



THE RELEVANCE OF GANDHIJI'S VISION ON RURAL INDUSTRIALISATION IN THE ERA OF GLOBALISATION: - AN ANALYTICAL STUDY

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Abstract

The paper aims at analysing the present scenario of India's rural industrialisation from the perspective of Gandhiji's vision. The basic objective of Gandhiji's non-cooperation and non-violence movement was not only a peaceful struggle against British rulers but to make India economically self-sufficient. Gandhi's great approach of 'Self-reliance' and 'Swadeshi' gave birth of the village industries in the colonial period as a tool for 'Sarvodaya'. According to Gandhiji, khadi as a village industry was a symbol of nationalism, equality and self-reliance and the only weapon for reconstruction of the society. In the light of the above, the present study, based on secondary data, is an effort to focus on the role of khadi and village industries towards inclusive development of nation in the period globalisation. Appropriate statistical tools are to be used for analysis of data.

The paper is to be divided into three sections. Section-I is introductory in nature, highlighting methodology, objectives of the study and review of literature, Section – II deals with discussion and analysis, Section – III remains for conclusion and suggestions.

Key words: Swadeshi, Self-reliance, Sarvodaya, khadi and village industries, inclusive development.

SECTION-I

1.1 Introduction:

The philosophy of Gandhiji, the father of the nation, was for restructuring rural society of India. He devoted his whole life for the welfare of the oppressed, downtrodden, and poor people of rural India. Gandhiji's advocacy of Sarvodaya paves the way for restructuring rural society of India. Truth and non-violence are the two main pillars of his philosophy. One will find reflection of Truth and non-violence in his economic thought. According to Gandhiji work is not only an economic activity but it requires spiritual truth. His economic thought was not in the line of capitalism or socialism but he advocated India's own economic policy stressing upon of rural industrialisation, which is most preferable for economy. Most of the people of India are rural habitant. For the sustainable development of Indian economy, it should promote labour intensive and low capital based rural industries. The rural industries are capable of more generation of employment than large scale industries. As such Gandhiji advocated khadi for the economic upliftment of rural people. He, in the name of 'Swadeshi' tried to promote and stimulate indigenous industries like small scale and cottage industry of Khadi, Handloom spinning

and weaving mills. Gandhiji presented khadi as a symbol of nationalism, equality and self-reliance. His stimulus speech in favour of khadi also attracted people to pursue khadi as their livelihood. Gandhiji's stimulus speech on khadi include "Like swaraj, khadi is our birth-right, and it is our life-long duty to use that only. Anyone who does not fulfil that duty is totally ignorant of what swaraj is". (Navajivan, 5-3-1922; 23:11) "We cannot claim to have understood the meaning of swaraj till khadi becomes as universal as currency. " (Navajivan,12-3-1922; 23:77).

Under the above circumstances, the effort of this paper is to analyse the role of Khadi, Gandhiji's prescribed mechanism of rural transformation, towards the inclusive development of the nation.

1.2 Objectives of the study:

The study is mainly focused on the status of rural industrialisation in modern age in the light of Gandhiji's principles. In this context, the study is composed with two objectives. One of the objectives is to highlight the Gandhiji's philosophy on industrialization; another is to focus the role of Khadi and village industries (the dreams of Gandhiji) towards inclusive development of nation in the period globalisation.

1.3 Methodology:

The present study is an analytical one, based on secondary data. Secondary data was collected from different Government documents. Different literatures related to this are consulted. The statistical tools like line charts, bar charts and table are used to justify the study.

1.4 Literature Review:

Keshava (2014) made a study on Khadi and Village Industries to examine the relevance and role of the Khadi and Village Industries and to identify the challenges faced by those Industries in Globalized India. The study observed that KVIC till today able to keep its relevance in terms of generation of rural employment and income. In the era of globalisation the increasing trend of the value of exported products of KVIC has been found in this study.

Thomas Joseph,(2017) in his study on Gandhian Philosophy of Sarvodaya opined that Sarvodaya is the only way to solve the problems of unemployment, unequal distribution of wealth, growing corruption in public life etc.

Satrajeet, and Vijay,(2012) in their paper focused on growth of rural economy through promoting Khadi and Village industries with a view to making markets friendly to the poor by strengthen their socio-economic conditions.

