



SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF HANDLOOM WEAVERS IN SELECT DISTRICTS OF TELANGANA STATE

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Abstract

The Handloom industry being a part of the Indian culture and tradition is one of the oldest cottage industries in India diffused widely throughout the country. The handloom sector is dispersed, decentralized, un-organized and rural based, playing an important role in the country's economy in terms of employment and export earnings. India produces 85 per cent of the handlooms of the world. Handloom is a traditional product and its marketing is very conventional in nature. This sector contributes nearby 15 per cent of the cloth production in the country and also contributes a lot to the export earning of the country. This study has made an attempt to analyze the socio-economic factors of select sample respondents of handloom weavers in select districts of Telangana State. The primary data have been collected by interviewing the respondents using the interview schedule in select districts of Telangana State. The size of the sample is 425. Convenience sampling method was used for the purpose of selecting the sample respondents. The study found that majority of sample respondent handloom weavers (68.47 per cent) have not joined the life insurance schemes and least percent of sample respondent handloom weavers (31.53 per cent) have joined life insurance schemes in select districts of Telangana State. This paper concludes that now-a-days the condition of handloom industry is very bad and is under tragic situation. People, who live here mostly, are very poor. Middle aged people are unable to sustain a living in this area due to lack of availability of job resources and hence are compelled to migrate to other states in search of better jobs.

Key words: *Decentralized, Export earnings, Handloom, Life Insurance Schemes.*

Introduction

The handloom industry is largely household-based industry and is carried out with labour contributed by the entire family. The handloom sector plays central role in the country's economy. The Indian textile industry has been classified into composite mills in the organized sector where both spinning and weaving take place under one roof and decentralized sector consisting of handlooms and power looms. The handloom sector is dispersed, decentralized, un-organized and rural based, which plays an important role in the country's economy in terms of employment and export earnings. India produces 85 per cent of the handlooms of the world. Handloom is a traditional product and its marketing is very conventional in nature. This sector contributes nearby 15 per cent of the cloth production in the country and also contributes greatly to the export earning of the country. 95 per cent of the world's hand-woven fabric comes from India. The handloom sector has a unique place in our economy. It has been sustained by skills transferred from one generation to another. The strength of the sector lies in its uniqueness, flexibility of production, openness to innovations, adaptability to the supplier's requirement and the wealth of its tradition. The adoption of modern techniques and economic liberalization, however, has made serious inroads into the handloom sector. Competition from power looms and mill sector, availability of cheaper imported fabrics, changing consumer preferences and alternative employment opportunities have threatened the vibrancy of the handloom sector. The Government of India, since independence, has been following a policy of promoting and encouraging the handloom sector through a



number of programmes and schemes. Due to various policy initiatives and scheme interventions like cluster approach, aggressive marketing initiative and social welfare measures, the handloom sector has shown positive growth and the income level of weavers has improved to some extent. The handloom fabric production has been very impressive and the growth has been at the rate of 6 per cent to 7 per cent in the beginning of the 11th Plan.

Statement of the Problem

Handloom weaving is one of the largest economic activities in the country, after agriculture. The main problem faced by the industry is inefficient product management and inappropriate product mix. The handloom products are facing a cutthroat competition from mill made and power loom cloth. In order to make the complete marketing process of connecting the product with the ultimate customers, the role of product mix attributes are very significant. Unlike other sectors, the handloom industry is not able to market its products competently. Competition from Power looms is another serious problem afflicting the handlooms of the different areas and another weakness of handloom industry is its un-organized character.

Objective of the Study

This study has made an attempt to analyze the socio-economic factors of select sample respondents of handloom weavers in select districts of Telangana State.

Research Methodology

The study is descriptive in nature. The study is based on both primary and secondary data. The primary data have been collected by interviewing the respondents using the interview schedule in select districts of Telangana State. The size of the sample is 425. Convenience sampling method was used for the purpose of selecting the sample respondents.

The secondary data have been collected from various sources such as books, Journals, reports, websites etc.

