

CHAPTER NO. II

STATEMENT OF RESEARCH

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Research Studies and Methodology of Study

2:1 STATEMENT OF RESEARCH

Concept: A Study of powerloom Workers in Vita

- 1) POWER - Energy or force that can be used to do work-operated by Mechanical Power, not by hand labour.
- 2) LOOM - Machine for weaving cloth.
- 3) POWERLOOM - A loom is machine for weaving cloth, looms are of two types -
 - A) Handloom - It operated by hand labour.
 - B) Power loom - A loom is operated by mechanical power.
- 4) POWER LOOM INDUSTRY - Means the industry that under takes the weaving of the cloth by the help of power looms. Industry is concerned mainly with the production or manufacturing of goods
- 5) WORKER - A worker in power-loom industry is one who does the work of weaving cloth on power looms.
- 6) POWER LOOM WORKER - A worker in power loom industry is one who does the work of weaving as power loom 50% or more than that within the year is called power loom worker.



This dissertation limits it self to the study of the worker in the power loom industry in Vita only. This dissertation proposes to study the social and economical condition of the weaver in power loom industry. Those weavers living in Vita and **periferal** area of Vita city.

2:2: IMPORTANCE OF RESEARCH STUDIES IN INDUSTRIAL LABOUR

We know that our country was well developed in the hand-loom, handicraft and small scale industries before independence. But in British period all that destroyed. That was their policy.

Since independence period India is makeing powerful efforts to reach hard to register economic progress and to provide necessities of life to all it's citizens. For the economic development and social development. Our Government accepts the five years plan.

Planning is essentially an attempt at working out a rational solution of problems an attempt to co-ordinate means and ends, it is thus different from traditional nit and miss method by which ' reforms ' and ' reconstructions ' are often under taken with this approach at its base. Planning in India proposed to initiate a process of development which will raise living standrad and upon out to people new opportunities for a richer and more varied life.

The importance of the worker was stated in the first five year plan. The worker is the principal instrument in the fulfilment of the target of the plan and in the achievement of economic progress generally. His co-operation will

be an essential factor in creating an economic organisation in the country which will best sub-serve the needs of social Justice'.¹

' The National development of a country basically depends upon more production of goods and services. From the traditional point of view more production would generate a healthy cycle of more income, more investment, more employment and more production, of the income is equally distributed the workers would be better off, with more purchasing power, better nutrition, more efficiency and more production.'²

The recent stress on rapid industrialisation as the only solution to the problem of India's poverty and economic backwardness has raised the status of industrial workman in the eyes of the public.

"B-shiva Rao, labour leader had surveyed the condition of industrial workers in India. He dealt with the background of the organization among industrial worker in India among with post 1st world war developments. He surveyed industry, Agriculture, Population, Maturation, Public health, untouchability, and the problems regarding recruitment, housing, wages and expenditure. He shows that at is economic pressure, the social disability of the out caste and the lack of diversified

1 Govt. of India Planning Commission 'The First Five Year Plan - 1951 - p.no.7,8-570.

2. Punekar S.D. : 'Roll of Labour in Economic Development -

occupations that are responsible for deriving rural population in quest of work in to the cities. He makes it clear that unsatisfactory working condition may be new industries do provide employment for a portion of superfluous population especially, in a country, in which agriculture cannot possibly support its millions on standreds compatible with human dignity'.¹

'The problem of industrial or labour management did not arise when the forms of bussiness organisation were of small type but they developed only when elaborate organisational structure came on the sense during the late Ninettenth century'.² We can understand from above sentence the need of research in industrial labour.

'Before independance India was greatly advanced in the field of industry and occupations in ancient times, as evidenced from the ancient literature, Dying of leather, weaving of woolen clothes, makeing of containers to hold liquids, making charioty for war, boats and ships for carrying on trade with foreign countries and making of plough and carts for the farmer were the main crafts'.³

'After independance ' Higher production and grater productivity have come to be the watch words. The stagnation of centuries had to be over come to meet the rising tide of aspirations of the common man who excepts a millennium the day the country become independant. It is not impossible to realise that no Govt. could work miracle over Night'.⁴

1 B. Shiva Rao: The Industrial Workers in India, p. 256-257.

2 C. B. Memonia - p. no. 232

3 -do- p. no. 232 : 1983

4 A. A. V. Raman Rao - Eassy on Indian labour, p. no. 7,

All above views can elaborate that the most fundamental stand in favour of industrial productivity and role of worker in it. To increase productivity it is necessary that standard of living of worker is elevated well above the present level.

