

CHAPTER – 5
IMPACT OF MILL
CLOSURE ON WORKERS
– PRIMARY DATA

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IMPACT OF MILL CLOSURE ON WORKERS -

PRIMARY DATA

5.1. Introduction : The primary data obtained from 55 respondents of different aspects are presented in this chapter.

5.2. Age : The details of age category wise distribution of respondents are presented in the table.

Table –5. 1

Age category wise distribution of the respondents.

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Age Group</i>	<i>Respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1	21 to 30	-	
2.	31 to 40	7	12.72%
3.	41 to 50	21	38.18%
4.	51 to 60	24	43.65%
5.	61 and above	03	5.45%
	Total	55	100

The table indicates that majority of the workers were from the age group of 51 to 60, which indicates that they were on the average of retirement.

5.3. Education: The distribution of respondents according to their education are presented in table-5.2.

Table 5.2

Distribution of the respondents according to their education.

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Level of education</i>	<i>Respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1	Illiterate	01	1.81
2.	1 to 4 th Std	03	5.45
3.	5 th to 7 th Std	16	29.09
4.	8 th to 10 th Std	21	38.18
5.	11 th to 12 th Std	12	21.81
6.	Graduation	02	3.63
	Total	55	100

The above table indicates that majority of respondents were from 8th to 12th level of education. There were no illiterate workers and at the same line there were two graduate workers.

5.4. Working experience : The details of respondents working experience in the mill are presented in table-5.3.

Table-5. 3

Respondents working Experience in the mill.

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Experience in Years</i>	<i>Respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1	0 to 5 years	-	-
2.	6 to 10 years	-	-
3.	11 to 15 years	13	23.63 %
4.	16 to 20 years	10	18.18 %
5.	21 to 25 years	17	30.90 %
6.	26 and above years	15	27.27 %
	Total	55	100

The above table indicates that all the respondents had more than 10 years of experience in the mill. Majority of them had more than 20 years of experience. The table thus indicates that the workers were well-established in the mill.

5.5. Family Members: The data on family members of respondents are presented in table5. 4.

Table -5. 4

Family members of respondents:

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Members in the family</i>	<i>Before closure No of respondents</i>	<i>After closure no of respondents</i>
1	1-2	01 (1.81%)	01 (1.81%)
2.	3-4	26 (47.27%)	27 (49.09%)
3.	5-6	24 (43.63%)	23 (41.81%)
4.	7-8	04 (7.27%)	04 (7.27%)
	Total	55	55

The above table shows that most of the respondents were from nuclear families of 3-4 members. Majority of workers lived with wife, children. Some workers lived with mother and father and others.

When the comparison is made between before and after situations there was not much difference.

Most of the respondents covered under the study were from Deccan Housing Society. They received houses from loan. The repayment of loan amount was done from their mill payment.

5.6 Migration after mill Closure Period:

The respondents covered by researcher under the study were from Ichalkaranji and adjacent places.

According to worker leader nearly 50 percent of workers migrated after mill closure to their native places and some of them to other places for search of job. The labourers who had their sufficient farm for families went into farm activities. Other workers migrated who were landless or had very less farm, searched for small business. This type of workers after clouser period went to long distances, reaching at these type of workers was very expensive on the basis of money and time. Therefore researcher had not visited long distance migrants.

5.7. Loan of worker : The details of worker before mill closure are presented in Table 5.5

Table:5.5

Loan of workers before mill closure:

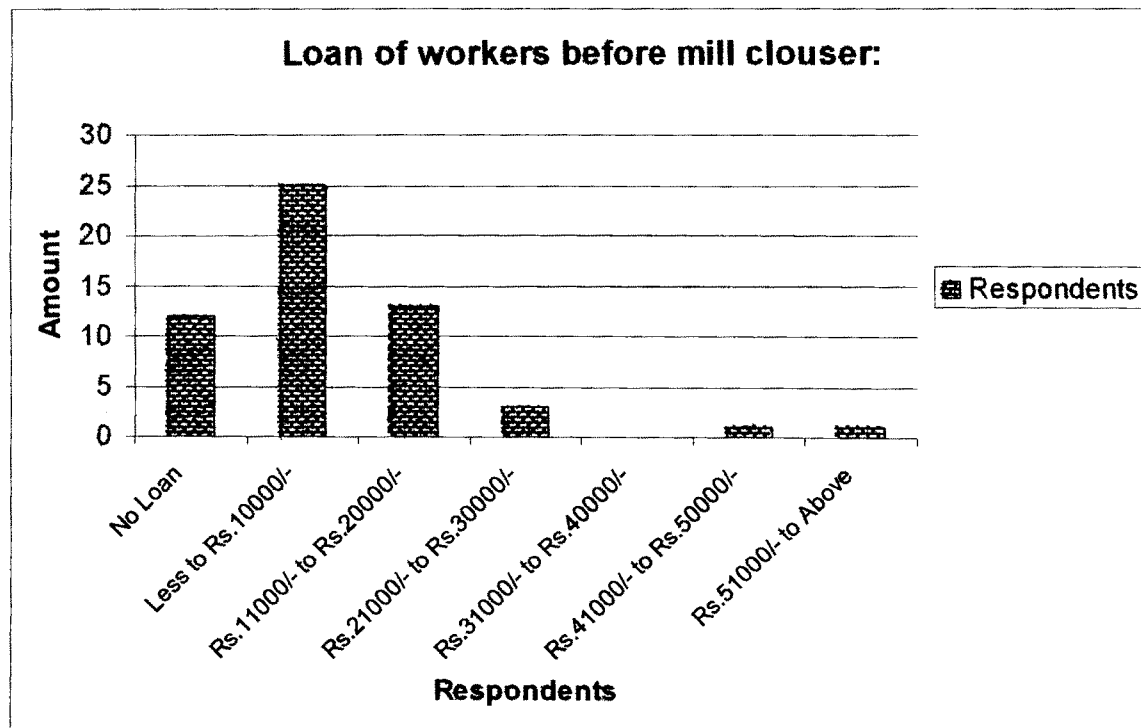
<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>Respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1.	No Loan	12	21.81%
2.	Less to Rs.10000/-	25	45.45%
3.	Rs.10000/- to Rs.20000/-	13	23.63%
4.	Rs.20000/- to Rs.30000/-	03	5.45%
5.	Rs.30000/- to Rs.40000/-	0	-
6.	Rs.40000/- to Rs.50000/-	1	1.81%
7.	Rs.50000/- to Above	1	1.81%
	Total	55	

Before the mill closure, the workers took loan from,

- 1) Bank -3 (5.45%)
- 2) Co-operative society – 26(49.09%)
- 3) Pat-Sanstha - 7 (12.72%)
- 4) Friends and relatives – 3 (5.45%)
- 5) LIC - 4 (7.27%)

Which shows that Deccan co-operative credit society was much more useful for the workers who took loan for various reasons.