Heredia, Rudolf C (1999) in his writings of Interpreting Gandhi's Hind Swaraj mentioned that 'Hind Swaraj' was the seed of the Gandhiji's vision on economic thought. Khadi, one of the great contributions of Gandhiji was the symbol of Swadeshi; this pragmatic economic idea is still exist today for achieving inclusive growth.

Sahoo and Pattnaik (2015) highlighting the relevance of Gandhian economy in the context of globalisation opined the importance and necessity of small-scale and cottage industries for promoting the generation of employment and income in rural parts of India in the present day for achieving country's equitable and sustainable growth which was prescribed in Gandhian economic philosophy.

SECTION-II

The Government of India established Khadi & Village Industries Commission (KVIC) by the enactment of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act, 1956 (61 of 1956), as a statutory organization under the aegis of the Ministry of MSME, adopting the Gandhiji's economic principles. (KVIC) has been engaged not only in promoting and developing khadi and village industries but for generating employment opportunities in the rural areas, thereby strengthening the rural economy. KVIC has been emerged as one of the major organisations in the decentralised sector which has been generating sustainable non-farm employment opportunities in rural areas at a low per capita investment. It is found that the objectives of KVIC are identical with the Gandhian economic thought. Gandhiji's main vision was the 'SARVODAYA' and 'GRAM SWARAJ' by empowering economically and socially to the rural people through Khadi. Giving proper weightage to the Gandhiji's vision, KVIC framed the objectives like generation of rural employment; producing saleable articles; and creating self-reliance amongst people and building up a strong rural community spirit. The KVIC has been also engaged in skill improvement; transfer of technology; research & development; marketing etc.

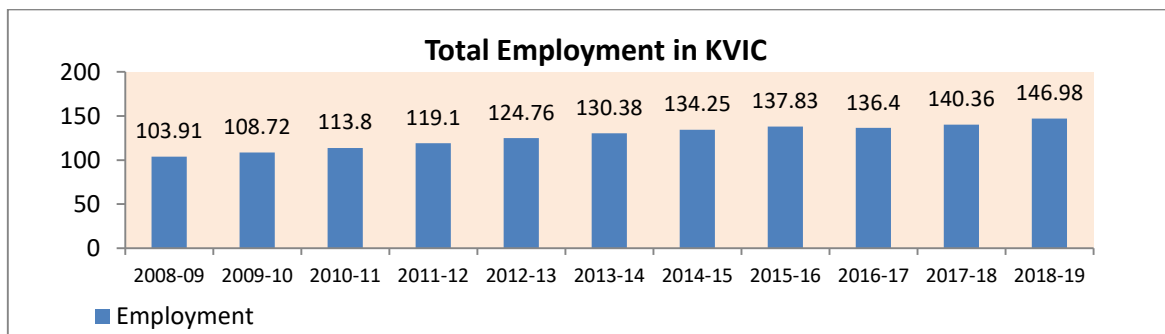
Table: 1

Performance of Khadi & Village Industries in generation of employment

Year	Cumulative Employment (persons in Lakh)		Total (persons in Lakh)	Growth In employment
	Khadi	VI		
2008-09	9.50	94.41	103.91	
2009-10	9.81	98.72	108.72	4.62
2010-11	10.15	103.65	113.80	4.69
2011-12	10.45	108.65	119.10	4.65
2012-13	10.71	114.05	124.76	4.75
2013-14	10.98	119.40	130.38	4.48
2014-15	11.06	123.19	134.25	2.97
2015-16	11.07	126.76	137.83	2.68
2016-17	4.56	131.84	136.40	(-)1.01
2017-18	4.65	135.71	140.36	2.90
2018-19	4.95	142.03	146.98	4.71

Source: Annual Report MSME, Government. of India, 2012-13 to 2018-19

Chart: 1.



