

A Study On Identifying The Demographic Variables Which Influence Socio-Economic Status Of Handloom Weavers

Dr.Sasikala M S
ICSSR – IMPRESS Research Project Director,
Assistant Professor,
Department of Commerce,
Acharya Institute of Graduate Studies,
Bengaluru.
sasikalams@acharya.ac.in

ABSTRACT:

Everyone says that clothing is the basic need of one individual. But today's scenario highlights clothing became not only as need but also focus on other aspects like trendy, fashion, attractive, perseverance, fitness etc. But a person who gives all these clothing does not have proper clothes to wear for themselves. Common people should think about the reason about their lifestyle which they ever fail to think on it. Weavers who offer people with well designed, zari, attractive sari do not have suitable clothes for weavers and dependants where they are in a position not to lead their life style. Hence this article focuses on demographic variables which affect socio-economic status of weavers and suggests the ways to weavers for their better livelihood.

Keywords: *Handloom segment, weavers, demographic variables, socio economic status*

Introduction:

Handloom weaving is an antique business. The textile cottage industry includes cotton, silk, and bleaching, dying, finishing, hosiery, lace embroidery, silk reeling, silk twisting. It is the chief means of livelihood to people who entirely depend upon it. Handloom sector plays an important role in state economy. Handloom sector contributes nearly 15 percent of the cloth production in the country and also contributes to the export earnings as 95 per cent of the world's hand woven fabric comes from India. Weaving is the basic process among the various manufacturing stages of handloom clothes. It is defined as a frame for weaving equipped with some wooden devices. The sound of the handloom is the music of rural home. In the process of weaving the handloom weavers achieve harmony of motion and rhythms. When all this booms are found on one side, bans can also be found from other side where this sector is faced with various problems, such as, obsolete technology, un organized production system, low productivity, inadequate working capital, conventional product range, and weak marketing links. Further, handloom sector has always been a feeble challenger against power loom and mill sectors. Weaver's daily life is getting affected. This scenario is becoming vulnerable for the weavers to lead their day to day lives and to satisfy their basic and common needs.

Review of Literature:

Dr. Dharam Chand Jain and Miss. Ritu Gera (2017), conducted a study about “An analytical study of handloom industry of India”. In this study they can found some problems related to handloom industry. Lack of adequate and authentic data, poor quality of yarn, financial crisis, lack of proper infrastructure, lack of education, skills based training and research, shortage of input and their rising cost, problem of working capital, poor management.

D. Srinivasa Rao and Dr. N. Sreedhar (2017), studied about “socio economic condition of handloom weavers in Gannavaram Mandal of Krishna district in Andrapradesh. This study is based on extensive field work indicates that though handloom weaving has many strengths and can be competitive under specific condition, the seeds of the crisis are inherent in the sector. These can be traced to two major factors the low performance of the co-operative sector, and the very low economic condition of the weavers.

Dr. G. Prathap & Prof. M. Chinnaswamy Naidu (2015), Handloom section is bounded with various obstacles such as obsolete technology, haphazard production system, low productivity, inadequate working capital, conventional product range, weak marketing links, overall stagnation of production and sales and above all. There is no doubt that India's textiles constitute one of the costly sources of textile designs in the world, drawn upon increasingly by textile designers, product designers and craze designers from all nationalities. Predominantly Mahatma Gandhi recognized the significance of textile handicrafts during the struggle for independence. A notable aspect of Gandhi's views on this issue is that he emphasized not only handloom weaving but also spinning by hand. Gandhi emphasized hand spinning so much that the instrument for this the Charkha become a leading symbol of the freedom movement. Most of the handloom weavers are willing to live in a joint family system. The income and living standards of the handloom weavers are very poor

Gudhe Nagaraju & K. Viyanna Rao (2014), This article represents that handloom industry is considered as prime and eminent one in maintaining and preserving country's heritage and culture which boost the economic position of the country. This sector generates more employment opportunities and withheld the position of dignity. This sector is an economic activity which occupies second place after agriculture. Many dark sides are present in this sector such as technology, low productivity, insufficient working capital, product range and no promotional strategy. All this backdrops made researcher to focus in it to boost up everything to make the life of weavers to be misery which strengthens the weaving households to be more prominent.

Kotaiah, P. (1986), Handloom was given different names depending on the mode of operation. It was known as throw-shuttle pit loom. When the workers operates it by throwing the shuttle from one side to the another with either of his hands, sitting on the edges of a small pit in which the heads could be suitably operated with his legs. The improved fly- shuttles which swing the

shuttle from one side to the other by pulling the strings tied to the shuttle-driving cocks on either side. The loom was taken out of the pit and fitted on the frame and hence called Frame loom. Primitive loom where weft is threaded by hand for interlacing the war ends. The vertical looms like woolen blanket looms, weaver looms and tape looms are also included.