' With the heavy bias in agriculture and agriculture employment, the investment in the industrial manufacturing and their contribution to national income were certainly lower. This economic situation had its natural effects on the employment'.¹

Power loom industry causes mass employment opportunities for all type of labour i.e. skilled, semi skilled un skilled. Having various age groups men, women are working in power loom industry or any type of other industries. Effect of growing power looms, city has to face many social, economical problem, educational problem, and various problems related to the workers, and have to face them. In Modern times, labour is not treated as it was treated in ancient time. But now-a-days he has got more importance as like other factors of production, labour is the main factor of production. Simply increment in wage does not mean sound industrial policy. But to provide all facilities like house, health, education, and light, water etc.

Fair wage should solve the economic problem of worker to some extent. But increase in productivity and efficiency lies in harmonious relations between the worker and owner.

1. A.V. Raman Rao - 'Essays on Indian Labour' - p.9.

Powerlooms were run under various management i.e. co-operative sector and private sector. In private sector 2 to 8 looms were handled under shop act by one person. But in co-operative sector, looms were handled in large number by one mill. The establishment of a spinning mill in co-operative sector in India is relatively of recent origin (in 1951 at Guntkal Sponsored by Madras State Hand-loom weaver federal co-operative society)¹

Now co-operative industry has diversified itself in various views. A co-operative industry can take different forms as follows -

- 1) It may be organised by the consumers
(e.g. co-operative spinning mills of weavers)
- 2) It may be organised by the producers
(e.g. Co-operative sugar factory of sugarcane growers, cotton grower, rice).
- 3) It may be organised by workers (e.g. industrial co-operatives of self employed people)

All above forms of co-operative mills were found at various places in country.

2:3: THE OBJECTIVES OF STUDY:

The objectives of study were as follows:- For these objectives data and other information is collected.

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1. Dr.S.V.Kadvekar - Pub.Thesis on ' Management of co-operative spinning mills in Maharashtra, p.no.2.

- A] Historical background of city and power loom industry in Vita city.
- B) To study the social conditions regarding worker, recruitment, services conditions, Housing facility, Training, Social relation, relation within employer and employee, health, participation in trade unions etc.
- C) To have an economical survey regarding the wages system, Actual wages, minimum wage and expected wage, bonus, allowance etc. and to find out the level of their standard of living.
- D) To have a comparison of worker in Vita with the condition of workers in power loom industry from different part of India as revealed in different published and unpublished studies.
- E) To study the role of Trade unions in power loom industry and their controversy with the powerloom weavers association.
- F) To study the workers social relation with owner and worker them self.

For all above objectives survey and data collection is made, so with the help of that collection, researcher should try to bring out real fact.

2:4: HYPOTHESIS TO BE TESTED:

Hypothesis was framed for testing with the help of objective. Data collection was done through interview, questionnaire to test the following hypothesis.

- (1) The study assumes that old method or traditional village setting does not provide adequate economic opportunities

to the Artisans and other backward caste members will be higher at factories and house hold industries .

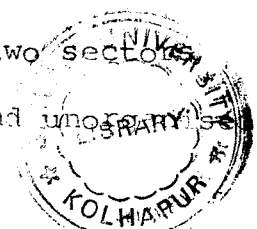
- (2) Workers who join the weaving industry are likely to be drawn from inadequate agricultural background. It also assumes that they are ~~they~~ completely dependent on weaving sectors.
- (3) The workers will participate actively in trade union activities.
- (4) The worker having lower monthly wage are more likely to show low level of commitment.
- (5) Workers expectations of promotion chances are directly related to amount of skill they possess.
- (6) The fulfilment of minimum need of worker is likely to be directly related to their monthly salary.
- (7) The workers participation in the institutions other than factory will be low.
- (8) Level of worker and owner relation.

2:5 THE DESIGN OF THE STUDY SAMPLING

Sampling consists selection of the units i.e. weaving unit in Vita. Then the selection of unit at the last coming down to the selection of individuals from these units for the detailed interview sample is 10%.

2:6 NATURE, SCOPE AND LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY

Weaving industries can be classified in two sectors i.e. organised sector (i.e. Textile mills) and unorganised sector.



or decentralised sector. Such classification is made with the help of organisation. The decentralised sector consist of Handlooms, power looms, hosiery and khadi units 'The role of power loom sector in particular is very important in the Indian textile industry. It provides employment to about 2.5 Million workers'.¹

'The power loom is concentrated in Maharashtra and Gujrat State at about 8 to 10 centres. They are Bombay, Bhivandi, Suret, Malegaon, Sangli, Solapur and Ichalkaranji in Kolhapur District. The power loom industry in all these places are predominantly in the small scale sector. All most 25 to 80 percent of the total looms are installed in a small power loom factories having less than 5 looms each person.'²

All members from weavers family were working for various process of cloth production. The owner of looms provides yarn to weaver and weaver after woven cloth should return to owner only weaving charge is paid to the worker by owner. All the capital is invested by the owner i.e. capital for yarn, looms, bill of electricity etc.

