

CHALLENGES OF MSMEs HANDLOOM INDUSTRY: WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO GULBARGA DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs), including khadi and village/rural enterprises are credited with generating the highest rates of employment growth and account for a major share of industrial production and exports. The handloom industry is one of the major units of MEMEs sector. This industry is the oldest and the most widely spread rural industry in India. This industry plays significant role in growth and development of economy of our country. Handloom industries not only create employment opportunities and proper utilization of raw materials but also contribute in the national income and removal of regional imbalances. These industries are not only producing goods but also supplying ancillary goods to large industries. The sector is playing a prominent role in ensuring the inclusive growth and regional balance. Besides, the sector is facing brunt in the form of competition from power loom and mill sector, opened opportunities due to improved technology, collaborations government intervention.

Key words: *Economy, Employment, Handloom, Problems and MSMEs.*

INTRODUCTION

Micro small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) have been playing a vital role in the overall economic development of a country like India, where millions of people are unemployed or underemployed. Poverty has become the most important problem for our country today. SSIs play an important role in minimizing these problems through dividing employment with lower investment. Industrialization is essential for rural areas because majority of the population lives there. If industrialization is started from villages then the impact of development is enormous. The economic development of any country primarily depends upon the establishment of industries. SSI sector comprises 95 per cent of the total industrial units in the country. The Handloom sector plays a very pivotal role in the country's economy. The handloom industry is the oldest and the most widely spread rural industry in India. It is one of the largest economic activities providing direct employment to over 65 lack people engaged in weaving and allied activities. Handlooms have been known to India right from the historic ages. Its power is such that Handloom industry constitutes around 14 percent of total preindustrial production in India with important segments, such as independent power looms, modern textile mills, handlooms and garments. In these days the handloom sector products are very popular in foreign markets as well as domestic markets and also raised their demand day by day. In today's textile sector there are four important segments consists in India viz., handlooms, garment sector, independent power looms and the modern textile mills. Among this entire sector, handloom sector is being the oldest and has the different features in different parts of the

country. The handloom is an important cottage industry in India; it is generating the largest number of employment in rural as well as semi-urban. Handloom weavers are known for their knowledge, innovation and brilliance in designs. Many of them in rural households depend on weaving to meet their basic need i.e. food, shelter and cloth. Handloom weaving is a full-time family profession, involving all the members of the family. The Handloom Industry of India is essentially a traditional one. It is also a cottage industry in the best sense of the term, as the work is done largely in the home of the weaver himself.

LETERATURE REVIEW

B. Premsundar & J.Kannan (2013) paper title on Women in Handloom Industry: Problems and Prospects, they found in their study many of respondents are said they suffering from health, As a result of restless weaving activities, large numbers of women are suffering from gynaecological problems. The paper suggested in order to lessen the women casualties, free medical camps and mobile health centres be established in the handloom clusters in all parts of India, in particular government should concentrate the handlooms in hamlets and remote villages.

Nor Azlina Ab Rahman, Aliza Ramli (2014), entitled on Entrepreneurship management, competitive advantage and firm performances in the craft industry: concepts and framework in their study that his paper is to contribute to the understanding of small medium enterprises (SMEs) and firm performances within the craft industry by drawing attention to the critical factors influencing its performance, and to further provide an integrated framework to examine SMEs performances. He concluded there is an importance of small and medium scale industries in development of Indian economy.

Dr. Santosh Kumar Mishra and Vivek Kumar Tiwari (2015) in their study on The Role and Performance of Cottage and Small Scale Industries in Indian Economy, they mentioned that that millions of investment in fixed assets in the small scale sector produces 4.62 million worth of goods or service with the approximate value addition of ten percent points. The small scale sector has grown rapidly over the year. They found that how can economy play a majestic role for growth and development of these cottage and small scale industries.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

- To explore the various problems associated with handloom industries in study area.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

Type of Research: The study employs exploratory as well as applied research. Exploratory research was employed to explore the problems of handloom units.

Population: Population of the study constitutes all handloom units which are operating in Gulbarga District.

