



Women Empowerment through Powerloom Industry in Solapur District

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Abstract:

The main objective of this paper to examine the economic and financial empowerment of women workers through Powerloom industry in Solapur City. Solapur is the home of Handloom and Power loom weaving industry. The Late Kisan Master Kshirsagar, Late Vyankatesh Guntala and Late Ramachandran Marda are the inventors of the Powerloom industry in Solapur District. Mr. Kisan kshirsagar was a mill workers so he was a started Powerloom producing Jacquard Chaddars in Solapur to the year of 1954. The 200 Powerloom are in the year of 1961, today's there are near about 18,060 Powerloom are in working condition as well as the employment opportunities to increases from 1720 in the 1961 to 90000 in years of 2021. It gives many lots of employment opportunities to the women and its play a fundamental role to the empowering women's in the present situation. Women's empowerment means the self-reliance by the women's in their own capacity building, they increasing self-decision regarding their education, Financial, business, mobility, participation, the public speaking, economic independency, the awareness and exercise of rights related women's, political participation etc. This study mostly focus on to understanding the process of economic and financial autonomy by women through the Powerloom industry in Solapur city. The Powerloom industry play a most important role to increasing self-employment as well as the income generation of women's.

Keywords: Powerloom Industry, Daily Income, education, saving, Health, working hour, Empowerment, Female Labour, Diseases.

Introduction:

The Powerloom textile is one of the most important segments of the textile Industry in terms of fabric production and employment generation. It provides employment to 57.44 Lakh persons and contributes 62% of total cloth production in the Country. 60% of the fabrics produced in the power loom sector are of man-made. These power looms have flourished prominently at various centers in Maharashtra such as Bhiwandi, Ichalkaranji, Solapur and Malegaon, these power loom centers work in decentralized sector and play an important role in the growth of power loom industry. Solapur is the home of Handloom and Power loom weaving industry.

Mr. Kisan kshirsagar was a mill workers so he was a started Powerloom producing Jacquard Chaddars in Solapur to the year of 1954. The period of 1956 to 1962 were mentioned as a golden period for the Powerloom industry i.e. Chaddar Industry. The manufacture were reaped lot of profit during these period, the tremendous development of the Powerloom sector in Solapur. The 200 Powerloom are in the year of 1961, today's there are near about 18,060 Powerloom are in working condition as well as the employment opportunities to increases from 1720 in the 1961 to 90000 in years of 2021. In Powerloom industry the women workers are engaged in the works such as

Towel corner stitching work, Finishing Worker, Finishing Worker, Cutting, Packing Workers etc. in Solapur city.

Objective:

1. To study socio-economic status of Powerloom women workers in Solapur city.
2. To examine the standard of living of Powerloom industry women workers in Solapur city.

Methodology:

The whole analysis is mainly based on the Primary data as well as secondary data. The statistical data have collected from 200 women workers of Powerloom Units is made out of an estimated 1190 Entrepreneurs in Solapur city as per the report of Solapur Zillah Yantramag Dharak Sangh 2013. For the purpose of study the 200 women workers will be selected from the five different area such as New Pachha Peth, Gandhi Nagar, Akkalkot Road MIDC / Kumbhari, Chincholi MIDC, Other Mix Zone, where Powerloom industry was located, by using the simple random sampling method.

Data Collection:

The present study based both on primary as well as secondary sources of data. The primary data is collected from personal observation. Primary data collected through the Questioner, personal interviews, observations etc. The secondary data is

collected from the Annual Reports Published by Laal Bawata Bidi Kamgaar Union, Solapur Yantramag dharak Sangh, Additional information is collected from the books, journals, Govt. publications library and Internet etc.

Statistical Tools:

In the purpose of study, some statistical tools have used such as average, percentage some graphical device has used for data analysis. This collected data have processed with help of computer software viz. MS-EXCEL and SPSS.

Results and Discussion:

In Solapur city most of women workers are engaged in different type of works such as Towel corners stitching, Finishing of final products, Machine Handling Workers, Cutting, Gard night Shift, Bim Rolling worker, Packing Workers. Maximum workers i.e. 87 (43.5%) workers were in the age group of 31 to 40 years, most important points to be noted that is near about 2% were child labours workers, it means their parents engaged their children's to work place in order to assist them in their work and also to meet the economic expenditure of the Family. A majority of the women workers are Padmashali and KuranShetti Community and they are migrated from AndhraPradesh that means Padmashali are dominant in Powerloom industry in Solapur City. Out of the total, 76 (38.0%) workers receives Rs.6001 to 8000 wages of every month of their work, Followed by 68 (34.0%) workers receive Rs. 8001 to 10000 wages of every month, 29 (14.5%) workers receive Rs. 4001 to 6000 of every month of period, and remaining the 3 (1.5%) workers receive Rs. up to 4000 of per month of period it shows a poor economic condition of respondents.