Vita, specilized in cotton cloth. That is called ' Manjar path ' having price 6 to 8 Ruppes per meter. Ichalkaranji also produces manjar path cotton. But at Bhivandi and some other places cotton and other type of

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1. Bedekar A.Y.- ' A Study of power loom workers in Ichalkaranji, M.Phil. Dissertation Submitted to S.U.Kolhapur, p.26.
 2. Ibid - p.26

cloth also produced.

Though, India was famous for handloom cotton or Silk and weaving is our traditional occupation ' Malmal from Dakka ' was very famous in the world. But growth of this occupation has taken place after ' revolution in the industry was brought about by the great inventions in the art of spinning and by the application of power in Britain in the second end half of the 18th century. Though the first cotton Mill in India was started at fort Gloster new Calcutta in 1818. The real growth of the industry in India How ever started with the seiling up of the Bombay spinning and weaving mill in 1854 at Bombay.¹

The rapid growth of power loom sector has taken place from last three decades. This sector had helped to reach at our socio-economic goals of our planning such sector has to face number of problems these are as follows:-

- (1) Lack of constant supply of raw material i.e. yarn, and others.
- (2) Unstable prices of yarn.
- (3) lack of various processing facilities .
- (4) In adquate and costly credit to the power loom sector.
- (5) There is not any specialy reservation like hand-looms sector.
- (6) High quality yarn is not available to power loom sector.

1) Dr.S.V.Kadvekar - Pub.Thesis 'Manaqement of co-operative Spining Mill in Maharashtra - Chp.No.2, p.7.

- (7) Transportation cost is more than others.
- (8) Housing facility is not available to the power loom worker or weaver.
- (9) There is not any technical aid facility.
- (10) Appointment of comprehensive committee.
- (11) Absence of medical facility.
- (12) Lack of educational facility to weavers and their children.
- (13) Lack of well labour organisation as well as leadership.

All above problems are concerning with vite power - loom weavers. And hope that workers in Ichalkaranji are also facing such problems. So there is need of urgent attention of the Government. Because power loom will play more effective role in clothing the masses with cheap, cloth of high standard.

Ginning, Spinning, Weaving, dying, colouring and finishing are the various process in the production of finished cloth, each and every stage or process has a specific importance. All above mentioned process were injuries to human health so there is a need of verification scheme, Light, full of water supply at the working place. But if it is not available in the industry workers who are working in such industry they have to face diseases like T.B.

2:7 METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION

There are many methods of data collection namely questionnaire, interview, historical method, and so on. But statement regarding this dissertation is a 'Socio-economic

study of power loom weavers in Vita, The study is confined to only Vita city's geographical area. For the purpose of dissertation initially field survey was under taken and the worker and owner in power loom were contacted. I have visited various power loom centres for observation for actual weaving process and various problems related to workers social and economical conditions were **discussed** within various groups of workers.

~~Though~~ the questionnaire was prepared and 100 workers in power loom at different units were interviewed and the information was collected. While selecting the respondent's age group were not considered who are actually as powerloom workers were considered as real respondents.

For the study purpose following data collection methods were adopted to collect data and various information from worker official record.

2:7:1) DISCUSSION METHOD

Above method is used while collecting information from union leaders, powerloom owners. Social worker and association activities and some eminent persons.

2:7:2) QUESTIONNAIRE

Questionnaire is used for the power loom weavers to collect the data regarding their socio-economic information.

2:7: 3) OBSERVATION METHOD

This method is used to understand actual nature and various processes regarding the power loom and actual

situation of working place. Also about the housing problem. Health, and some other problems. In Vita city there is not slum area.

CARTOGRAPHIC METHOD

2:7:4 This technique is used for the drawing various graphs like growth of population of Vita city, graph of Khanapur taluka.

In short data is collected from various place i.e. Shivaji University Library, Vita Nagar Parishad, various co-operative weavers Sanstha, Union leaders for collecting data annual reports are used. Some times personal interview was also taken.

2:8 ANALYSIS OF DATA

Collected data from various sources is analysed in various aspects regarding the socio-economic conditions. The number of worker converted in to percentage to total number of worker both at industry level and Vita city, city in general, when analysing the data various mathematical and statistical methods were used.

2:9 DATA PRESENTATION

Collected data which is analysis is presented, in various specific respect regarding the Socio-economic conditions. Data i) Tabulated in following manner:-

- 1) Review of powerloom bussiness.
- 2) Development of Bussiness.
- 3) Ratio of population workers.

- 4) Social character,
- 5) Economical character,
- 6) Wage problems,
- 7) Social relation, *Handwritten: Social relation*
- 8) Trade union and worker participation,
- 9) Conclusion,
- 10) Suggestion. *Handwritten: Suggestion*

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