Figure-5.1



The above table shows that nearly half of workers took loan before the mill closure was less than Rs. 10000/- Before mill clouser payment of mill helped them for repayment of loan.

5.8 Purpose of Loan (Before mill closure)

Out of 55 respondents, 14 respondents took loan to built new houses or for purchasing new houses. 7 respondents took loan for medical treatment of self and their family members. 7 respondents took loan for day today family expenditure. 4 respondents took loan for higher education of their children. 7 respondents took loan for marriage of their daughters and sons. 5 respondents answered that they took loan before mill closure for multiple causes. 12 respondents took no loan.

5.9. Loan after mill closure. The details of loan of respondent after mill closure are shown in Table-5.6.

Table :5.6

Loan of respondents after mill closure

<i>Loan Amount</i>	<i>Number of Respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
No Loan	18	32.72%
Less to Rs.10000/-	14	25.45%
Rs.10000/- to Rs.20000/-	6	10.90%
Rs.20000/- to Rs.30000/-	5	9.09%
Rs.30000/- to Rs.40000/-	3	5.45%
Rs.40000/- to Rs.50000/-	4	7.27%
Rs.50000/- to Above	5	9.09%
Total	55	

The above table shows less than Rs. 10,000 loan taker respondents proportion is more. Daily expenditure, medical treatment, education of children etc. needs of themselves increased the above proportion.

Source of Loan after mill closure:

The worker took from various sources after closure of the mill.

- 1) Bank – 13
- 2) Pat-Sanstha – 4
- 3) Friends and relatives – 5
- 4) Money Lender – 6
- 5) LIC – 1
- 6) Owner of mill - 4

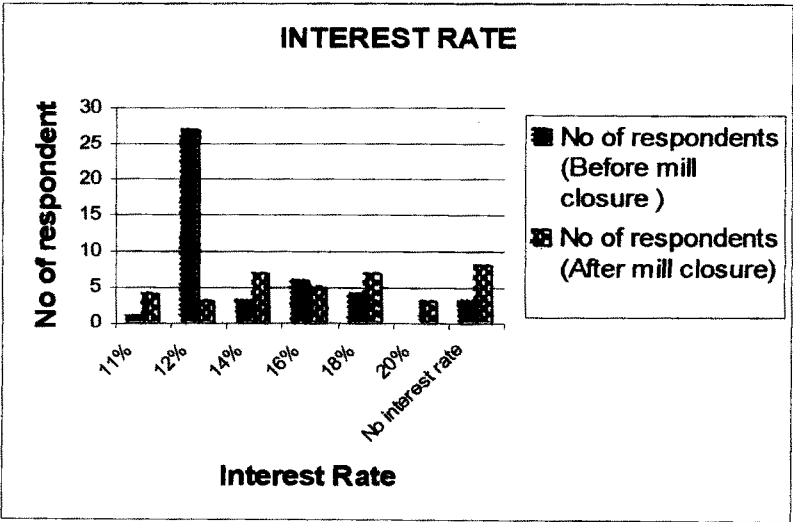
Thus most of the workers took loan from the banks. Some of the workers had to approach money leaders for loan of interest rate. The interest rate for loan are prescribed in Table-5.7.

Table-5.7

Interest Rate For Loan:

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Interest Rate</i>	<i>No of respondents (Before mill closure)</i>	<i>No of respondents (After mill closure)</i>
1	11%	1 (2.32%)	4 (10.81%)
2	12%	26 (60.46%)	3 (8.10%)
3	14%	3 (6.57%)	7 (18.91%)
4	16%	6 (13.95%)	5 (13.51%)
5	18%	4 (9.30%)	7 (18.91%)
6	20%	-	3 (13.51%)
7	No interest rate	3 (6.97%)	8 (8.10%)
	Total	43	37

Figure 5.2



Before mill closure Deccan co-operative credit society was the major source of loan for workers. The interest rate was 12%. Some respondents told that before mill closure workers provided money to each other for their needs.

After the mill closure main source for loan to workers from Deccan co-operative credit society was stopped. Therefore they moved to various other sources for loan.

The comparative situation indicates that the workers had to pay higher rate of interest for their loans after closure of the mill. They had paid interest of 20% to money lenders for their loan.

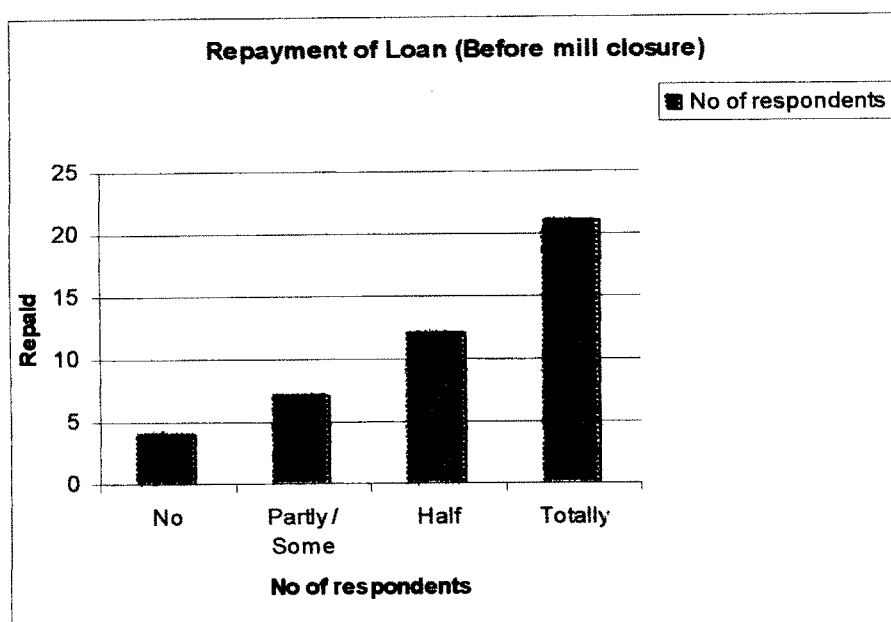
5.10. Repayment of Loan (Before mill closure)-

Table:5. 8

Repayment of Loan (Before mill closure)

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Repaid</i>	<i>No of respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1.	No	4	9.09%
2.	Partly / Some	7	15.90%
3.	Half	12	27.27%
4.	Totally	21	47.72%
	Total	44	

Figure -5. 3



The above distribution indicates that before mill closure, payment of mill was helpful for the workers for repayment of loan. Therefore proportion of total repayment of loan was much more.