Source: Annual Report MSME, Government. of India, 2012-13 to 2018-19

The table 1 reflects the performance of Khadi & Village Industries in generation of employment. The trend of cumulative employment in Khadi & Village Industries during last eleven years starting from 2008-09 to 2018-19 is highlighted in this table. The total cumulative employment in Khadi & Village Industries found to be increasing. In the year 2008-09 the cumulative employment in KVIC was 103.91lakh which was increased to 146.98 lakh. The cumulative employment in Khadi is noticeable since the year 2016-17. The cumulative employment in Khadi in the year 2016-17 decreased to 4.56 lakh from 11.07 lakh the year 2015-16. It is also note to point that the increasing trend in terms of cumulative employment in Khadi was observed since the year 2008-09 to the year 2015-16. On the other side total cumulative employment in village industries is flourishing.

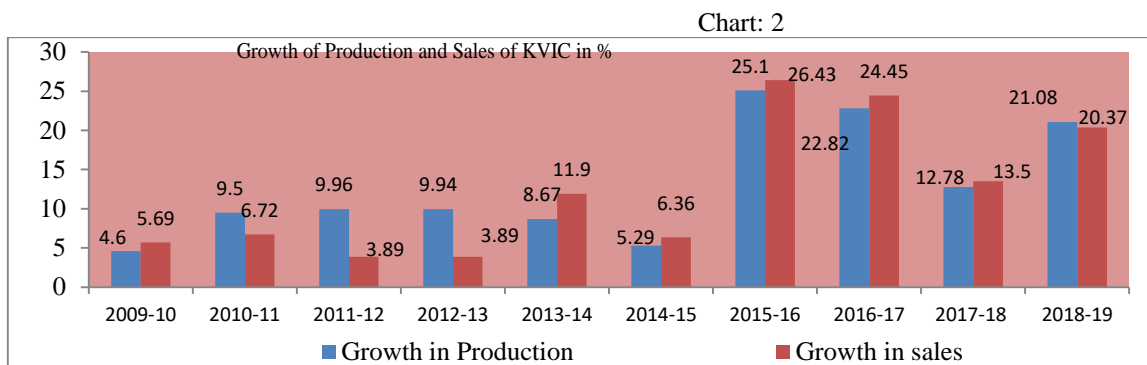
Table: 2
Performances of KVIC in Production and Sales

Year	Production (Value in Rs crore)		Total Rs in crore	Growth In production %	Sales (Value in Rs crore)		Total Rs in crore	Growth in sales %
	Khadi	Village			Khadi	Village		
2008-09	585.25	16753.62	17338.62		799.60	21948.59	22748.19	
2009-10	628.98	17508.00	18136.98	4.6	867.01	23254.53	24121.54	5.69
2010-11	673.01	19198.85	19871.8	9.5	917.26	24875.73	25792.26	6.72
2011-12	716.98	21135.06	21852.04	9.96	967.87	25829.26	26797.13	3.89
2012-13	761.93	23262.31	24024.24	9.94	1021.56	26818.13	27839.69	3.89
2013-14	811.08	25298.00	26109.08	8.67	1081.04	30073.16	31154.20	11.90
2014-15	879.98	26689.39	27569.37	5.29	1170.38	31965.52	33135.90	6.36
2015-16	1065.60	33424.62	34490.22	25.1	1510.00	40384.56	41894.56	26.43
2016-17	1520.83	41110.26	42631.09	22.82	2146.60	49991.61	52138.21	24.45
2017-18	1626.66	46454.75	48081.41	12.78	2510.21	56672.22	59182.43	13.5
2018-19	1963.30	56255.18	58218.48	21.08	3215.13	71113.68	74328.81	20.37

Source: compiled by author on the basis of Annual Report MSME, Government. of India, 2012-13 to 2018-19

Performances of KVIC in terms of production and sales are highlighted in table 2. This table shows the increasing trend in terms of total production and total sales of KVIC product. During this 11 years period from 2008-09 to 2018-19 the value of total KVIC production has increased by about 3.5 times. Similar increasing rate is observed

in terms of total sales of KVIC product. It may not be said inappropriate in this connection that there is maintained a consistency in terms of KVIC production and sales. This is a notation of healthy viable business scenario.



Source: compiled by author on the basis of Annual Report MSME, Government. of India, 2012-13 to 2018-19

Growth in production as well as sales is observed maximum in the year 2016-17 as per the chart 2. It is to be noted here that no consistency is observed in terms of Growth in production as well as sales. In the year 2014-15 growth in production has been decreased to 5.29% from 8.67% in the year 2013-14. Even in the year 2017-18 decrease in percentage growth of production is also observed in comparison to the year 2015-16. It may be said here appropriate that as KVIC belongs to unorganised sector, there is a lack of managerial efficiency in preparation of targeted production.

