

CHAPTER - 3

METHODOLOGY OF THE STUDY1. INTRODUCTION

After looking into the details of the concept of co-operation and co-operative movement at Ichalkaranji, it is necessary to present the methodology adopted for the study.

The topic 'A Sociological Study of Co-operative Factories in Ichalkaranji' created interest and attracted researcher's attention while going through literature on Industrial Sociology. The discussion with the Guide also facilitated interest to undertake the present study.

2. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The general objective of the present study is to analyse various aspects of industries in co-operative sector at Ichalkaranji. The specific objectives at the present study are as follows :

1. To sketch the background factors and contribution of leaders for the establishment of co-operative factories at Ichalkaranji.
2. To describe organizational structure of co-operative factories at Ichalkaranji.
3. To analyse the production process and development of co-operative factories.

4. To point out the problems being encountered by the co-operative factories at Ichalkaranji.
5. To study the future plans and prospects of co-operative factories at Ichalkaranji.

3. SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The study covers the co-operative factories in Ichalkaranji.

The researcher had studied the following factories.

1. Shri Panchaganga Sahakari Sakhar Karkhana Ltd., Ichalkaranji.
2. Deccan Co-operative Spinning Mills Ltd., Ichalkaranji.
3. Kolhapur Zilla Snetakari Vinakari Sahakari Soot Girani Ltd., Ichalkaranji.
4. The Ichalkaranji Co-operative Spinning Mill Ltd., Ichalkaranji.
5. The Nav Maharashtra Co-operative Spinning Mill Ltd., Ichalkaranji.
6. The Laxmi Co-operative Processors Ltd., Ichalkaranji.
7. Yashawant Co-operative Processors Ltd., Ichalkaranji.
8. Vyankatesh Co-operative Processors Ltd., Ichalkaranji.
9. The Ichalkaranji Co-operative ^{Cement} Industries Ltd., Ichalkaranji.

4. DATA COLLECTION

The researcher collected the Annual Reports of these factories.

The organization charts were also obtained.

The researcher visited all the co-operative factories. With the assistance of supervisors of these factories, the researcher observed production process and noted all details of stages from raw material to finished product.

The Managing Directors/General Manager/Managers/Secretary from all the co-operative factories gave co-operation in granting permission to observe the process of these factories.

The researcher prepared an Interview Schedule for obtaining the detailed information about the co-operative factories.

5. INTERVIEW SCHEDULE : TOLL FOR DATA COLLECTION : ^{look}

The data for present study were collected by using Interview Schedule. The schedule were prepared, keeping in view the objectives of the study. The schedule was prepared for obtaining information regarding different aspects of the co-operative factory. The pertinent data were collected personally from the Managing Director and Chairmen of the factory. (The Interview Schedule is given in the appendix).

It was decided to take information from top two persons of the factory. The Chairman of a co-operative factory is an elected member from the shareholders and he is the Chairman of the board of directors. So his position is the most influential than any other member of the factory. Apart from the Chairmen, the Managing Director/General Manager/Managers/Secretary of the factory is one who looks after the administration of the entire factory and the functioning of the day to day activities. Therefore, he is also having crucial role in the co-operative factory. So the two persons Chairmen and Managing Director/General Manager/Managers/Secretary were interviewed under the present study.



The Chairmen of the co-operative factories are political leaders. They are always busy. The researcher had to visit their offices for 5 to 6 times and then only he could get the information on the interview schedule.

6. RESPONDENTS UNDER THE STUDY

There were 9 co-operative factories at Ichalkaranji. The data for the study were collected from the Chairmen and Managing Director/General Manager/Managers/Secretary of these factories. So there were 18 respondents covered under the study from whom the information was collected. There were 9 Chairmen and 5 Managing Directors, 1 General Manager, 2 Managers and 1 secretary were covered under the study.

7. DATA COLLECTION PROCESS

The data collection work was started in November 1987 and continued upto November 1988.

The process of data collection took long time than expected. All the Managing Directors/General Manager/Managers/Secretary and Chairmen cooperated whole heartedly. The most difficulty in data collection process was to contact the respondents at their leisure time. All the respondents were busy with their factory or social work during visit.

The Managing Directors/General Managers/Managers/Secretary and Chairmen were very busy and they were unable to spare time for the interviews. So it was necessary to fix timings more than once or twice for interviewing them. Some respondents were contacted for as many as

ten times for their interviews and finally they were interviewed. An average interview used to last for about an hour and in some cases it even exceeded an hour.

8. ATTITUDE OF THE RESPONDENTS TOWARDS THE RESEARCHER

During the first visits to co-operative factory offices, some of the office incharge were reluctant ^{not to} provide any information. But they were convinced about the purely academic nature and importance of the study, and they agreed to extend the required co-operation. Some chairmen of the factories examined the Interview Schedule and then extended help in completion of data collection.

Because of repeated contacts, the Managing Directors/General Managers/Managers/Secretary and the Chairmen of the factories developed friendly attitude towards the researcher. Some leaders and chairmen expressed feeling of satisfaction for dealing with untapped of co-operative movement in Ichalkaranji.

9. SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY :

Although the present work is mainly devoted to study co-operative movement in Ichalkaranji, it gives some understanding of the co-operative movement in general also. The present picture of co-operative factories, their problems, solutions and future plans of the factory, have been dealt with the present study can be useful to co-operative department of the Government who are interested in promoting co-operative movements and the inter-relations among them.