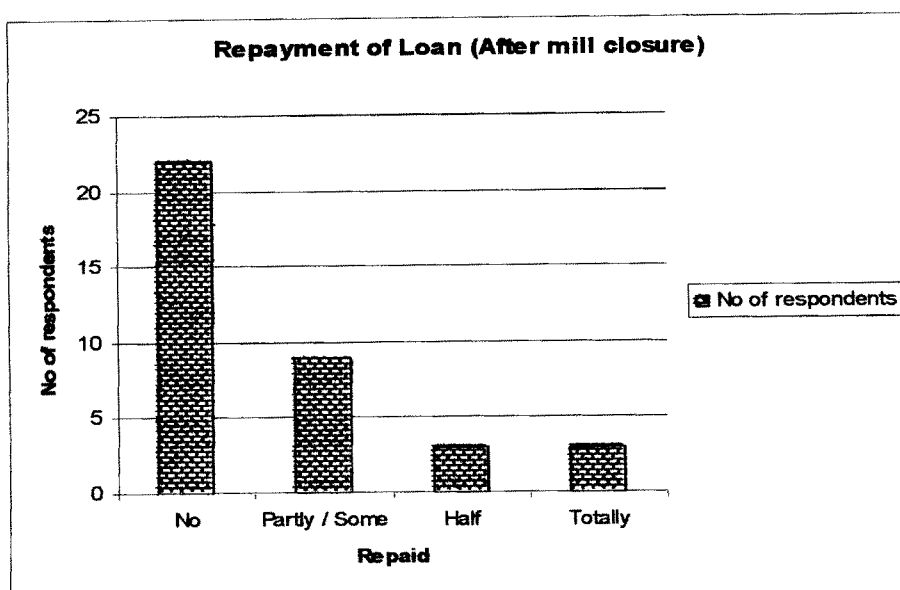
5.11. Repayment of loan:- (After mill closure)

Table: 5.9

Repayment of Loan (After mill closure)

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Repaid</i>	<i>No of respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1.	No	22	59.45%
2.	Partly / Some	09	24.32%
3.	Half	03	8.10%
4.	Totally	03	8.10%
	Total	37	

Figure 5.4



The above distribution indicates that after mill closure, proportion of no repayment of loan amount was much more. One of the main reasons for this trend is that after mill closure monthly income of workers was declined.

The overall proportion of workers who took loan after mill closure was less as the workers received amount of provident fund.

5.12. Education of children:

Table: 5.10

Education of children: Before mill closure

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Education of children</i>	<i>No of respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1.	Yes	54	98.18%
2.	No	-	-
3.	Not applicable	1	1.82%
	Total	55	100%

The table shows that nearly all of the respondents children were taking education before the mill closure.

5.13. Continuation of education after mill closure:

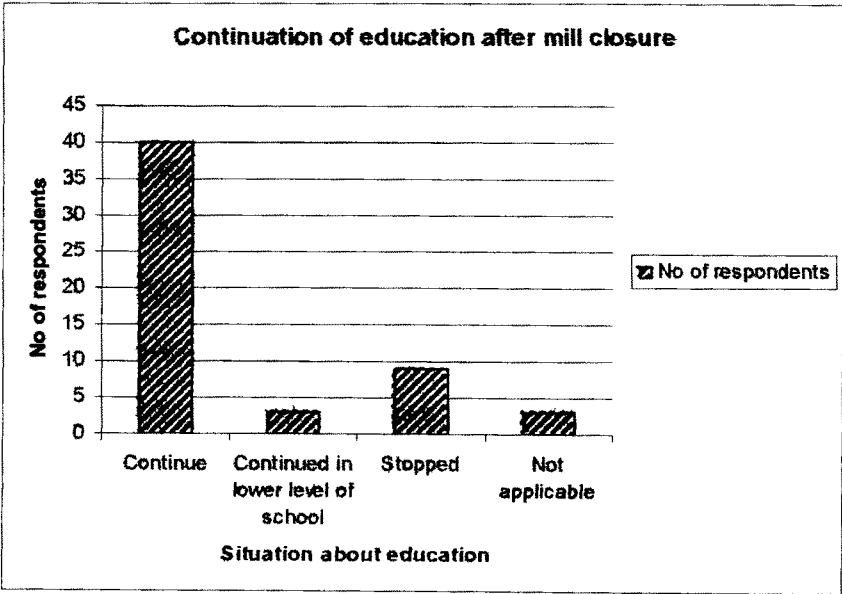
The Table 5.11 Indicate continuation of education after mill closure.

Table :5.11

Continuation of education after mill closure:

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Situation about education</i>	<i>No of respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1.	Continue	40	72.72%
2.	Continued in lower level of school	03	5.45%
3.	Stopped	09	16.36%
4.	Not applicable	03	5.45%
	Total	55	

Figure -5.5



The table indicates that nine respondents stopped their children education in the wave of mill closure. After mill clouser, some of respondents adjusted in lower level of school for their children.

5.14. Health Insurance before mill closure:

Majority of respondents (41) were getting benefits from Employees State Insurance Scheme (ESIS). It reduced some economic burden on respondents before mill closure.

5.15. Problems in medical treatment:

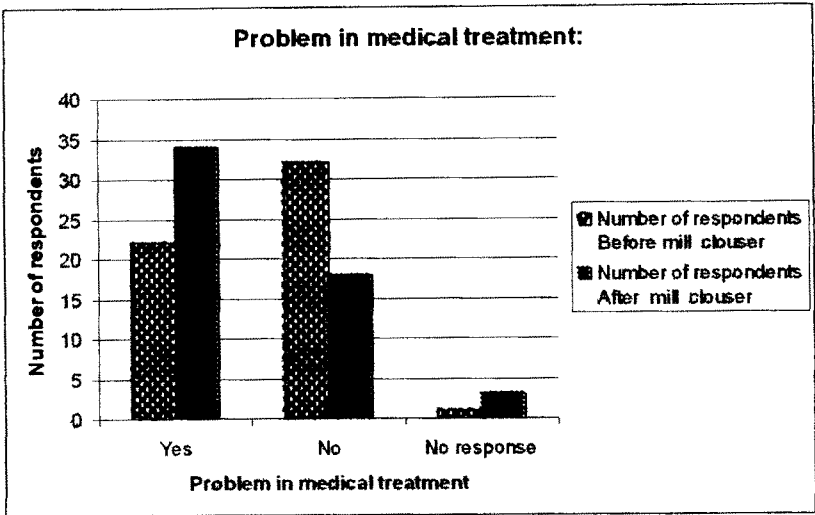
The data about workers facing problems in medical treatment are presented below in Table -5.12.