But when to compare the male and female workers salary in per month are very different, the male workers receives large wages than the female workers, that means the wage discrimination is found in male female workers salary. The most of 98 (49.0%) family's expenditure is from Rs.6001 to 8000, Followed by 47 (23.5%) family expenditure from Rs.4001 to 6000. Only 14 (7.0%) respondents monthly expense is Rs.8001 to 10000, majorly includes grocery expenses, house rent if any, medical expenses and travel expenses. Out of the total 42 (21.0%) workers spend their all income to fulfill their daily basic needs and remaining the 158 (79%) workers monthly saving amount classified as a group of up to 200 to Above 601, Powerloom workers sources of saving such as Nationalized Banks, SHG, Bhishi etc. Powerloom workers very hardly complete their basic needs but many times they taken loan, out of the total majority i.e. 187 (93.5%) female workers do not taking any type of Loan, but remaining the 13 (6.5%) women workers taking loan from SHG, Bhishi, Money lender, Bank

for the purpose of regular expenses, Festivals, Education, Wedding, Repay the Loan.

The daily average of hours spends for working classified as a group up to 7 hours, 8 to 9 hours, 10 to 12 hours. Out of the total majority i.e. 170 (85.0%) respondent spend 8 to 9 hours in per day, Followed by 21 (10.5%) respondents spend 10 to 12 hours in per day, which means more than 95% respondent spend 8 to 12 hours to work in per day. Out of the total majority i.e. 176 (88.0%) workers traditional occupation of Powerloom industry under work because in the study are a majority of the female/Male workers are Padmashali Community and it is their traditional occupation, many workers getting knowledge to their work from neighbours, Mother, Friends and persons such as Mother in law, father in law, cousin etc. Most of the workers i.e. 86 (43%) are dissatisfied because of the less salary and heavy work load in industry, followed by the 52 (26.0%) was dissatisfied because of the only less Salary in industry. Only few percentage i.e. 2 (1.0%) respondents also referred to the bad treatment they receive at the work place. Large number of workers i.e. 119 (59.5%) receiving the safety equipment's at the work place from the industry such as gloss, mask of mouth, cap, detergents, Dettol to wash their hand and troli to carry yarn bundles etc. Remaining the 81 (40.5%) workers not receiving the safety equipment's at work place, it was very dangerous to the health of workers.

Most of the workers are illiterate and very few workers are studied the primary and secondary level, that means the education was not important for this work. Largest percentage i.e. 91 (45.5%) workers was changed the one industry to another industry because of the reason of lack of payment in industry, 10 (5.0%) workers change industry because of the reason of dispute with owner. majority i.e. 139 (69.5%) respondents not aware about the Powerloom Labour Law and remaining 61 (31.5%) respondents, out of which the 32 (16.0%) respondents Fully aware about Labour laws, 9 (4.5%) respondents are partially aware about labour laws and 20 (10.0%) respondents are aware of few provision of labour laws. It concluded that the only who's workers was permanent they were getting the maternity benefits and who was not permanent they not getting the maternity benefits, that situation they work without payment. Majority of the respondents i.e. 177 (88.5%) was getting the health insurance facility, remaining the only 23 (11.5%) workers not getting the health insurance facility through the industry. majority of 68 (34.3%) respondents addicted by diseases Breathing Problem, Aches joints and Sholders, Bronchitis, out of that the 8 (4.0%) respondents addicted by diseases such as Cold a cough, Breathing Problem. Powerloom workers facing many problems such as low wages,

late for wages, Children's education problem, Transportation, Housing, Sickness problem and Labour cut Policy.

Conclusion:

Functioning of the Powerloom industry in selected areas of Solapur district of Maharashtra, where women are also contributing along with the men for their survival wearing. Most of women workers are engaged in different type of works such as Towel corners stitching, Finishing of final products, Machine Handling Workers, Cutting, Gard night Shift, Bim Rolling worker, Packing The realization about the significance of the education most of workers are illiterate and very few workers are studied the primary and secondary level, that means the education was not important for this work. Most of the workers do not know any other work because this occupation was traditional. It may be the lack of motivation and moral building aspects amongst the looming families. Most of workers was changed the one industry to another industry because of the reason of lack of payment in industry, dispute with owner. Majority of workers receives Rs.6001 to 8000 wages of every month and it is very few. The daily average of hours spends for working classified as a group up to 7 hours, 8 to 9 hours, 10 to 12 hours. Most of workers addicted by diseases such as Cold a cough, Breathing Problem. Powerloom workers facing many problems such as low wages, late for wages, Children's education problem, Transportation, Housing, Sickness problem and Labour cut Policy.

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