

SOCIO ECONOMIC STATUS OF ZARI WORK: A STUDY OF KULBARI GRAM PANCHAYET, EAST MIDNAPORE, WEST BENGAL

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Abstract

In India the cottage industrial sector occupies a special place in the industrial structure. In our country manpower is abundant but capital is relatively scarce. Small scale cottage industries tend to be labour intensive. In spite of having huge potentialities, the Indian small scale industries could not progress satisfactorily as these industries are suffering from various weaknesses. The main focus of the industrial policy is creating awareness and effective utilization of incentives and subsidies. Present paper highlight on socio economic status of workers and also highlight on the problem faced by the worker in Kulbari panchayet.

Keywords: Cottage, capital, potentialities, subsidies, utilization



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Introduction: Cottage industry exists in every developing country. In a developing country like India, cottage industry plays a significant role in economy. It helps in employment generation. Therefore Government of India has given this sector an important place in the framework of Indian economic planning.

The block Chandipur is in Purba Medinipur of West Bengal. The block has 10 panchayet, Kulbari panchayet is one of them which is the study area located between 22°04'30" N to 22°02'15" N latitude and 87°52' E to 87°54" E. South Eastern railway line passes through this area. This place is surrounded by small scale cottage industry. Most of the workers work in their own houses.

Objective

To understand the socio economic conditions of the embroidery artisans.

To find out the problems faced by the workers.

To provide solutions to overcome the problems.

Methodology: For the purpose of study, the methodology of the whole study has been divided into three steps like pre-field work, field work and post field work.

<u>Phase</u>	<u>Methodology</u>
Pre-field Phase :	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collection of secondary level information and data from census, reports and maps, imageries. • Preparation questionnaire.
On-field Phase :	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Physical inspection of the study area. • Collection of primary level information and data through questionnaire survey, • Secondary information from Administration • Documentation of information and Initialization of evaluation
Post-field Phase :	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further refinement of collected information. • Final evaluation with editing as required • Final creation of content.

Data sources: A data base is collection of information that is organized so that it can be easily accessed, managed and can be updated. The present study focuses to analyze zari work of the Kulabaria Gram Panchayat Development Block. The sources of database are –

Primary Data: Primary data have been collected through door to door survey in Kulabari Gram Panchayat based on questionnaires.

Secondary Data: The census data of Purba Medinipur 2001 & 2011 is the secondary database of the study which provides information about male and female population of Kulabari GP. Kulabari Block Development office provides other secondary information like Block map, Mouza map.

Features of zari work

The village is mainly depended on cottage industry. From the household survey it is clear that a large number of people involve in zari work. They involve in zari work due to different factors. These are

- Long tradition of the area
- Working for generation
- Working at their own house
- Simple equipments.
- Income generation

From primary survey it is observed that most of female involved in zari work. Almost every married woman is home maker and performs the zari work. The surveyed female populations are 53% and 33% female involve in it where only 15% male engaged in this industry. Because many male population have other jobs. Zari work has evolved as a cottage industry here offering employment to the housewives and girls of the village. Women learn the art of preparing fireworks from the elder women of the family.

Raw material: They use different types of raw material like zari, thread, stone, synthetic, chiffon. Zari is the main element. There are three types of zari.

- Real zari: It is made of pure gold & silver. Its uses are limited.
- Imitation zari: It is made of silver electroplated or copper wire
- Metallic zari: It is made of polyester composition.

Most of the raw material is come from Murshidabad, Kolkata, Howrah and Orissa. The finished products are sent to Deli, Varanasi, Kolkata and Hyderabad.

Socio Economic Profile

General workers are dominant here. Most of the workers are Sc. 26% persons are Sc. 44% is general and 20% persons are OBC A

Age sex structure

24% male population (age 20-30 Years) are engaged in zari worka.24% female population under the age group of 20-30 years and 28% female under the age group of 30-40 years are associated in this work. Only 20 % respondents (age of above 40 years) are involved in this work.

Most of the worker studied up to class VIII and X. Some are illiterate specially women.

Educational Status

Education Level	Male	Female
VIII cleared	36%	30%
X cleared	24 %	19%
H.S	18%	12%
Graduate	10 %	6%
Illiterate	12%	33%

Source: Primary Survey, 2016

Annual income level

Most of the workers have low income.64% workers earn Rs 2000 to 4000 per month. 14% workers earn Rs 5000 per month from this job. Most of the works are engaged in working for 8 hours. But at the peak season they have to work for 10 hours and above.

Hurdles of zari work

The workers face many serious problems.

Garbage Disposal

Garbage disposal place is the most important problem. 50% people have thrown their garbage at beside the pond.30% people have thrown their waste product at beside the road .So improper management of garbage disposal make the environment of the area became unhygienic and polluted.

Health Problem

Due to poor unhygienic condition, people face some diseases like hepatitis, typhoid and others. The incidence of respiratory diseases like viral fever infection, Skin diseases are high in the area. From primary survey it reveals that maximum people (40%) have suffered from poor eye sight.26% persons have suffered from joint pain and 24% people have suffered from back pain and 20% from other problem.

Different Problem

They face various problems. Due to congestion of houses proper sunlight can not enter into the houses of all places. 42% family have space problem for their work. Storage facilities is also limited.

According to primary survey 60% worker have no health insurance.

Remedial measure

- Duration of working periods should be fixed.
- Amount of wages should be increased.
- Increase the no. of skilled workers through proper training.
- Modern technique should be used.
- New design should be introduced.
- Provision for cheap and regular supply of electricity
- Government may introduce subsidies, incentives for the effective improvement of this industry.

Conclusion

Zari work is one of the major household industries in India. In spite of having huge potentialities, the cottage industry in India could not progress satisfactorily as these industries are suffering from various weaknesses. If proper attention is given, this sector will be flourished.

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