Table:5.12

Problem in medical treatment:

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Problem in medical treatment</i>	<i>No. of respondents</i>	
		<i>Before mill closure</i>	<i>After mill closure</i>
1.	Yes	22 (40.00%)	34 (61.81%)
2.	No	32 (58.18%)	18 (32.72%)
3.	No response	01 (1.82%)	03 (5.45%)
	Total	55	55

Figure -5.6



The table indicates that the proportion of respondents who faced problems in medical treatment increased after mill clouser. No income or decline in income level created difficulties in medical treatment for the workers.

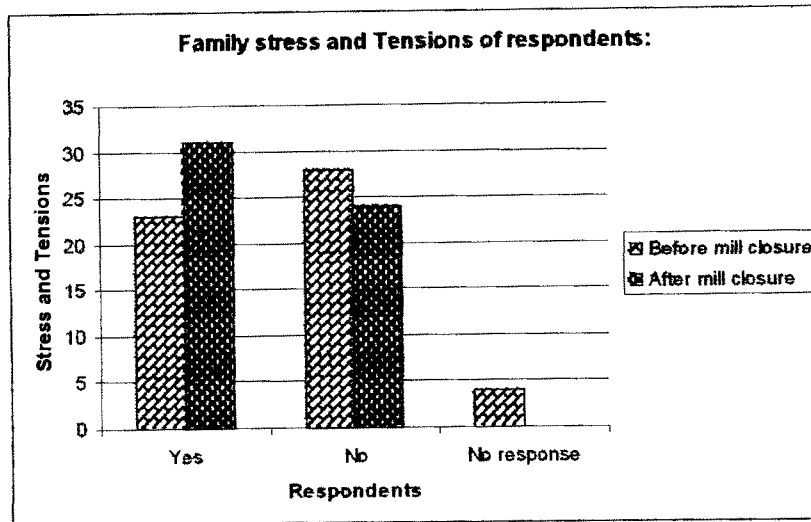
5.16. Stress and tension. The table 5.13 presents stress and tension of workers.

Table:5.13

Family stress and Tensions of respondents:

Sr. No.	Stress and Tensions	Before mill closure	After mill closure
1.	Yes	23 (41.82%)	31 (56.36%)
2.	No	28 (50.91%)	24 (43.63%)
3.	No response	04 (7.27%)	-
	Total	55	55

Figure -5.7



The table indicates that mill closure increased proportion of respondents who faced family stress and tensions. At the time of field work, the respondents told that family stress and tensions were more after mill closure than before mill closure.

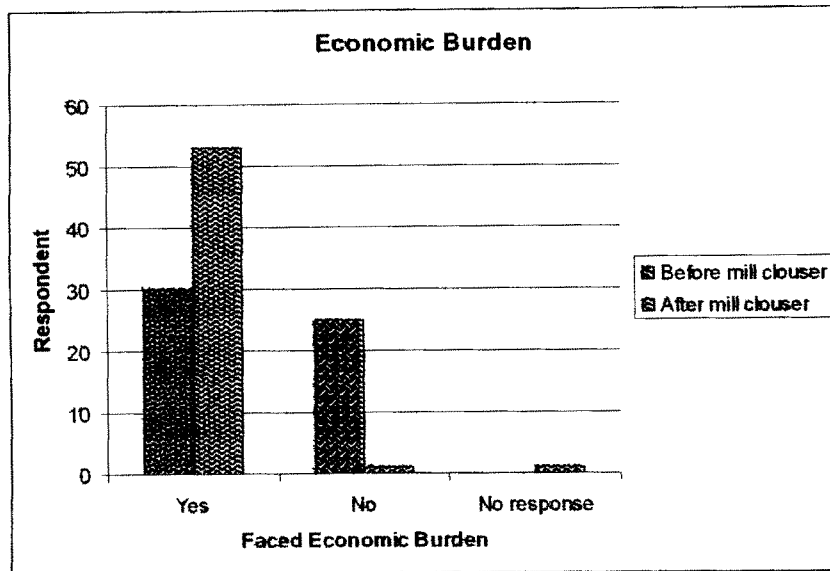
5.17. Economic Burden: The economic burden of workers is presented in Table5.14.

Table:5.14

Economic Burden:

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Faced Economic Burden</i>	<i>Before mill closure</i>	<i>After mill closure</i>
1.	Yes	30 (54.55%)	53 (96.36%)
2.	No	25 (45.45%)	01 (1.82%)
3.	No response	-	01 (1.82%)
	Total	55	55

Figure – 5.8



The table indicates that proportion of respondents who faced economic burden was more after mill closure.

5.18 Land ownership: The data on land ownership are presented in Table 5.15.

Table: 5.15

Land ownership of workers

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>No. of respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1.	Land owners	13	23.63%
2.	Landless	42	73.36%
	Total	55	100%

The table indicates that majority of the respondents were landless. Few had land property.

5.19. Size of Land: The data on size of land are presented in Table16.

Table: 5.16

Size of land

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Land</i>	<i>No of respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1.	Less than 1 acre	4	30.76%
2.	1 Acre to 2 Acre	4	30.76%
3.	More than 2 acre less than 3 acre	5	38.46%
	Total	13	100%

The workers were having land but majority of them had it below 2 acres. Thus the workers who had land were having less acre of land.

5.20. Income from agriculture: The data on income from agriculture are presented in Table5.17.

Table:5.17

Income from agriculture

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>No of respondent</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1.	Less than Rs. 5000/-	4	30.76%
2.	Rs.5001/- to 10,000/-	4	30.76%
3.	Rs.10001/- to 15000/-	4	30.76%
4.	Rs. 15001 to 20000/-	1	7.69%
	Total	13	

Majority of the workers who owned land had income upto Rs.10000/- to 20000/- Irrigation of land. Thus the income from land was also low.

5.21 Type of Land: The information on this aspect is presented in Table5.

Table5. 18

Irrigation of Land

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Irrigation</i>	<i>No of Respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1.	Irrigated	06	46.15%
2.	Non-irrigated	07	53.85%
	Total	13	

Majority of the workers had non-irrigated land. Thus if the workers situation in general is taken into account, it shows that nearly $\frac{1}{4}$ of the worker had land but the size was small, it was non-irrigated and the income was very low.

