
CHAPTER I
RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

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CHAPTER I

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

1.1. INTRODUCTION :

The urban informal sector has been an important sector in the recent years. In most of the developing countries of the world, the process of economic development involves urbanisation and shifting of large number of workers from rural to urban areas. In India the process of urbanisation was particularly speeded up during the last three decades of the 20th century. It also involved an increasing labour force participation rate (LFPR) particularly in respect of female labour. In fact, there have been several changes that have contributed to the increasing role of female labour and their participation in economic activities. In the urban areas, the employment pattern of female workers is more in the unorganised and informal sector rather than the formal organised sector.

The growth of urban unorganised sector involving wages or salary employment for the female workers has been phenomenal in various spheres of economic activity such as construction work, brick making, bidi manufacturing, power loom, tobacco industry servants, cooking, vegetable selling, tailoring, supari cutting, collection of plastic wastes and paper bags, garland makers and pickles makers cloth washing, cleaning of utensils, conducting tutions and so on.

But almost complete absence of a specific study of the female workers in tobacco industry of the unorganised sector, female workers in tobacco industry are neglected by the researchers. The present study aims at critically examining the economic conditions

and problems of female workers in tobacco industry of Jaysingpur city of the Kolhapur District.

1.2. THE OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY :

The study has following objectives.

- 1) To study the socio economic profile of female workers.
- 2) To study the economic status of the female workers.
- 3) To study problems of female workers.
- 4) To suggest remedial measures.

1.3. SCOPE OF THE STUDY :

The scope of tobacco industry consists tobacco processing, tobacco pricing, raw material, machinisation, tobacco selling, packing and transportation etc. but the illiterate female workers working in this industry is one of the important factors in the whole working of tobacco industry. The standard of living and the efficiency of the female workers affects on the profitability of the employer of the tobacco industry. Our study aims at critically examining economic conditions of female workers in the tobacco industry. For the sake of convenience and manageability, we have chosen Jaysingpur city of Kolhapur District.

1.4. BRIEF PROFILE OF STUDY AREA :

Before studying the tobacco industry of Jaysingpur, it is very interesting to know the history of Jaysingpur town which is situated far East of Kolhapur city. First we will see the history of the Jaysinpur town.

Jaysingpur is established by Chhatrapati Shahu Maharaj of Kagal in the year 1916 in the memory of his father shrimant Jaysingrao Maharaj of Kagal.

Jaysingpur is a small but flourishing town that specialize in tobacco industry. It is farming Industrial, Co-operative social, Political, educational, Medicinal and Sports centres.

Jaysingpur a small town famous for the Tobacco market is situated at about 23 miles from Kolhapur city on Miraj-Kolhapur broad gauge line of the south central Railway.

In early days there was a lot of production of tobacco due to this centralization of tobacco processing industries were established at that time therewere 300 tobacco processing industries. At that time no other industrilisation were developed so female workers joined tobacco process work.

Now a days, due to establishment of sugar factories tobacco production decreased and production of sugarcane started to increase due to this may of the tobacco processing industries Switched off.

Now at present there are 35 to 40 tobacco processing industries in which there are round about 700 female workers work there.

The raw material brought from Gujrat. In this industry due to machination difficult work become very easy. Putting tobacco in machine, stick separation, tobacco colouring, drying of tobacco, filling in the sacks, this type of easy work made by female workers.

In the months of Nov, Dec, Jan, raw material is available in the large quantity and hence female workers has to do a lot of extra work

in these days. The scope of this study consists of enquiries into aspects like the economic conditions and problems of female workers and suggestions regarding remedial measures.

1.5. PERIOD OF STUDY :

The study is based on the primary and secondary data collected for the period 1st Oct. 2004 to Feb end 2005.

1.6. SOURCES OF SECONDARY DATA :

To have an exhaustive review of the research concerning the subject we have also used the secondary data of the reports issues, the reports and studies books and periodicals libraries of a number of institution wherever convenient and possible.

1.7. SOURCES OF PRIMARY DATA :

The primary data was generated by conducting a sample survey. The size of population of female workers in tobacco industry of Jaysingpur city as on 2003-04 was 700. Out of these 700 female workers 105 i.e. 15% of the population were selected for canvassing the questionnaire.

1.8. TECHNIQUE OF SAMPLING :

For the selection of sample female workers the technique of accidental random sampling method was used. It was decided to interview female workers who are willing to Co-operate the researcher.

1.8.1 SAMPLE SIZE :

Since it was decided to conduct a sample survey, the first decision required to be taken was regarding the size of the sample.

The usual principle of keeping the size of such level as would give representative data was followed.

At the next stage it was necessary to decide the number of female workers to be included in the sample from each of them considering the number of female workers in these industry would enable us to decide the exact size of sample female workers we therefore conducted a preliminary survey with the help of a personally administered questionnaire and collected the required data from all the 35 units. It was also confine the data enquiry to 15% of the female workers from 35 tobacco Industries.

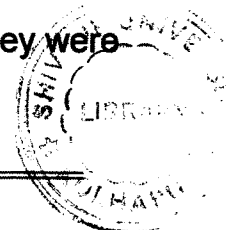
1.8.2 SAMPLING PROCEDURE :

In the first stage, the names and addresses of the requisite number of sample female workers plus a few additional names were collected from every sampled tobacco industry. The schedule was designed to elicit all the relevant data and was personally administered to each one of them.

A detailed questionnaire was prepared to collect the following information from female workers mainly with reference to aspects like family background occupational information, working hours, wages, bonus, trade unions, loans, income structure, expenditure pattern, saving tendency as well as social status etc.

The draft questionnaire was tested with 10 female workers initially. Appropriate changes were made in the questionnaire on the basis of testing.

The actual interviews of female workers selected were conducted. It was found very difficult to contact female workers because they were in a hurry in their daily work or because they were



exhausted by the termination of their days work. Some straightway refused, finally 105 female workers were successfully interviewed with the help of questionnaire. The ultimate size of the sample is thus 15% of the population some of the female workers expressed their inability to give precise information in respect of their wages. Therefore the relevant information was obtained by approaching the employers and colleagues of the female workers in tobacco industry.

Thus the methodology of the study includes the collection of primary and secondary data which were then tabulated processed and used for drawing inferences and conclusions. Discussions were also held with knowledgeable persons and union leaders etc. Whenever though necessary to supplement the primary and secondary data Pie diagram and bar diagrams were also used for the explanation.

1.9. LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY :

The researcher has to face some difficulties in her study due to the illiteracy of most of the female workers.