Age Ranges of Sample Respondents

Age is one of the important social factors which influences social, economic and demographic situation of any country. Age is an achieved characteristic in the life cycle of a human being. The position in a family or society or group and performance of certain activities and also achieving some other aspects of life in the human life cycle is determined by age. The age ranges of select sample respondents of handloom weavers in select districts of Telangana State are presented in Table 1:

Table 1: Age Ranges of Select Sample Respondent of Handloom Weavers In Select Districts of Telangana State

Name of the District	Name of the Mandal	Age ranges of sample respondents				Total
		Below 40 years	Above 40-50 years	Above 50-60 years	Above 60 years	
Nalgonda	Pochampalle	10 (8.33)	25 (20.84)	55 (45.83)	30 (25.00)	120 (100) (28.24)
	Chandur	04 (4.00)	18 (18.00)	45 (45.00)	33 (33.00)	100 (100) (23.53)
Warangal	Warangal	06 (6.00)	14 (14.00)	54 (54.00)	26 (26.00)	100 (100) (23.53)



Mahbubnagar	Rajoli	07 (10.00)	13 (18.57)	27 (38.57)	23 (32.86)	70 (100) (16.47)
Karimnagar	Huzurabad	4 (11.43)	09 (25.71)	12 (34.29)	10 (28.57)	35 (100) (8.23)
Total		31 (7.29)	79 (18.59)	193 (45.41)	122 (28.71)	425 (100) (100)

Source: Field Survey data

Note: Figures in parentheses represent percentage to total

Table 1 shows the age ranges of select sample respondents of handloom weavers in select districts of Telangana State. It is understood from the table above that majority of the sample respondent handloom weavers 193 out of 425 (45.41 per cent) irrespective of the districts they hail from, fall under the age ranging from above 50-60 years followed by 122 respondents (28.71 per cent) who fall under the age group of above 60 years, 79 respondents (18.59 per cent) who are in the age group of above 40-50 years and 31 respondents (7.29 per cent) who are aged below 40 years.

Majority i.e., 55 out of 120 respondent handloom weavers (45.83 per cent) in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district fall in the age group of above 50-60 years, followed by 30 respondents (25.00 per cent) who fall in the age group of above 60 years, 25 respondents (20.84 per cent) who fall in the age group of above 40-50 years and 10 respondents (8.33 per cent) who fall in the age group of below 40 years.

Majority i.e., 45 out of 100 respondent handloom weavers (45.00 per cent) in Chandur Mandal of Nalgonda district fall in the age group of above 50-60 years, followed by 33 respondent handloom weavers (33.00 per cent) who fall in the age group of above 60 years, 18 respondent handloom weavers (18.00 per cent) who fall in the age group of above 40-50 years and only 04 respondent handloom weavers (4.00 per cent) who fall in the age group of below 40 years.

Majority i.e., 54 out of 100 respondent handloom weavers (54.00 per cent) fall in the age group of above 50-60 years, followed by 26 respondents (26.00 per cent) who fall in the age group of above 60 years, 14 respondents (14.00 per cent) who fall in the age group of above 40-50 years and only 06 respondents (6.00 per cent) who fall in the age group of below 40 years in Warangal Mandal of Warangal district.

Majority i.e., 27 out of 70 respondent handloom weavers (38.57 per cent) fall in the age group of above 50-60 years, followed by 23 respondent handloom weavers (32.86 per cent) who fall in the age group of above 60 years, 13 respondent handloom weavers (18.57 per cent) who fall in the age group of above 40-50 years and 07 respondent handloom weavers (10.00 per cent) who fall in the age group of below 40 years in Rajoli Mandal of Mahbubnagar district.

Majority i.e., 12 out of 35 respondent handloom weavers (34.29 per cent) fall in the age group of above 50-60 years, followed by 10 respondent handloom weavers (28.57 per cent) who fall in the age group of above 60 years, 09 respondent handloom weavers (25.71 per cent) who fall in the age group of above 40-50 years and only 04 respondent handloom weavers (11.43 per cent) who fall in the age group of below 40 years in Huzurabad Mandal of Karimnagar district.

