



SOCIO ECONOMIC STATUS OF HANDLOOM WORKER'S IN NAGPUR DISTRICT

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Abstract: Basic needs of the human being are the food, clothes and shelter. Handlooms form the highest employment generating, labor-intensive and export-oriented industry especially in semi-urban areas in India. This study explores the dynamics of local-level trade of handloom product of Nagpur District. 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, it has been analyzed the socio-economic profile handloom weavers in Nagpur District. This study is based on both primary and secondary data sources. The results revealed that the situation of the weavers was worrying due to illiteracy, financial constraints, and health problems.

Keywords: Handloom Weavers, Workers, Employment Opportunities

Introduction:

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, a part of textiles, comprising cotton, jute, silk, wool, artificial fiber, special fibers and sericulture faces intense competition from power loom and mill sectors. The textile cottage industry includes cotton, silk, and bleaching, dyeing, 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. In the process of weaving the handloom weavers achieve harmony of motion and rhythms in Nagpur district.

Some of the government handloom schemes implemented for development and welfare of handlooms providing holistic and sustainable development to weavers and enhancing their products in domestic as well as in global markets are: Yarn Supply Scheme, Integrated Handlooms Development Scheme, Marketing & Export Promotion Scheme, Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana.

Review literature:

Review of literature helps to know the existing literature on the topic being pursued and also on the related aspects. It finds the gaps and also the uncovered areas on the topic. The methodologies adopted, statistical tools employed and also the conclusions inferred can be known. All these help and guide the researcher to know some new insights into the current topic for arriving at meaningful conclusions.

Sehgal G., Mir A. (2014) studied various developmental schemes implemented by government, semi government and other supporting agencies in Jammu and Kashmir State for socio economic development of various sectors such as agriculture, handlooms and handicraft. In agriculture sector, Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme took a gradual increase in the first instance but later the achievement level decreased. As far as handloom sector was concerned, scheme showed an up down phenomenon. In handicraft sector, it was analyzed that the scheme implemented didn't show much achievement in the beginning but later achievement graph started increasing rapidly.

Kasisomayajula S. R. (2012) analyzed the socio-economic status of handloom industry in Andhra Pradesh. The real income of handloom workers was found to be declining even though active central and state government schemes were prevalent. There is a need for policy change at central

as well as state level. He suggested that instead of designing similar schemes all over the country, there should be separate and customized schemes for North East India and the rest of the India. Failure of many schemes is because of improper coordination of central and state government. Budget allocation to handloom sector is quite low and government is unable to utilize allocated funds properly.

Devi L. (2014) studied the socio-economic conditions of the handloom workers in India. It has been found that handloom sector has slowly deteriorated over the years. Handloom weavers were facing severe livelihood crisis because of adverse government policies, globalization and change in socio-economic conditions. Ineffective implementation of government schemes has increased unfair competition from the power loom and mill sectors which are responsible for the crisis.

Objectives Of The Study:

- To study the socio economic status of respondents under study
- To study the present situation prevailing in the handloom industry with particular reference to the problems faced by handloom weavers.
- To study the social conditions prevailing among the handloom weavers with an objective to find out their place in the society.
- To examine the organizational issues having impact on the socioeconomic conditions.
- To examine the policy of the Government of India towards promoting the handloom industry.

Research Methodology:

A sample consisting of 40 respondents is drawn through simple random sampling of Nagpur District.

Data collection sources:

Primary data

A questionnaire is administered to the 40 respondents and primary data is extracted by this method

Secondary data

Secondary data is collected through articles, Books, Magazines, News Papers, Annual reports, websites etc

Limitations of the study:-

Sample size is limited to Nagpur District.

Analysis And Interpretation

Table-1 Age wise classification

Sr. No.	Age Group	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1	15 to 20 Years	6	15
2	21 to 30 Years	20	20
3	31 to 40 Years	10	25
4	41 to 60 Years	4	10
Total		40	100

From the above table, it is evident that that 50% of the Weavers are in the age group of 21-30, it indicates that middle aged group people are engaged in production when compare to other age groups. 15% of weavers are in the age group of 15-20 and 25% of weavers are in the age group of 31-40 and 10% of weavers are in the age group of 41-60.

