



A Socio Economic Conditions of Handloom Weaving In Yadgir District of Karnataka

**Dr.Srinivasrao
Dodmani**

Asst. Professor & P.G.Coordinator, Dept. Economics, Govt. First Grade College
Sedam; Distt: Gulbarga, State: Karnataka

ABSTRACT

Handlooms have been known to India right from the historic ages. Basic needs of the human being are the food, clothes and shelter. This study explores the dynamics of local-level trade in plant-based handloom product in Yadgir District of Karnataka. The handloom weaving sector plays an important role in the economic development of the rural areas. It contributes significantly by generating more employment opportunities and providing bread to the rural poor. In the present study, we have analyzed the socio-economic profile handloom weavers in Yadgir District of Karnataka. This study is based on both primary and secondary data sources. The study results revealed that the situation of the weavers was worrying due to illiteracy, financial constraints, health problems, and poor Government support.f

KEYWORDS : Development, Problems, Financila, Marketing, Handloom, weaving.

INTRODUCTION

Handloom weaving is an ancient industry. The textile cottage industry includes cotton, silk, and bleaching, dying, finishing, hosiery, lace embroidery, silk reeling, silk twisting. It is the chief means of livelihood to people who entirely depend upon it. Handloom sector plays an important role in state economy. Weaving is the basic process among the various manufacturing stages of handloom clothes. It is defined as a frame for weaving equipped with some wooden devices. The sound of the handloom is the music of rural home.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

TNN (2011) has mentioned that the state government has taken several decisions to encourage weavers to boost handloom industry in the state. The state government with the cooperation of the Centre has formulated several schemes to ameliorate the socio-economic conditions of the weavers belonging to the handloom industry.

IANS (2011) has noted that Indian consumers need to change the thinking; they need to think 'swadeshi' rather than 'videshi'. The greatest tragedy weavers' face is being ignored not just by people but by designers as well. The fashion industry is a very powerful platform to convey the message across the masses that fashion is more than chic dressing; there has to be an essence to it.

Prachi (2010) has observed that Indian handloom is growing in its popularity not only among the people in India, but also among the people admiring Indian handloom and Indian handicrafts from around the globe. In spite of having distinct styles and ways of weaving, there is a lot of exchange of styles that happened among the diverse Indian handloom styles.

Sehgal H. K. (2009) has examined that as far as the garment export sector is concerned, there have been mixed signals: continuing world economic downturn; some late recovery, however temporary and for some people; recent Rupee appreciation and with a new Government, expected to be stable, assuming charge

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

Clothing is a basic human need as much as food and shelter. Till the 19th century, when there were no machines for the production of cloth, the handloom industry was the sole supplier of cloth for the entire need of the world. Handloom weaving is the India's biggest cottage and labour intensive sector, which has been playing a very important role in the country's economy by forming part of India's rich heritage and exemplifying the rich artistry of the weavers.

There are historical records to show that handloom fabrics of India had established their reputation in the international market long before the historic Industrial Revolution in the West and the Indian Handloom fabrics received popular patronage and adorned regal personages, besides having received acclaim abroad in the olden days. As an economic activity, the handloom sector occupies a place second only to agriculture in terms of employment. Despite of its widespread across the country, there is significant under utilization of

capacity in the industry

However, this sector is confronted with various problems, such as, irregular and inadequate supply of hank yarn. Sharp rise in prices of yarn, dyes and chemical is also the most disturbing factor contributing to the crisis of handloom sector at present. Inadequate marketing facilities have resulted in periodical accumulation of stocks, resulting in underemployment and unemployment among weavers.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The primary objective of the present research work is to analyse the socio-economic conditions of the handloom weavers in the Yadgir districts. The detailed objectives of the study are:

1. To study the present situation prevailing in the handloom industry with particular reference to the problems faced by handloom weavers.
2. To study the social conditions prevailing among the handloom weavers with an objective to find out their place in the society.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY:

Weaving is one of the most ancient handicrafts patronized all over the world and at all times. Like food and shelter, clothing is also a basic need of every human being. Handloom sector has developed over the years and to see how far it is meeting the threats of globalization a study of handloom sector has been undertaken. In the present economic environment where dependency on foreign capital and know-how is increasing all round, the handloom industry presents a sustainable model of economic activity that is not energy intensive and has low capital costs, as well as an extensive skill base. The principle of hereditary continuance of occupation for generations introduced an element of stability and also enabled the craftsmen to venture further and acquire greater proficiency.

COLLECTION OF DATA:

Researchers have collected the Primary data from 100 respondents by supplying the questionnaire and through direct interview method. Secondary data are those data which are already collected by some agency, through books, magazines and through internet for some other purpose. The data collected during the project on which the information was derived from so many sources.