5.22. Habits of respondents: The data on habits of respondents are presented in Table5.19.

Table:519

Habits of the respondents:

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Habits</i>	<i>Before mill clouser</i>	<i>After mill clouser</i>
1.	Yes	14 (25.45%)	18 (32.73%)
2.	No	40 (72.73%)	36 (65.45%)
3.	No response	1 (1.82%)	1 (1.82%)
	Total	55	55

Majority of the workers had no habits before and after closure of the mill.

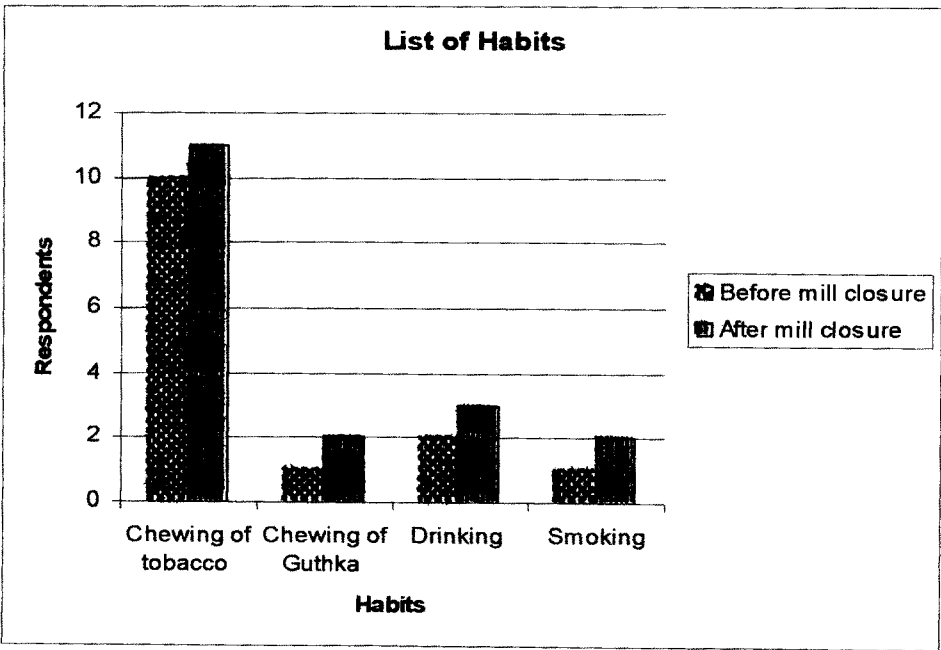
The distribution of workers habits are listed below in table 5.20.

Table 5.-20

Habits

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Habits</i>	<i>Before mill closure</i>	<i>After mill closure</i>
1.	Chewing of tobacco	10 (71.42%)	11 (61.11%)
2.	Chewing of Guthka	1 (7.14%)	2 (11.11%)
3.	Drinking	2 (14.28%)	3 (16.67%)
4.	Smoking	1 (7.14%)	2 (11.11%)
	Total	14 (100%)	18 (100%)

Figure 5.9



The proportion of workers having habits had increased after closure of the mill. The table indicates that the proportion has increased for all types of habits.

5.23. Starvation of family members: The information on this aspect is presented in Table 5.21.

Table -5.21

Starvation of family members after mill closure:

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Starvation</i>	<i>No of respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1.	Yes	07	12.73%
2.	No	48	87.27%
	Total	55	

The table indicates that some of the family workers experienced starvation after closure of the mill. At the time of field work, information came from group discussion that proportion of starvation was more in migrated workers after mill closure.

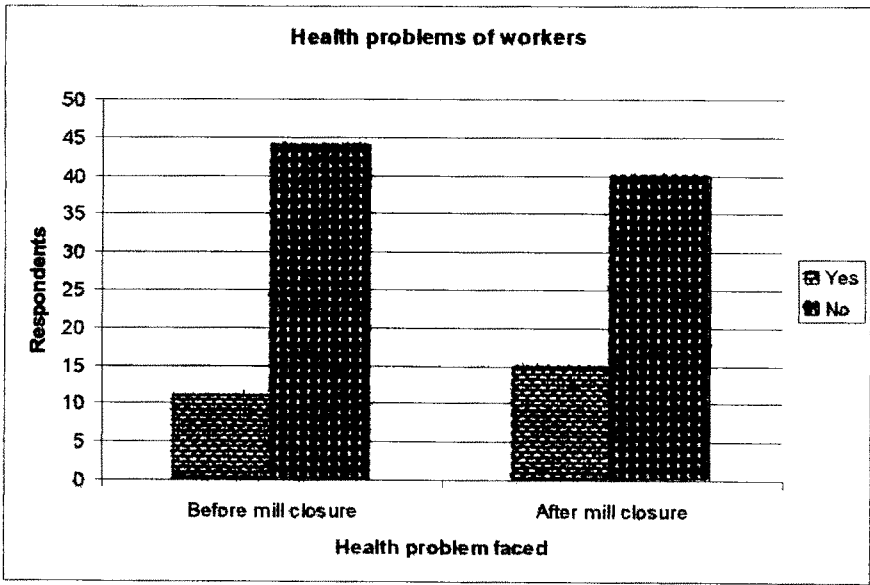
5.24. Health problems: The data on health problems of workers are presented in Table -5. 22

Table – 5.22

Health problems of workers:

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Health Problem</i>	<i>Before mill closure</i>	<i>After mill closure</i>
1.	Yes	11 (20.00%)	15 (27.27%)
2.	No	44 (80.00%)	40 (72.73%)
	Total	55	55

Figure – 5.10



The table indicates that proportion of respondents who faced major health problems was more after mill closure. After mill closure, respondents who faced major health problems were at old age group.

5.25. Health problems of family members: The information on this aspect is presented in Table 5.23.

Table -5.23

After mill closure family members health problems:

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Health problems</i>	<i>No of respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1.	Yes	16	29.09%
2.	No	39	70.91%
	Total	55	

In majority of the cases there were no health problem of the family members of the workers.

