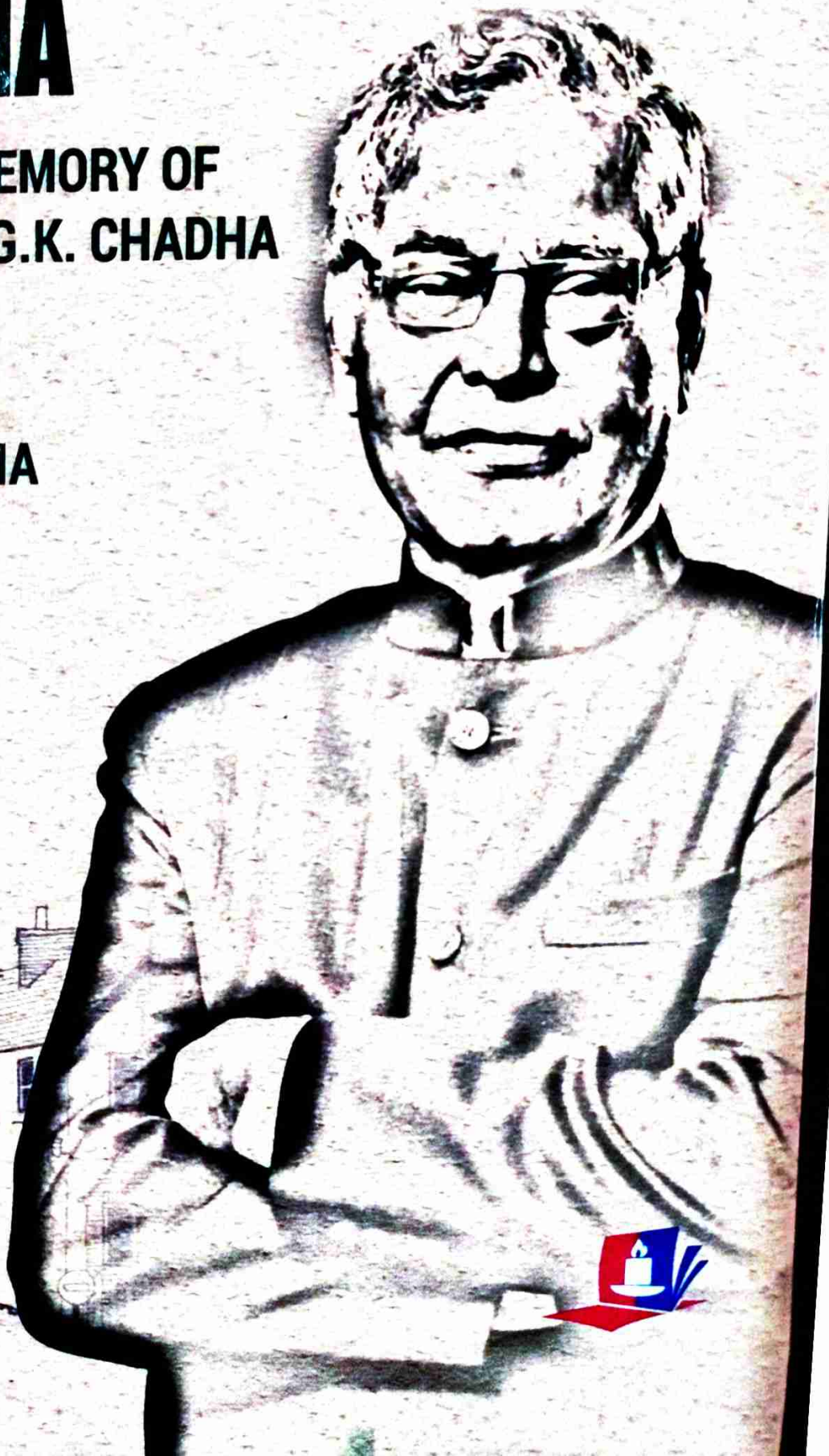


# **DYNAMICS OF RURAL TRANSFORMATION IN INDIA**

**ESSAYS IN MEMORY OF  
PROFESSOR G.K. CHADHA**

*EDITOR*

**M.R. KHURANA**





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## CHAPTER 8

# Functioning of Micro-Enterprises in India

Are These Distress Driven?

*H.R. Sharma, Kamal Singh and  
Shakir Hussian Malik*

*The growth of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) is perceived to be of tremendous significance for a developing economy like India. In spite of this, these enterprises are often reported to be distress driven. Is it really so? This essay endeavours to answer this question with the help of unit level data drawn from the Fourth All India Census of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), Government of India. It reveals that while the spatial distribution of these enterprises across Indian states shows heavy concentration in the twin states of Gujarat and Tamil Nadu which account for about one-fourth of all the micro enterprises, in terms of those engaged in the manufacturing of pulp of wood and products, agriculture and animal husbandry, cotton yarn and miscellaneous other activities at two-digit level of classification also account for one-fourth of the total enterprises. Not only this, most of these enterprises are managed by male members and about half of them are reported to be owned by general category households. Further, around four-fifths of the enterprises do not seem to have any access to technical knowledge,*