PRIMARY DATA:

They are predominantly collected from the survey instrument the questionnaire contained qualitative data as well as quantitative data. Some questions were closed ended and some others were open ended for these study 100 respondents were selected. The researcher personally questioned all these respondents.

SECONDARY DATA:

Secondary data for the study collected from the published and unpublished sources annual reports, research, journals and various related website.

SAMPLING TECHNIQUES:

Simple random sampling was used in the research. Socio-economic conditions of Handloom Weavers in Yadgir District where the sampling unit and people of Gurmitkal were the sample population. Questionnaire has been collected from 100 respondents randomly through friends and relatives..

AREA OF STUDY:

This study was confined to Handloom Weavers of Gurmitkal alone.

STATISTICAL TOOLS:

The tables are prepared with the help of the primary data for easy understanding and these data are used for drawing simple bar diagram, multiple bar diagram, pie diagram and pyramid diagram. We have also applied percentage, average and correlation for analyzing the primary data.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION OF DATA

The data are collected from 100 sample respondents by supplying the questionnaires, the data are analyzed by using simple bar diagrams, pie diagram on the basis of age wise, sex wise, educational qualifications, family size, monthly income, assets owned, major health ailments, number of workers involved in production, awareness of the various schemes and relationship between the production and Sales.

MAJOR FINDINGS OF THIS STUDY

This chapter contains the important findings of the study and suggestions. For improving the socio-economic condition of Handloom weaver's in Yadgir District. However various unfavorable factors, in course of time, led to its decline. The decline of native entrepreneurship, the nonavailability of raw materials and competition from mill-made textile products were among the other important factors that brought about the decline of the industry. The study presents a historical account of the industry with a view to identifying the factors leading to its decline. It also attempts to focus on aspects of the socio economic conditions of handloom weaver households. In addition, the organizational issues of the industry have also been dealt with. The present study also gives broad indications of the likely consequence of different policies implemented by the successive Governments. The findings of this study have considerable relevance to run the industry on modern techniques at all levels and improve the socio-economic conditions of the handloom weaver households.

FINDINGS

- 55% of respondents come under the age between 31-40yrs.
- Most of the respondents reside 5-10th STD (50%).
- Maximum number of respondents reside (65%) in nuclear family.
- (70%) of the respondent's size of the family reside 4-6.
- (45%) of the respondents monthly income below 2500.
- Majority of the respondents (70%) work 8 hours a day.
- Most of the respondents reside social personal status inherited (75%).
- Most of the respondents reside on mode of payment credit (80%).
- Majority of the respondents reside on major health ailments back pain (55%).

SUGGESTIONS

- Handloom is an age-old traditional industry beset with multi-farious problems. The industry, thus, requires a multi-pronged approach to infuse life and sustain its development. Handloom industry is providing one of the most basic needs of people and holds importance maintaining sustained growth for improving living standards of the weavers. Having studied the socio-economic conditions of the weavers, an attempt has been made in this section to offer a few suggestions for improving the plight of handloom weavers.
 - For protecting handloom weavers from the encroachment on their livelihood by the power looms and mill sector, the Government of India shall strictly implement the Handloom Reservation Act 1985 by placing the reserved items of handloom sector in the IX Schedule of Indian Constitution. Moreover, to avoid the competition from power looms, the Government shall innovate some new product ranges which are so far untouched by power looms. The Government also shall regulate the production of hank yarn by the spinning mills meant to be supplied to handloom sector.
- Competition from powerlooms and mill sectors is obviously a major threat. This can be countered if the handloom sector produces high value, and distinctive products for foreign market.
- The Government shall take necessary measures to reorganize the defunct co operative societies. If necessary, it has to initiate criminal proceedings against those responsible for mis-management.
 - The industry is facing the problem of lack of both fixed and working capital. The industry till now depended mainly on private sources or moneylenders for its credit requirements. A beginning was made to make available credit facility to the industry on an institutional basis through the introduction of the RBI schemes for financing the weavers. Co-operative societies this should be pursued vigorously
 - There is a need for a comprehensive legislation on occupational health and safety for the handloom sector. Key remedial measures need to focus on creating norms, raising awareness and providing capacity building services to help weavers to meet safety standards.

CONCLUSIONS

From the present study it is concluded that the Handloom weavers in Yadgir district, mainly those who have inherited this occupation, are in a pitiable condition owing to the poor socio-economic conditions. The majority of them are wage weavers who earn minimal wages in spite of working for more than ten hours a day. It is interesting to note that the educational status among the weavers community was not discouraging. Almost sixty five per cent of the community belonged to Low income group, engaged with working under middle-men.

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