One can infer from the data that majority of the sample respondent handloom weavers (45.41 per cent) who spread over different districts, fall in the age ranging from 50-60 years and a small percentage of



the sample respondent handloom weavers (7.29 per cent) are aged below 40 years in select districts of Telangana State. Majority of the respondent handloom weavers who fall in the age ranging from 50-60 years represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district, whereas majority of the respondent handloom weavers who are aged below 40 years represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Gender-Wise Sample Respondents

Gender is also an important social dimension. Distribution pattern of population between males and females affects their relative and economic relations. The Distribution of gender-wise select sample respondents of handloom weavers in select districts of Telangana State are presented in table 2:

Table 2: Gender-Wise Distribution of Select Sample Respondents of Handloom Weavers In Select Districts of Telangana State

Name of the District	Name of the Mandal	No. of sample respondents		Total
		Male	Female	
Nalgonda	Pochampalle	114 (95.00)	06 (5.00)	120 (100) (28.24)
	Chandur	99 (99.00)	01 (1.00)	100 (100) (23.53)
Warangal	Warangal	98 (98.00)	02 (2.00)	100 (100) (23.53)
Mahbubnagar	Rajoli	66 (94.29)	04 (5.71)	70 (100) (16.47)
Karimnagar	Huzurabad	34 (97.14)	01 (2.86)	35 (100) (8.23)
Total		411 (96.71)	14 (3.29)	425 (100) (100)

Source: Field Survey data

Note: Figures in parentheses represent percentage to total

Table 2 presents the gender –wise handloom weavers of different districts in Telangana State. Majority 411 out of 425 respondent handloom weavers (96.71 per cent) belong to male category and followed by 14 respondent handloom weavers (3.29 per cent) belong to female category.

Majority i.e., 114 out of 120 respondent handloom weavers (95.00 per cent) belong to male category and followed by 06 respondent handloom weavers (5.00 per cent) belong to female category in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Majority i.e., 99 out of 100 respondent handloom weavers (99.00 per cent) belong to male category and followed by only 01 respondent handloom weaver (1.00 per cent) belong to female category in Chandur Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Majority i.e., 98 out of 100 respondent handloom weavers (98.00 per cent) belong to male category and followed by only 02 respondent handloom weavers (2.00 per cent) belong to female category in Warangal Mandal of Warangal district.



Majority i.e., 66 out of 70 respondent handloom weavers (94.29 per cent) belong to male category and followed by 04 respondent handloom weavers (5.71 per cent) belong to female category in Rajoli Mandal of Mahbubnagar district.

Majority i.e., 34 out of 35 respondent handloom weavers (97.14 per cent) belong to male category and followed by only 01 respondent handloom weaver (2.86 per cent) belong to female category in Huzurabad Mandal of Karimnagar district.

One can infer that majority of the sample respondent handloom weavers (96.71 per cent) belong to male category and a very meager percent of sample respondents (3.29 per cent) belong to female category in select districts of Telangana State. Majority of the respondent handloom weavers belong to male category represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district, whereas majority of the respondent handloom weavers belong to female category represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Educational Background of Sample Respondent Weavers

Literacy is one of the important social variables that influence both social and economic development of a country. Education certainly is a means to the all-round progress of individuals. In other words, the pathway to human development goes through the lanes of education. Moreover, true education is the sole basis of achieving one's purpose in life. It is education which can ascertain ultimate peace for a human being. Education is considered the inner capability of man that guides him continuously at various levels. Therefore, there is every need to improve the educational status of the population for better social and economic development. The educational qualifications of select sample respondents of handloom weavers in select districts of Telangana State are presented in table 3:

Table 3: Educational Qualifications of Select Sample Respondents of Handloom Weavers in Select Districts of Telangana State

District	Mandal	Educational Qualifications of sample respondents				Total
		Illiterates	Primary	Secondary	Intermediate	
Nalgonda	Pochampalle	32 (26.67)	44 (36.67)	40 (33.33)	04 (3.33)	120 (100) (28.24)
	Chandur	33 (33.00)	39 (39.00)	26 (26.00)	02 (2.00)	100 (100) (23.53)
Warangal	Warangal	42 (42.00)	28 (28.00)	25 (25.00)	05 (5.00)	100 (100) (23.53)
Mahbubnagar	Rajoli	28 (40.00)	22 (31.43)	18 (25.71)	02 (2.86)	70 (100) (16.47)
Karimnagar	Huzurabad	10 (28.57)	14 (40.00)	10 (28.57)	01 (2.86)	35 (100) (8.23)
Total		145 (34.12)	147 (34.59)	119 (28.00)	14 (3.29)	425 (100) (100)