Table-2 Educational qualification of respondents

Illiterates	1 to 5 std.	5 to 10 std.	10 to 12 std.	Graduates	Total
6	10	20	4	0	40
15%	25%	50%	10%	0%	100

From the above table, it is found that 15% of the Weavers are illiterate. 25% of the Weavers studied 1-5th standard level, 50% of the weavers studied 5-10th standard level and 10% of the weavers have studied 10-12th standard. This shows that majority of the weavers were 5-10th standard.

Table-3 Type of family of respondents

Sr. No	Type of Family	Number of Respondents	Percentage
1	Nuclear Family	28	70
2	Joint Family	12	30
Total		40	100

From the above table, it is found that 70 % of the respondents live in the nuclear family and remaining 30 % the respondents live with the joint family

Table-4 Monthly income of family (in rupees)

Below 1500	1500 to 2000	Above 2000	Total
22	14	4	40
55%	35%	10%	100%

From the above table it is found that the monthly income wise classification of the respondents, 55% of the respondents were

earning between Rs. Below-1500, 35% of the respondents were 1500-2000, and 10% of the respondents were earning above-2000. It can be found that, the majority of the respondents are earning between Rs. Below-1500

Table-5 Working Status of Respondents

Sr. No.	Category	No of Respondents	Percentage
1	Independent weaver	2	5
2	Working under middlemen	13	32.5
3	Co-operative Weaver	25	62.5
	Total	40	100

From the above table, it is found that the working status wise classification of the respondents, 62.5% of the respondents were co-operative weavers, 32.5% of the weavers are working under middlemen, and 5% of the respondents are independent weavers. It can be found that, the majority of the respondents are co-operative weavers 62.5%

Table-6 Sources of Purchase of Raw Materials

Sr. No	Sources of Materials	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Local Raw material dealers	2	5
2	Direct purchased	3	7.5
3	Co-operative society	35	87.5
	Total	40	100

From the above table it is found that It is found that 87.5% of the Handloom weavers purchased raw handloom material from Co-operative Society dealers, 7.5% of the Raw material purchased from direct purchased and, 5% of the weavers purchase local raw material dealer. The majority of the handloom weavers purchase cooperative society 87.5%.

Table-7 Purchase Mode of Respondents

Sr. No.	Mode of Purchase	No of Respondents	Percentage
1	Cash	2	05
2	Credit	32	80
3	Cash & Credit	6	15
		40	100

From the above table it is found that the weavers made of payment was 80% of the

respondents were credit purchase, 15% of the respondents were purchase of row material payment was made on cash credit, and 5% of the weavers are purchase of row material payment was made on cash.

Table-8 Health Ailments of Respondents

Sr. No	No. of Ailments	No. of Respondents	Percentage
1	Eye Sight Weakness	2	5
2	Back Pain	18	45
3	Knee Pain	14	35
4	Joint Pain	6	15
	Total	40	100

From the above table it is found that the major ailments were back pain (45%) and knee pains 35% of the respondents were suffered. Health ailments which people are suffered mainly of muscular-skeletal in nature like knee pain, joint pain, back ache and weakening eyesight.

Conclusion:

- 50% of respondents come under the age between 21-30yrs.
- Most of the respondents reside 5-10th STD (50%).
- Maximum number of respondents reside (70%) in nuclear family.
- (55%) of the respondents monthly income below 1500.
- Majority of the respondents reside on source of purchase, co-operative (87.50).
- Most of the respondents reside on mode of payment credit (80%).
- Majority of the respondents reside on major health ailments back pain (45%).

The above studies revealed about Handloom weavers in Nagpur District, mainly those who are in this occupation, are in a pitiable condition owing to the poor socio-economic conditions. The majority of them are wage weavers who earn minimal. 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 middlemen. The basic raw handloom materials required for the production of Handloom products was Handloom purchased largely from the local market but

sometimes co-operative society or local dealers, on credit.

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