Research GAP:

- Past Research focused on technology based
- Researchers engaged themselves on identifying the socio-economic status of weavers but failed to explore on demographic variables influencing, age, gender, education, income, experience in Thiruvannamalai district

Objectives:

1. To identify the socio-economic status of weavers
2. To explore about demographic variables such as age, gender and education influencing socio-economic status of handloom weavers in Thiruvannamalai District.

Research Methodology:

Research Design: Descriptive research design is adopted for this study

Sampling Design: Random sampling design

Sample size: Weavers & Transgender from Thiruvannamalai District of 80 has taken into account

Data Analysis and Interpretation:

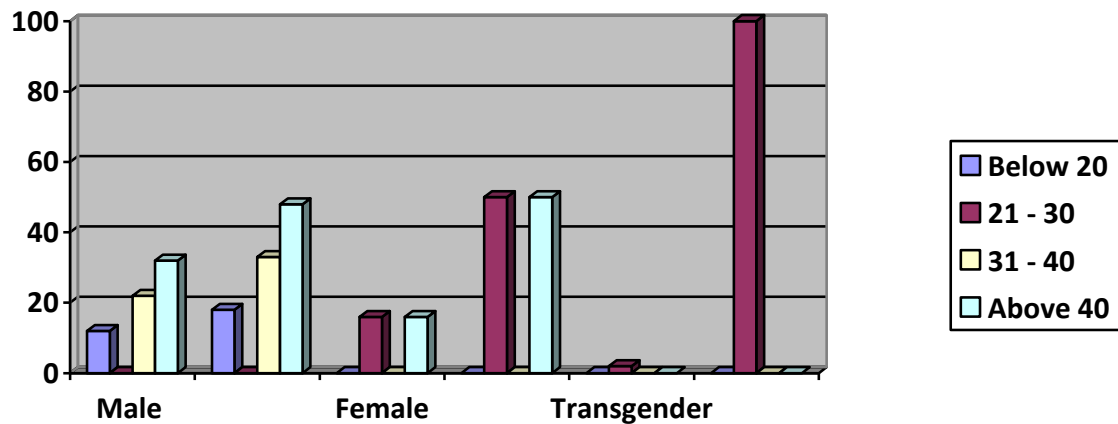
a) Percentage Analysis on Distribution of Age group and Gender influence socio economic status

Age \ Gen	Male		Female		Transgender		Total
	Male	Male (%)	Female	Female (%)	Transgender	Transgender (%)	
20	12	18	0	0	0	0	12
21 - 30	0	0	16	50	2	100	18
31 - 40	22	33	0	0	0	0	22
Above 40	32	48	16	50	0	0	48
Total	66	100	32	100	2	100	100

Source: Primary Source

Interpretation: From the above table, it is recognized that 48% of Male belongs to the age group of above 40. 33% falls in the age category between 31– 40. Also transgender also influence the socio-economic status of handloom weavers

Chart depicts age and gender influence socio-economic status



Inference: Chart reveals that even transgender also engaged in this occupation. Male contribution is high but then even female also engaged in weaver's profession to lead their life.

b) Chi Square on Respondents of Age and Gender influence Socio-Economic status of handloom weavers

H₀: There is no relationship between age and gender influencing socio-economic status of weavers

H₁: There is relationship between age and gender influencing socio-economic status of weavers

Gen \ Age	Male	Female	Transgender	Total
Below 20	12 (8)	0 (4)	0 (0.24)	12
21 - 30	0 (12)	16 (6)	2 (0.36)	18
31 - 40	22 (15)	0 (7)	0 (0.44)	22
Above 40	32 (31)	16 (15)	0 (0.96)	48

Total	66	32	2	100
--------------	-----------	-----------	----------	------------

Source: Primary Source

Observed	Expected	O - E	$(O - E)^2$	$\frac{(O - E)^2}{E}$
12	8	4	16	2
0	4	4	16	4
0	0.24	0.24	0.0576	0.24
0	12	12	144	12
16	6	10	100	16.67
2	0.36	1.64	2.6896	7.47
22	15	7	49	3.2
0	7	7	49	7
0	0.44	0.44	0.1936	0.44
32	31	1	1	0.032
16	15	1	1	0.06
0	0.96	0.96	0.9216	0.96
			Total	54.072

Chi Square (Calculated value) = 54.072

Degrees of Freedom = $(c-1)(r-1) = (2)(3) = 6$

Alpha value for Degree of freedom 6 (Tabulated value) = 12.592

Calculated value is greater than Tabulated value. Hence Reject H_0 which proves that there is relationship between age and gender influencing socio-economic status of weavers

c) Percentage analysis on Education status which influences socio-economic status