Source: Field Survey data

Note: Figures in parentheses represent percentage to total

It is observed from table 3 that the educational qualifications of sample respondent handloom weavers in different districts of Telangana State. Majority 147 respondent handloom weavers (34.59 per cent) having primary education, followed by 145 respondent handloom weavers (34.12 per cent) having



illiterates, 119 respondent handloom weavers (28.00 per cent) having secondary education and 14 respondent handloom weavers (3.29 per cent) having intermediate education.

Majority i.e., 44 out of 120 respondent handloom weavers (36.67 per cent) are having primary education, followed by 40 respondent handloom weavers (33.33 per cent) having secondary education, 32 respondent handloom weavers (26.67 per cent) having illiterates and only 04 respondent handloom weavers (3.33 per cent) having intermediate qualification in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Majority i.e., 39 out of 100 respondent handloom weavers (39.00 per cent) are having primary education, followed by 33 respondent handloom weavers (33.00 per cent) having illiterates, 26 respondent handloom weavers (26.00 per cent) having secondary education and only 02 respondent handloom weavers (2.00 per cent) having intermediate qualification in Chandur Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Majority i.e., 42 out of 100 respondent handloom weavers (42.00 per cent) are having illiterates, followed by 28 respondent handloom weavers (28.00 per cent) having primary education, 25 respondent handloom weavers (25.00 per cent) having secondary education and only 05 respondent handloom weavers (5.00 per cent) having intermediate qualification in Warangal Mandal of Warangal district.

Majority i.e., 28 out of 70 respondent handloom weavers (40.00 per cent) having illiterates, followed by 22 respondent handloom weavers (31.43 per cent) having primary education, 18 respondent handloom weavers (25.71 per cent) having secondary education and only 02 respondent handloom weavers (2.86 per cent) having intermediate qualification in Rajoli Mandal of Mahbubnagar district.

Majority i.e., 14 out of 35 respondent handloom weavers (40.00 per cent) having primary education, followed by 10 respondent handloom weavers (28.57 per cent) having illiterates, 10 respondent handloom weavers (28.57 per cent) having secondary education and only 02 respondent handloom weavers (2.86 per cent) having intermediate qualification in Huzurabad Mandal of Karimnagar district.

One can infer that majority of the sample respondent handloom weavers (34.59 per cent) possess primary education, and a very meager per cent of the respondents (3.29 per cent) having intermediate education in select districts of Telangana State. Majority of the respondents of those who possess primary education represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district, whereas majority of the respondent handloom weavers having intermediate education represent in Warangal Mandal of Warangal district.

Type of Handloom Weavers Family

The sample respondent handloom weavers' families may be classified into joint family and nuclear family. The different types of families of select sample respondent handloom weavers in select districts of Telangana State are presented in table 4:



Table 4: Different Types of Families of Select Sample Respondent Handloom Weavers in Select Districts of Telangana State

Name of the District	Name of the Mandal	Type of family		Total
		Joint Family	Nuclear Family	
Nalgonda	Pochampalle	11 (9.17)	109 (90.83)	120 (100) (28.24)
	Chandur	12 (12.00)	88 (88.00)	100 (100) (23.53)
Warangal	Warangal	14 (14.00)	86 (86.00)	100 (100) (23.53)
Mahbubnagar	Rajoli	03 (4.29)	67 (95.71)	70 (100) (16.47)
Karimnagar	Huzurabad	03 (8.57)	32 (91.43)	35 (100) (8.23)
Total		43 (10.12)	382 (89.88)	425 (100) (100)

Source: Field Survey data

Note: Figures in parentheses represent percentage to total

Table 4 reveals that different types of families of select sample respondent handloom weavers in select districts of Telangana State. It is observed that majority i.e., 382 out of 425 respondent handloom weavers (89.88 per cent) are having nuclear families and 43 respondents (10.12 per cent) are having joint families.