Table: 3
Allocation and Released of Fund for KVIC

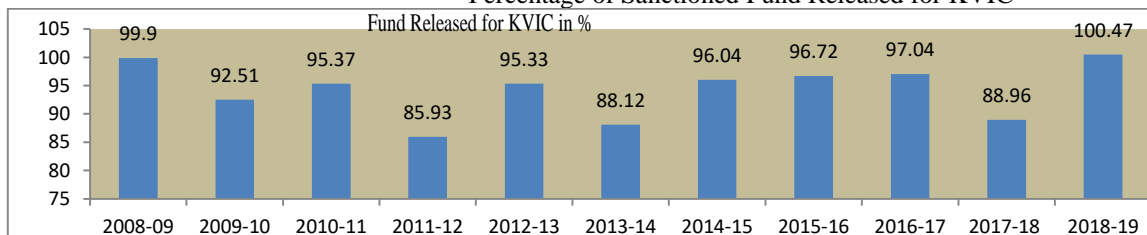
Year	Allocation		Total Rs in crore	Fund Released		Total	% of fund released
	Plan Rs in crore	Non-Plan Rs in crore		Plan Rs in crore	Non-Plan Rs in crore		
2008-09	1104.95	107.63	1212.58	1104.94	107.62	1212.56	99.9
2009-10	919.20	192.41	1111.61	836.00	192.38	1028.38	92.51
2010-11	1543.96	172.64	1716.6	1452.46	171.64	1637.18	95.37
2011-12	1494.22	185.22	1679.44	1258.46	184.72	1443.18	85.93
2012-13	1543.79	162.85	1706.64	1466.20	160.85	1627.05	95.33
2013-14	1395.67	219.28	1614.95	1204.88	218.23	1423.11	88.12
2014-15	1445.56	229.09	1674.65	1381.09	227.31	1608.40	96.04
2015-16	1579.65	244.71	1824.36	1520.49	244.18	1764.67	96.72
2016-17	1647.40	258.74	1906.14	1591.08	258.74	1849.82	97.04
2017-18	2149.37	237.71	2387.08	1886.07	237.71	2123.78	88.96
2018-19	2839.63	340.62	3179.99	2812.73	382.39	3195.12	100.47

Source: compiled by author on the basis of Annual Report MSME, Government. of India, 2012-13 to 2018-19

Table-2 shows increasing trend in budgetary support by the Government in allocation of fund except in the year 2009-10. Amount of released fund is more than the allocation is observed from this table in the year 2018-19 which clearly highlighted the Government’s intention for promoting village industries in the era of globalization.

Chart: 3

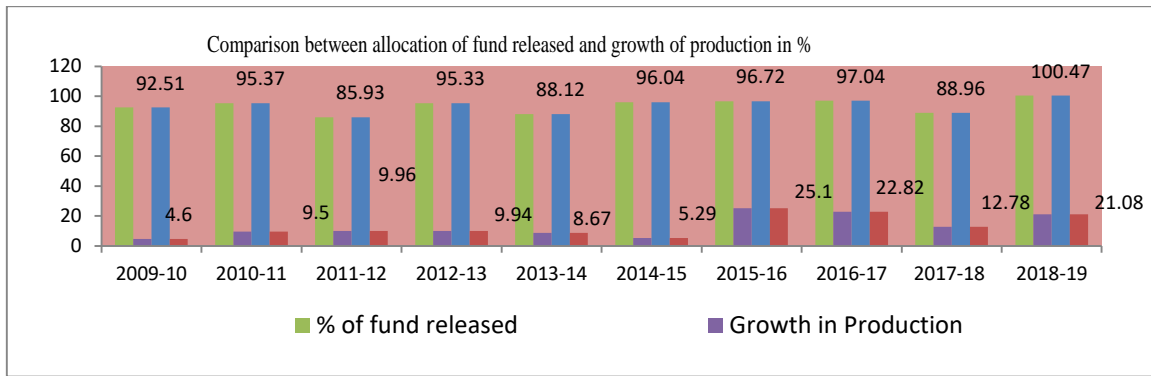
Percentage of Sanctioned Fund Released for KVIC



Source: compiled by author on the basis of Annual Report MSME, Government. of India, 2012-13 to 2018-19

Positive response of Governments for enhancing khadi and village industries across the country is highlighted from this chart-3. More than 100% of allocation of fund is released by the Government in the year 2018-19. Lowest allocation of fund released by the Government in the year 2011-12 but it was also more than 85%.