Sample design: The sample selection confined to Gulbarga district. In this district total 1193 Handloom units are operating. Out of that 300 units are selected present study.

Sampling method: Snowball sampling method is used to collect the required primary data.

Tools for analysis: The primary data collected from the sample respondents through questionnaire. Data have been analyzed with the help of statistical tools such as percentage, mean, to make projection and to draw meaningful conclusion.

HYPOTHESES

H₀₁: Problems of handloom units in Gulbarga district are significant

H₁₁: Problems of handloom units in Gulbarga district are not significant.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Handloom industry has been facing the many problems, which not only hamper the productivity but also throw the weavers in to miseries. Some of the major problems are highlighted here under.

1. Production problem.
2. Financing problem
3. Marketing problem
4. Others problem

The productivity of handloom industry mostly depends upon the efficiency of the loom, preparation of warp and weft and skill of the weavers. The weaver has the responsibility for delivering the cloth after folding which also results in some loss of production, since a handloom weaver has to perform all jobs right from fetching the yarn to delivering the cloth. Thus the reallocation of his duties only for weaving, the loom efficiency can be increased substantially. The changing of pit loom technology to frame loom technology is imminent. Weavers have the looms at their houses and the houses are very much inadequate for expansion of looms on modern lines.

Since the weavers are mostly uneducated they could not acquaint with the modern design to produce the products up to the changing tastes of the consumer and moreover the technical know-how of the weavers is inadequate to most the requirement of the present consumers' tastes and preferences.

Table 1
Poor quality Cross tabulation

Strata * Poor quality Cross tabulation					
			Poor quality		Total
			Yes	No	
Strata	KHDC Units	Count	5	165	170
		Expected Count	6.8	163.2	170.0
	Cooperative units	Count	7	116	123
		Expected Count	4.9	118.1	123.0
	Khadi Gramodyoga	Count	0	7	7
		Expected Count	.3	6.7	7.0
Total	Count	12	288	300	
	Expected Count	12.0	288.0	300.0	

Table 2
Test value of Poor quality Cross tabulation

Chi-Square Tests			
	Value	Df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	1.704 ^a	2	.427
Likelihood Ratio	1.930	2	.381
Linear-by-Linear Association	.678	1	.410
N of Valid Cases	300		

From the above it is clear that Problem of production that is supply of required quantity of raw material, 5 respondents of KHDC, and 7 of cooperative societies' facing the problem of quality of raw material and non of respondents in Khadi gromodyoga. P-value for all the three strata's is highly insignificant. Hence null hypothesis is accepted at 5 % level of significance. So it can be said that it is not problem for them.

Table 3

Crosstab					
			High competition from power loom		Total
			Yes	No	
Strata	KHDC Units	Count	143	27	170
		Expected Count	133.7	36.3	170.0
	Cooperative Society	Count	87	36	123
		Expected Count	96.8	26.2	123.0
	Khadi gramodyog	Count	6	1	7
		Expected Count	5.5	1.5	7.0
Total	Count	236	64	300	
	Expected Count	236.0	64.0	300.0	

Table 4

Chi-Square Tests			
	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	7.832 ^a	2	.020
Likelihood Ratio	7.724	2	.021
Linear-by-Linear Association	5.169	1	.023
N of Valid Cases	300		

It is evident from the above table number 8 that Problem of marketing that is competition from power loom is faced by 143 respondents of KHDC, 87 respondents of cooperative societies and 6 respondents of Khadi gramodyoga society. P-value for all the three strata's is highly significant. Hence null hypothesis is rejected at 5 % level of significance. So it is clear that all the handloom weavers are significantly affected by the problem associated with marketing that is competition from power loom.

SUMMARY OF SUGGESTIONS

1. The KHDC, cooperative society and Khadi gramodyoga society should take necessary steps for the continuous supply of yam to its members.
2. Ban on handloom variety in power looms will improve the handloom weavers' socio-economic status.

CONCLUSION

Handloom industry is oldest cottage industry in India. It providing more employment opportunities in rural area but in the recent past it has been facing more challenges, to overcome above discussed problems, the government should take steps to implement various schemes and programs in addition to the above mentioned.

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