

CHAPTER VI

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

INTRODUCTION:

After dealing with the socio-economic and working conditions of textile workers at Peth-Vadgaon, it will be necessary to analyze the data on community involvement of the workers.

The present chapter deals with the activities of workers outside the factory. Generally the worker apart from the working hours, spends his time in the community, so these activities cannot be separated from the life of workers. The focus of the present chapter is on involvement of the worker in community.

The social clubs are emerging everywhere. What the textile workers need is a scope for a proper organization of their recreational activities through social clubs. The data regarding membership of such clubs is presented in Table 6.1.

TABLE 6.1

DISTRIBUTION OF WORKERS ACCORDING TO
~~THE~~ RESIDENCE AND MEMBERSHIP OF SOCIAL
 CLUB:

Residence	Membership of social club		
	Yes	No	Total
Vadgaon	2(8.0)	23.(92.0)	25
Outside Vadgaon	6(21.4)	22 (78.6)	28
Total..	8(15.1)	45 (84.9)	53

The above table shows a peculiar trend.

A large number of workers (84.9) had not joined any social club. These workers have not participated in club activities in their spare time. Few workers (15.1) had joined the social club activities. Among these, the proportion of the workers having membership of social clubs were mainly from outside of Vadgaon. On the other hand the proportion of the workers who had not joined social clubs, were mainly from vadgaon proper.

In short, the workers from outside vadgaon had joined social clubs, whereas the workers from vadgaon had not joined the social clubs.

There were eight workers who had joined the social clubs. The names and location of these clubs were Ganesh Tarun Mandal-Vadgaon, Ganesh Tarun Mandal Kodoli, Navjawan Tarun Mandal- Kanegaon, Shivaji Tarun Mandal-Bhadole, Lokseva Tarun Mandal- Minche, Kranti Tarun Mandal-Minche, Sambhapa Bhajani Mandal- Vadgaon.etc. In this connection, one important fact is that, the workers had joined the social clubs in their own villages.

Apart from the social clubs, the library which may be considered as centre of knowledge, also exists in villages and towns. The information on this aspect is presented in Table.6.2

TABLE 6.2

DISTRIBUTION OF WORKERS ACCORDING TO RESIDENCE AND LIBRARY MEMBERSHIP.

Residence	Library Membership		Total
	Yes	No	
Vadgaon	4 (16.0)	21 (84.0)	25
Outside Vadgaon	2 (7.1)	26 (92.9)	28
Total..	6 (11.3)	47 (88.7)	53

The data indicates that majority of the workers (88.7) were not having their Library membership. Only few workers (11.3) were having their library membership.

The table shows a trend that the workers from Vadgaon proper were having membership in library and, the workers from outside of vadgaon were not having library membership.

The reason behind this trend is that vadgaon being a larger town had many libraries and the workers residing at this place had taken advantage. On the other hand, the villages around vadgaon, have such facilities to large extent and so the workers have no membership of libraries.

NEWS PAPER READING:

When the question was asked whether the workers read news papers, majority of the workers (45. i.e. 84.9%) responded positively, whereas only few workers (8. i.e. 15%) said that they were not reading daily news papers.

The workers at Peth vadgaon gets weekly holiday on day
The data regarding residence and holiday activities are
presented on Table. 6.3

TABLE 6.3DISTRIBUTION OF THE WORKERS ACCORDING TO RESIDENCE
AND HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES:

Residence	Rest/entertainment	Agricultural work/other	Total
Local	21 (84.0)	4 (16.0)	25
Outsider	19 (67.8)	9 (32.1)	28
Total	40 (75.5)	13 (24.5)	53

The holiday activities of the workers were divided into two categories i) Rest and entertainment ii) Agricultural work and other.

The table clearly shows that, most of the workers were use to spend their time of holiday mainly for rest and entertainment. There were very few workers engaged in agricultural and other work on holiday.

The local workers use to spend holiday time for rest and entertainment. The outside workers were engaged in agricultural and other activities.

The reason behind this trend is that at vadgaon proper there are cinema theatres and other entertainment

centres like gardens and Nathyagruhe etc. The local people have opportunity to spend time for, these activities. On the other hand the outside workers were not having these facilities and as they were coming mainly from agricultural **background** of villages they had spend their time in agricultural and other activities.

VISIT TO TEMPLE:

The workers were asked about their visits to temples and the data on this aspect is presented in Table 6.4

TABLE 6.4

DISTRIBUTION OF WORKERS ACCORDING TO VISIT TO TEMPLE:

Frequency	No. of workers	Percentage
Daily	11	20.8
Once/Twice a week	26	49.1
At the time of festivals	8	15.1
No. response	8	15.1
Total	53	100.0

The table shows that among the sample, nearly half of the workers (49.1%) go to temple once/twice in a week. Generally they use to say that, they go to temple on the days of 'Ekadasi' and 'Purnima'. Few workers use to

go to temple daily(20.8) and the remaining workers use to go to temple emainly at the time of festivals.

The general trend which emerges from the table is that the workers were religious minded and they use to go to the temple daily, or on the occassion of Ekadashi Purnima and religious festivals. The "Similar type of trend was also found among workers in Bombay."¹

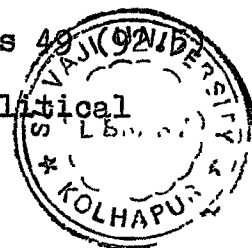
PARTICIPATION IN CULTURAL AND RELIGIOUS ACTIVITIES:

Majority of the worker were participating (88.7) in cultural and religious activities. Very few (11.3) workers had not participating among cultural and religious activities.

This data shows that the workers have more interest in cultural and religious activities and they had participated actively in these fields.

PARTICIPATION IN POLITICAL PARTIES:

When the workers were asked their participation in the activities of political parties, only 4 workers (i.e. 7.5) responded that they were participating in such activities. Among these 3 workers having membership with congress (I) and 1 workershad membership in Janata party. Whereas 49 workers had no participation in the activities of political



parties. This shows low level of interest and participation of workers with reference to political parties. Thus the trend shows that workers at Peth vadgaon were not involved in political parties and their programmes.

REASONS FOR ABSENCE AT WORK:

The workers were asked the reasons for absence at work and they responded that they use to remain absent at work due to illness, celebrating festivals, agricultural work and other works.

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REFERENCE

1. Patel Kunj: "Rural Labour in Industrial Bombay."
P. 156.