Majority i.e., 109 out of 120 respondent handloom weavers (90.83 per cent) are having nuclear families and 11 respondents (9.17 per cent) are having joint families in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Majority i.e., 88 out of 100 respondent handloom weavers (88.00 per cent) are having nuclear families and 12 respondents (12.00 per cent) are having joint families in Chandur Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Majority i.e., 86 out of 100 respondent handloom weavers (86.00 per cent) are having nuclear families and 14 respondents (14.00 per cent) are having joint families in Warangal Mandal of Warangal district.

Majority i.e., 67 out of 70 respondent handloom weavers (95.71 per cent) are having nuclear families and 03 respondents (4.29 per cent) are having joint families in Rajoli Mandal of Mahbubnagar district.

Majority i.e., 32 out of 35 respondent handloom weavers (91.43 per cent) are having nuclear families and 03 respondents (8.57 per cent) are having joint families in Huzurabad Mandal of Karimnagar district.

Based on the above analysis one can infer that majority respondent handloom weavers (89.88 per cent) are having nuclear families and meager percentage of sample respondents (10.12 per cent) are having joint families in select districts of Telangana State. Majority sample respondents are having nuclear families represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district, whereas majority of the sample respondents are having joint families in Warangal Mandal of Warangal district.



Social Status of Sample Respondents

Indian society is broadly divided into different communities such as OCs, BCs, SCs, STs, etc. The traditions and customs depend upon the community, which in turn, influences the social fabric. Caste is an important social variable, especially in the present day Indian context. The communities are broadly sub-divided into various sub-castes and people are grouped as per caste criteria. The social statuses of select sample respondents of handloom weavers in select districts of Telangana State are presented in table 5:

Table 5: Social Statuses of Select Sample Respondents of Handloom Weavers in Select Districts of Telangana State

Name of the District	Name of the Mandal	No. of sample respondents		Total
		BC	SC	
Nalgonda	Pochampalle	113 (94.17)	07 (5.83)	120 (100) (28.24)
	Chandur	98 (98.00)	02 (2.00)	100 (100) (23.53)
Warangal	Warangal	95 (95.00)	05 (5.00)	100 (100) (23.53)
Mahbubnagar	Rajoli	69 (98.57)	01 (1.43)	70 (100) (16.47)
Karimnagar	Huzurabad	34 (97.14)	01 (2.86)	35 (100) (8.23)
Total		409 (96.24)	16 (3.76)	425 (100) (100)

Source: Field Survey data

Note: Figures in parentheses represent percentage to total

Table 5 shows that social statuses of select sample respondents of handloom weavers in select districts of Telangana State. It is evident that majority i.e., 409 out of 425 respondent handloom weavers (96.24 per cent) belong to BC category and followed by 16 respondent handloom weavers (3.76 per cent) belong to SC category.

Majority i.e., 113 out of 120 respondent handloom weavers (94.17 per cent) belong to BC category and followed by 07 respondent handloom weavers (5.83 per cent) belong to SC category in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Majority i.e., 98 out of 100 respondent handloom weavers (98.00 per cent) belong to BC category and followed by only 02 respondent handloom weavers (2.00 per cent) belong to SC category in Chandur Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Majority i.e., 95 out of 100 respondent handloom weavers (95.00 per cent) belong to BC category and followed by only 05 respondent handloom weavers (5.00 per cent) belong to SC category in Warangal Mandal of Warangal district.

Majority i.e., 69 out of 70 respondent handloom weavers (98.57 per cent) belong to BC category and followed by only 01 respondent handloom weaver (1.43 per cent) belong to SC category in Rajoli Mandal of Mahbubnagar district.



Majority i.e., 34 out of 35 respondent handloom weavers (97.14 per cent) belong to BC category and followed by only 01 respondent handloom weaver (2.86 per cent) belong to SC category in Huzurabad Mandal of Karimnagar district.

One can infer that majority of sample respondent handloom weavers (96.24 per cent) belong to BC category and least percentage of sample respondents (3.76 per cent) belong to SC category in select districts of Telangana State. Majority of sample respondents belong to BC category represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district, whereas the majority of sample respondents belong to SC category represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Ownership Status of Dwelling Unit

The ownership status of dwelling units of handloom weavers has been classified into owned and rented units. The distributions of handloom workers' households by ownership status of dwelling units in select districts of Telangana State are presented in table 6:

Table 6: Distribution of Handloom Workers' Households by Ownership Status of Dwelling Units in Select Districts of Telangana State.