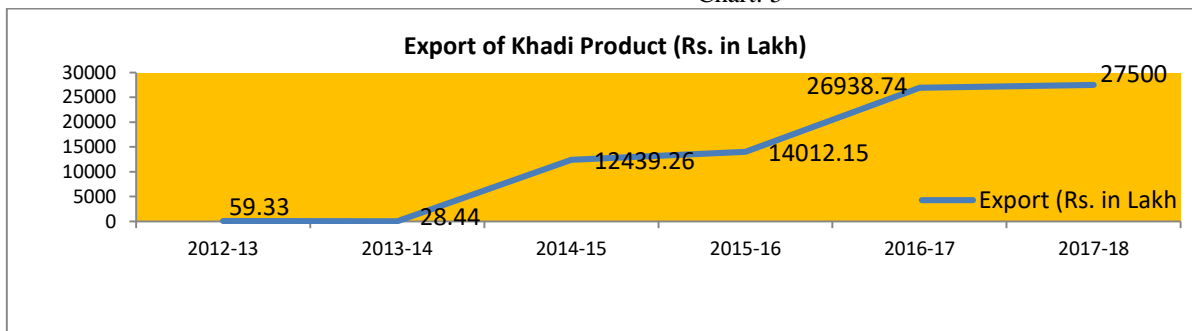
Chart: 4



Source: compilation by author's on the basis of Annual Report MSME, Government. of India, 2012-13 to 2018-19

This chart-4 shows the impact of the percentage of allocation of fund released on % of growth of production. It is observed in the year 2017-18 that % of production growth is decreased due to lower % of release of allocated fund. Positive response is required from the side of government in this regard for revitalizing the village industries.

Chart: 5



Source: <https://knnindia.co.in/news/newsdetails/25/07/18> & PIB18/12/2017

It is a matter of encouraging that seventeen items of khadi product exported to countries like UK, USA, Germany, Hong Kong, Australia, Brazil, Japan, Israel, Belgium, France, Bahrain, Netherland, Switzerland, and UAE etc. The export trend of khadi product since 2014-15 as per chart-5 is found to be increasing which shows the acceptance of khadi product is now not only limited to country but across the world. The world acceptability of khadi product in the era of globalisation enlightens the relevancy of Gandhiji's economic philosophy in the present day.

SECTION-III

Conclusion:

The importance of KVIC in terms of generation of rural employment as well as generation of income for empowering the rural people towards the direction of self reliant villages is highlighted in the above discussion. Gandhiji's dream for khadi which is the notation of 'swadeshi' is still viable not for empowering the downtrodden rural people but to generating income for the nation. The increasing trend of total KVIC production and sales as well as export has accentuated its acceptability in modern world. In favour of this opinion it is relevant to mention here our honorable Prime minister views in regard to Khadi. He opined that "Khadi has become a means of transformation". It is also reflected in Economic times on 11 February, 2018 that 90% increase in sale of khadi product during last Diwali session has been made. KVIC made a plan to run the five-bogie Khadi Express' train to boost sales. As per Economic times on November 25, 2018 Government of India has to facilitate the signing of MoUs (Memorandum of Understanding) between Indian exporters and overseas importers to boost the outward shipments of Khadi garments. The large scale sector is not to be capable to remove growing unemployment by generating employment for both skilled and un-skilled worker. But KVIC is capable to remove growing unemployment with the investment of low capital. Even it is important to remove the rising economic cohesion and non tolerance to others by adopting the philosophy of Gandhiji. His philosophy is a practical truth which will be given equal importance for ever for maintaining the peace and tranquillity of the world. The economic thought of Gandhiji is not only quite relevant today for the inclusive development of the nation but need of the hour.

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