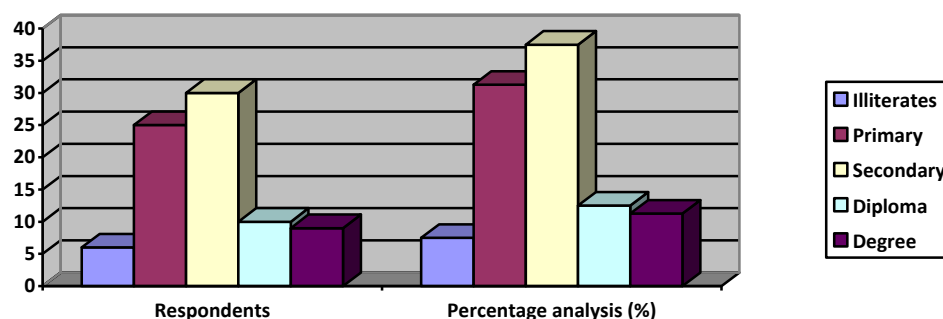
Level of Education	Respondents	Percentage analysis (%)
Illiterates	6	7.5
Primary	25	31.25
Secondary	30	37.5

Diploma	10	12.5
Degree	9	11.25
Total	80	100

Source: Primary Source

Interpretation

From the above table, it shows that 38% of the weavers educated to Secondary level, 31% belongs to Primary level, 11% belongs to Degree, 13% belongs to Diploma holders and even illiterate's contribution in weaving is up to 8%. The above table depicted the education level of selected weavers



Inference:

From the above chart, it is proved that majority of the weavers are educated upto secondary level.

d) Chi-square test on analyzing Gender and education influence socio-economic status of weavers

H₀: There is no relationship between gender and education influencing socio-economic status of weavers

H₁: There is relationship between gender and education influencing socio-economic status of weavers

Education	Illiterate	Primary	Secondary	Diploma	Degree	Total
Gender						
Male	4	19	23	8	6	60
Female	2	6	7	2	3	20

Total	6	25	30	10	9	80
--------------	----------	-----------	-----------	-----------	----------	-----------

Source: Primary Source

O	E	O-E	(O-E)²	(O-E)²/E
4	4.5	0.5	0.25	0.5
19	18.75	0.25	0.0625	0.25
23	22.5	0.5	0.25	0.5
8	7.5	0.5	0.25	0.5
6	6.75	0.75	0.5625	0.75
2	1.5	0.5	0.25	0.5
6	6.25	0.25	0.0625	0.25
7	7.5	0.5	0.25	0.5
2	2.5	0.5	0.25	0.5
3	2.25	0.75	0.5625	0.75
			TOTAL	5

Chi-Square (Calculated value) =5

Degrees of Freedom = (c-1)(r-1) = (5-1)(2-1) = (4)(1) = 4

Alpha value for 4 (Tabulated value) = 9.49

Hence calculated value is smaller than tabulated value. It is proved that H_0 is accepted which means there is no relationship between gender and education which influence socio-economic status of weavers

Conclusion:

Researcher aims to conclude that weaver's significant contribution depends on their productivity. Also demographic variables such as Gender and age influence socio-economic status of weavers. Also the combination of gender and education is not creating any impact on socio-economic status. Also the researcher tried to find out the efficacy of weavers related to the demographic variables where they attained unique position compared to other profession. This study implicates in future about the weavers contribution to attain socio-economic status.

References:

D. Sreenivasa Rao and Dr. N. Sreedhar (2017). Socio economic condition of handloom weaver's in Andrapradesh.

Dr. Dharam Chand Jain and Miss. Ritu Gera (2017). Factors influencing the Handloom weavers to enter Into the filed.(vol.2, issue.5) (2016). Factors influencing the Handloom weavers to enter Into the filed.(vol.2, issue.5)

Dr. G. Prathap & Prof. M. Chinnaswamy Naidu (2015), Socio-Economic Conditions of the Hand Loom Weavers Vontimitta Mandal in Kadapa District of Andhra Pradesh, International Journal of Managerial Studies and Research (IJMSR), Volume 3, Issue 1, January 2015, ISSN 2349-0330 (Print) & ISSN 2349-0349 (Online) PP 5-11

Gudhe Nagaraju & K. Viyanna Rao (2014), **A study on the socio-economic conditions of handloom weavers**, Research Gate Journal, cited

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/297514025_A_study_on_the_socio-economic_conditions_of_handloom_weavers

Kotaiah, P. (1986), Economics of Cotton Handloom Industry in India", Ashish Publishing House, New Delhi