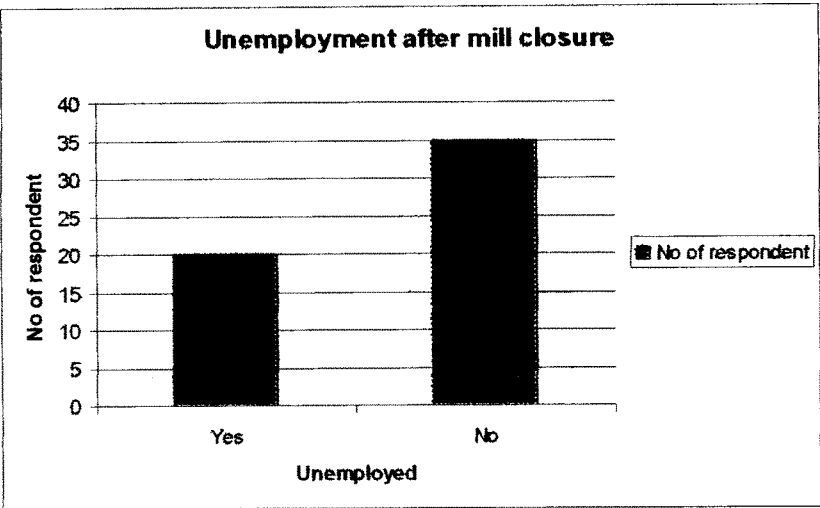
5.26. Unemployment after mill closure: The information on this aspect is presented in Table -5.24.

Table:5.24

Unemployment after mill closure:

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Unemployed</i>	<i>No of respondent</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1.	Yes	20	36.36%
2.	No	35	63.64%
	Total	55	

Figure -5. 11



The above proportion indicates that some respondents remained unemployed for some period. This was because of difficulties for getting other job. The period for remaining unemployed changed from one case to another case.

5.27. Family members job: The information on this aspect is presented in Table -5.25.

Table:5.25

Family members started doing job after mill closure:

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Family member job</i>	<i>No of respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1.	Yes	09	16.36%
2.	No	46	83.64%
	Total	55	

In the above distribution 9 family members of respondents started doing jobs after mill closure. In 5 cases respondents sons started doing new jobs. In 3 respondent's cases wife started doing jobs after mill closure.

5.28. Ownership of home: The information on this aspect is presented in Table -5.26.

Table: 5.26

Change in ownership of house after mill closure:

<i>Sr. No.</i>	<i>Change in ownership of house</i>	<i>No of respondents</i>	<i>Percentage</i>
1.	Yes	16	29.05%
2.	No	39	70.91%
	Total	55	

The above table shows proportion of respondents for whom there was change in the ownership of house after mill closure. This includes both respondents shift own house to rental house and rental house to own house. Some respondents purchased house after mill closure because of respondents saving, provident fund amount or in some cases contribution from other family member's income.

5.29. Respondents opinions on reasons for closure of mill:

1) Political Reasons:

According to 38 respondents political cause is one of the major cause for mill closure. They answered that politics in mill work, attempt by some leaders for dominance, competition for power in the mill were reasons for closure. One respondent told about political anti opinion and another one told that funds were used for political functions.

2) Corruption in Mill Work:

22 respondents answered that corruption in mill was responsible for mill closure. In other words respondents told that there was fraud in the business. Two respondents give opinion of corruption by management. Three respondents gave opinion that corruption was done by the directors.

3) Mismanagement:

In the view of 11 respondents mismanagement is another main reason for mill closure. Some respondents told this cause in other words like as,

- Faults in the management.
- Lack of skilled management.
- Officers and managements impression on mill.
- Spent huge amount by management.

4) Mill Neglected Directors Body:

Answers of 11 respondents indicated that in the last phase of mill it was neglected by directors body. According to 4 respondents, due to directors body, mill went to closure. Some respondents opinioned the wrong methods of director body lead to closure.

One respondent said that the lack of adequate attempts by directors was responsible for closure. One respondent told that Director body did not gave proper attention on mill work. One respondent remarked corrupt practices of director body.

5) Disruption in Workers Organization or utility:

In opinion of 10 respondents, disruption among workers unity is one of the responsible factor for mill closure.

Some respondents answered this point in other words such as:

- Workers not took action strongly and unitedly against process of mill clouser.
- Selfish worker leaders.
- Some faults in worker union.
- Some workers attempted for dominance on working class.

6) Depression in Textile Industry:

In the answer of seven workers, depression in textile industry was one of the causal factor for mill closure. Because of depression, it reduced demand for the yarn.

7) Wrong method of Business:

Four respondents answered that wrong method of business such as neglected business principles, lack of business ethics in mill work were one of the reason for mill clouser.

8) Loan:

7 respondents answered that there was huge amount of loan mill which lead to closure. In the last few years was amount of loan increased and it created problem in the mill business.

9) Load of work on workers:

Seven respondents answered that one of the reason was load of work on workers.

Some workers pointed out the following factors:

- Policy of mill to keep workers away from governmental schemes.
- Policy of mill low wages.

- Mills burden on workers to do more production, otherwise workers will be suspended.

10) Unskilled Leadership:

Three respondents pointed out unskilled leadership at the time of closure phase. They answered this in other words that there was lack of strong leadership.

11) Loss in the mill:

Loss in the mill was responsible for mill clouser. This point was included in three respondents answers.

12) Electricity Bill:

The pending electricity bill was one of the issue responsible for mill closure according to two respondents.

13) Increased cost of raw material:

In the opinion of three respondents increased cost of raw material was one of the cause for mill closure. It increased production cost.

One respondent pointed out low quality and inadequate raw material in the last phase was responsible for mill closure.

14) Centralization of mill Power:

In the process of mill closure centralization of mill power was one of the cause according to one respondent.

15) Uncontrolled work of Mill:

One respondent explained difficulty in the control of mill work as one of the factor of mill closure.

16) Globalisation:

In the process of globalization, it started process of free economy and this process created some difficulty for the mill to work answered one respondent.

17) Dispute among workers and management:

In view of three respondents on some issues there was dispute among workers and management and it promoted the process of mill closure.

Five respondents give have response to this question.

5.30. Experience of respondents after mill closure:

1) Economic Problems:

All the respondents faced economic problems after mill closure. Majority of the workers faced problems for daily life needs. Some workers reduced their needs. This economic problem influenced on number of processes and events in the life of workers. Majority of respondents explained problem of increasing rate of market commodities which influence family budget.

2) Indebtness:

Out of 55 respondents 37 respondents faced problem of indebtness after mill closure. The workers who could not receive provident fund amount and who could not get immediate employment they went in indebtness. Such workers also experienced problems in the repayment of loan. Some respondents were disturbed by money lenders, banks and path sanstha as they were unable to return all amount of loan and loan interest. One respondent sold his farm and paid amount of loan. In another case, respondent sold his house to clear his loan. Now they are staying in rental house. The expenditures on house members medical treatment in the life of respondents increased amount of loan and interests.

3) Mental stress and Tensions:

31 respondents answered that they faced mental stress and tension. This stress and tension also found in their family members. Two respondents told they were patient mental sickness. Nearly 8 respondents answered this tensions lead to disputes among family members.

4) Role Conflict:

Meaning of role conflict:

A role is a set of norms (obligations or expectations) attached to an individual's social position, occupation or relationship status.

Role conflict is the psychological stress crated when persons do not fit their roles (person role conflict).

Majority of respondents were victim of this role conflict after mill closure because of decline in income and increased responsibilities. Therefore they could not play their roles satisfactorily. Hence the situation of role conflict emerged frequently after the mill closure.

5) Decline of Income:

Majority of respondents faced problem of low income in the comparison of income from working in the Deccan spinning mill. Majority

of respondents worked on low wage for fulfilling their needs. Majority of respondents faced unregular income and loss of income security.

6) Unemployment for some time:

20 respondents remained unemployed for some days. Some workers answered that they accepted other jobs against their will. Ichalkaranji is famous for powerlooms. Many workers got job in power loom units. Some respondents answered that they completed some training before joining new job. One respondent answered that he remained unemployed for two years. Some workers had not searched for another job in hope of rest of Deccan art mill.

7) Health problems:

Out of 55 respondents 15 respondent faced health problems after mill closure, such as paralysis blood pressure, heart attack etc. All these respondents also faced economic burden for medical treatment. All of them took loan for medical treatment. After mill clouser workers faced more difficulties for health problems. It was because of no treatment under Employees State Insurance Scheme (ESIS) for workers and closing down of primary health clinic of the mill.

Some respondents faced health problems of family members. Such respondents answered that they took loan for medical treatment. In one case respondent took loan for medical treatment for their daughter but she died. One respondent faced wife's health problems frequently due to tension in the family.

8) Educational Problems:

The mill closure affected education of children's. Nine respondents stopped education of their children. In some cases girls were drawn from school by respondents. In one case respondent's son was merit holder student. His ambition was to become engineer. But because of mill closure, he could not collect adequate money for admission to engineering college. Therefore the worker had to admit his son to Commerce College. Some respondents took loan for higher education of their children. The number of respondents answered that it was impossible for them to provide complete education to their children. In some cases they answered that they could not provide enough material for education of their children.

9) Loss of credit and status:

Majority of respondents answered that they lost status of Deccan mill workers after mill closure. Here the term status related for both economic

and social status. Some respondents answered that people in society behaved differently after mill closure.

10) Overtime Work:

The respondents who work in powerlooms. They do 12 hours duty. Apart from these, they do overtime to adjust family needs.

5.31. Condition of Some Workers:

This section presents some cases of workers.

1. Gunda Balawant Kamble: He is 53 years old. He stays at Chandur near Ichalkaranji. He has studied upto 8th Std. He worked for 32 years in the mill and he was a jobber(carding) at the time of closure of the mill. He has a small nuclear family of four members of two children and wife. He has his own house of two rooms. He has marked three reasons of political, conflict in workers and mis-management for the closure of mill. He was having monthly salary of Rs. 3400/ from the mill. After the closure, he is working as a farm labourer in Chandur. He gets Rs. 1000/ from this work. He had a loan of Rs. 6000/ when the mill was in operation, which has now increased to Rs. 20000/ after the closure of the mill. He has to stop education of his children and he faces financial crises in day to day life.

2.Vishnu Tukaram Desai: He is 51 years old. He stays in Ichalkaranji. He has studied upto S.S.L.C. He worked for 24 years in the mill as packer in the packing section. He has a nuclear family of five members of two daughters, one son and wife. He has his own house of two rooms. He was having monthly salary of Rs. 2980/ from the mill. After the closure, he is having a small tea-stall. He gets Rs.upto 2000/ from this work. He had a loan of Rs. 15000/ when the mill was in operation, which has now increased to Rs. 1,50,000/ after the closure of the mill. He has taken loan for tea-stall, wedding of daughter, (who got married when mill was in operation), education of children and medical treatment of wife. After the closure of mill, he could not get any job. So after taking loan from the Bank, he started tea-stall. He has to postpone marriage of his daughter and he faces financial crises in day to day life.

3.Shikandar Rajak Makandar: He is 52 years old. He stays in Ichalkaranji. He has passed X th Std. He worked for 25 years in the mill as a winder. He has a nuclear family of four members of daughter, son and wife. He has noted that the corruption in the mill, concentration of authorities and uncontrolled administration in the mill were responsible for the closure of the mill. He has his own house of two rooms. He was having monthly salary of Rs. 2500/ from the mill. After the closure, he works as a worker and earns upto Rs.1300/. It was difficult for continuation of education of son in good

school. There was starvation for some days just after the closure of mill. The gold ornaments were sold to repay the loans. The marriage of daughter was done from the amount of provident fund and loan. He had no loan when he was working in the mill. He has taken loan of Rs. 10,000/ from Bhishi for daughter's marriage.

4.Ravasaheb Maruti Tippe: He is 42 years old. He stays in Ichalkaranji. He has passed III rd Std. He worked for 17 years in the mill as Ringframe sider. He has a nuclear family of four members of two sons and wife. He stays in one room on rent. He was having monthly salary of Rs. 3000/ from the mill. After the closure, he is works as a worker on the powerloom and earns upto Rs.2000/.He had taken loan from mill society which was repaid. Now he has not taken any loan. After the closure, his wife started stitching clothes and earns upto Rs. 500/. After the closure of the mill, he could not get employment immediately. His relatives started to defame him. When he was in the mill, the relatives use to treat him well. After the mill closure, he learned to operate powerloom. He works for 12 hours on the powerlooms and maintains his family well. He is satisfied person. He says that there was a time when the marriages used to be immediately settled if the bridegroom was working in the mill. This situation has been completely changed and now there are negative responses if the bridegroom is working in the mill.

5.Ramachandra Dinakar Medhe: He is 55 years old. He stays in Ichalkaranji. He has passed X th Std. He worked for 28 years in the mill as wireman in Electrical & Maintaince section. He has a nuclear family of five members of two daughters, son and wife. He has his own house of two rooms. He has mentioned that the neglect of Board of Directors, misutilization of funds for political reasons and corruption were responsible for the closure of the mill. He was having monthly salary of Rs. 4500/ from the mill. After the closure, he is works for private electric works and earns upto Rs.2000/.He used to take loan from the Deccan Co-operative Employees Credit Society and repay it. At the time of closure, he had no loan. After the closure, he had no loan. He had jirait land of two and half acres and he cultivates it. He gets groundnut and paddy for his family. He has no ill habits and he has firm belief in God. At the time of service, he has savings in Banks and Patasansthas. So he could face the days after closure of the mill. His wife fully supported him in the adverse situation of mill closure. They could maintain the family without any disturbances and so they were happy.

6.Pandurang Appa Gunjekar: He is 49 years old. He stays in Ichalkaranji. He has studied upto VII th Std. He worked for 25 years in the mill as sider on the inter machine. He has a nuclear family of three members of son and wife.He was having monthly salary of Rs. 3500/ from the mill. After the closure, he works as powerloom worker and earns upto Rs.2000/. He had

taken loan from mill society of Rs. 15,000/ which was repaid. Now he has not taken any loan. After the mill closure, he had no job for six months. Then he learned to operate powerlooms. In the initial period, he could not produce much. So the payments were less. He got provident fund of Rs.1,20,000/ and the entire amount was spent on the marriages of three daughters. Now there is no balance and no loan. The son is to be get married which depends on the service in Mill.

7.Ankush Bapu Patil: He is 45 years old. He stays in Ichalkaranji. He has studied upto X th Std. He worked for 14 years in the mill as Doubling Dafer.He has a joint family of four members of two daughters, mother and wife. He was having monthly salary of Rs. 4000/ from the mill. After the closure, he is works as a farm labourer and earns upto Rs.700/. He had taken loan from mill society of Rs. 10,000/ which was not repaid . Now he has taken loan of Rs. 10,000/ for household expenditure. There has been main problem of money after closure of mill. The balance for expenditure on ‘ Anna, Vastra, Nivara’ has been disturbed. He has to undergo mental tensions. His wife also started to work as farm labourer. The earnings are limited and so it had become very difficult to maintain livelihood. The loan had been taken form people and the interest is being paid. The principal amount has not been reduced. So there is mental tension for him and his wife for which medical treatment is underway. His daughters also feel that they

do not get which rich person's daughter gets. His mother also falls sick due to oldage. The expenditure on her medical treatment, rising inflation and repayment of loan and education of daughters leads him to no mental strength and stability.

8.Manjur-Hasan Sayyad Dastagir Kadri: He is 54 years old. He stays in Taradal near Ichalkaranji. He has passed VIth Std. He worked for 24 years in the mill as laboratory tender. He has a nuclear family of five members of three sons and wife. He was having monthly salary of Rs. 3000/ from the mill. After the closure, he is works as process worker and earns Rs.2200/. He had taken loan from mill society of Rs. 15,000/ for education of children. Now he has taken loan of Rs. 1,25,000/ for education of children from Union Bank of India with interest rate of 11%. The expenditure on household items and payment of interest on loan has lead to mental disturbances which has lead to additional expenditure. So he questions "It has become very difficult to maintain livelihood. So what should I do in such situation?"

9.Sukumar Appa Garave: He is 37 years old. He stays at Rui village near Ichalkaranji. He has passed 9th Std. He worked for 13 years in the Mill as winder in the winding section. He has a joint family of seven members. He has mentioned that there was no unity in the workers, the political leaders used the mill for their purposes, so the mill was closed down. He has father, mother, two daughters son and wife. His monthly payment was Rs. 3100/.

Now he works as powerloom worker and earns Rs. 2000/. His father and mother use to make fishing to earn monthly income of Rs. 1000/ per month. Now due to illness of his mother, his father only does this work and earns upto Rs. 500/ per month. He took loan of Rs. 5000/ from mill for medical treatment of his mother, which was repaid. Now also he has taken loan of Rs. 30,000/ for his mother's operation from the moneylender. She passed away at the time of operation. For the repayment of the loan, he has to sell his house and now he stays in a rented house. He repaid Rs. 40,000/ loan and interest and Rs. 20,000/ other borrowings from the sale of house property. He also gets sick. His wife works as a domestic servant and earns for livelihood. He says, "In Hindustan there is no justice".

10. Balaso Bhima Satapute: He is 50 years old. He stays at Chandur village near Ichalkaranji. He has passed XII th Std. He worked for 15 years in the Mill as a Majdoor. He has a nuclear family of four members. He has one daughter, son and wife. He has his own house of two rooms. His monthly payment was Rs. 2400/. Now he works as a Majdoor (hamal) and earns Rs. 1800/. At present he had borrowed Rs. 40,000/ from relatives and friends. After the closure of the mill, he could not get any employment. In that period he suffered a lot. There were problems in the education of children. The elder daughter got married for which he has to borrow from relatives and friends. His wife had to go for work as farm labourer.

5.32. SUICIDES OF WORKERS:

Due to closure of the mill, some of the workers committed suicide.

The following section presents the cases of suicide.

1.Shankar Daverkar: He committed suicide in November, 2001. Before suicide he wrote a note as follows “ I am committing suicide not because of quarrels or drinking habit. The officers in the Mill and Government are responsible for my suicide. The Mill is closed for nearly 18 months. There was no payment. I could not get good alternative work. If I use to get the work, the earning was Rs. 40 to 50 for a day’s work. In this limited amount, it is impossible to meet day to day family expenses. I hope that worker leader; Suryaji Salunkhe will give cooperation to my family”.

At that time Diwali festival was nearing. To the workers question was how to celebrate Diwali? How to bring new dresses to children? After this event, the workers expressed their anger and unrest. They gathered on mill site and started ‘ Rasta Roko’. They sat on the road. Mr. Suryaji Salunkhe read note written by Daverkar. The police officers saw the situation and called extra police force on the mill site. The workers demanded post-mortem of Daverkar on the millsite. But the police not agreed. So the workers threw stones to police. The police sent dead body at C.P. R. Hospital, Ichalkaranji. The workers participated in ‘Thiyya Andolan’.

2.Ashok Maruti Shinde: He committed suicide two weeks before the suicide of Daverkar. 'Deccan Bachao Samiti' leader Mr.Suryaji Salunkhe claimed that his suicide was due to the closure of the mill. He worked in the mill during 1985.He took loan of rs. 52,000/ from Shivaraya Bank and there was a pending loan of Rs. 7670/ of Patsanstha and other moneylenders. He was indebted. The problem went to peak when there was need of money at the time of his daughter's delivery. In that situation he committed suicide.

3.Dattatraya Shripati Kamble: He committed suicide on 6th January 2002.He was staying at Sajani near Ichalkaranji. He committed suicide due to lack of money for his medical treatment. The Deccan mill workers were out of the coverage of Employees State Insurance Scheme after closure. He was sick for one and half months. There was a need of operation. But it was not possible because of financial crises. Lastly he committed suicide.

Reference:

☞ Delgado

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