Name of the District	Name of the Mandal	Ownership of dwelling		Total
		Owned	Rented	
Nalgonda	Pochampalle	110 (91.67)	10 (8.33)	120 (100) (28.24)
	Chandur	94 (94.00)	06 (6.00)	100 (100) (23.53)
Warangal	Warangal	98 (98.00)	02 (2.00)	100 (100) (23.53)
Mahbubnagar	Rajoli	62 (88.57)	08 (11.43)	70 (100) (16.47)
Karimnagar	Huzurabad	33 (94.29)	02 (5.71)	35 (100) (8.23)
Total		397 (93.41)	28 (6.59)	425 (100) (100)

Source: Field Survey data

Note: Figures in parentheses represent percentage to total

Table 6 shows that the distribution of handloom weaver households by ownership status of dwelling units in select districts of Telangana State. It is evident that majority i.e., 397 out of 425 respondent handloom weavers (93.41 per cent) are having owned dwelling units and followed by 28 respondents (6.59 per cent) are having rented dwelling units.

Majority i.e., 110 out of 120 respondent handloom weavers (91.67 per cent) are having owned dwelling units and followed by 10 respondents (8.33 per cent) are having rented dwelling units in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district.



Majority i.e., 94 out of 100 respondent handloom weavers (94.00 per cent) are having owned dwelling units and followed by 06 respondents (6.00 per cent) are having rented dwelling units in Chandur Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Majority i.e., 98 out of 100 respondent handloom weavers (98.00 per cent) are having owned dwelling units and followed by 02 respondents (2.00 per cent) are having rented dwelling units in Warangal Mandal of Warangal district.

Majority i.e., 62 out of 70 respondent handloom weavers (88.57 per cent) are having owned dwelling units and followed by 08 respondents (11.43 per cent) are having rented dwelling units in Rajoli Mandal of Mahbubnagar district.

Majority i.e., 33 out of 35 respondent handloom weavers (94.29 per cent) are having owned dwelling units and followed by 02 respondents (5.71 per cent) are having rented dwelling units in Huzurabad Mandal of Karimnagar district.

Based on the above analysis one can infer that majority respondent handloom weavers (93.41 per cent) are having owned dwelling units and least percent of sample respondent (6.59 per cent) handloom weavers are having rented units in select districts of Telangana State. Majority of sample respondent handloom weavers are having owned dwelling units represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district, whereas the majority of sample respondent handloom weavers are having rented units represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Life Insurance Schemes

Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY) is implemented through LIC of India. The scheme aims to provide insurance cover to the handloom weavers in case of natural as well as accidental death. The benefits for Natural Death-Rs.60,000/-, Accidental Death-Rs.1,50,000/-, Total Disability-Rs.1,50,000/- and Partial Disability-Rs.75000/-. The Life Insurance schemes option handloom weavers in select districts of Telangana State are presented in table 7:

Table 7: Life Insurance Scheme Option by Select Handloom Weavers in Select Districts of Telangana State

Name of the District	Name of the Mandal	No. of Sample respondents		Total
		Yes	No	
Nalgonda	Pochampalle	44 (36.67)	76 (63.33)	120 (100) (28.00)
	Chandur	29 (29.00)	71 (71.00)	100 (100) (24.00)
Warangal	Warangal	27 (27.00)	73 (73.00)	100 (100) (24.00)
Mahbubnagar	Rajoli	22 (31.43)	48 (68.57)	70 (100) (20.00)
Karimnagar	Huzurabad	12 (34.29)	23 (65.71)	35 (100) (8.00)
Total		134 (31.53)	291 (68.47)	425 (100) (100)

Source: Field Survey data



Note: Figures in parentheses represent percentage to total

Table 7 depicts that the coverage of life insurance scheme among the handloom weavers in select districts of Telangana State. It reveals that majority i.e., 291 out of 425 respondents (68.47 per cent) have not joined the life insurance schemes and followed by 134 respondents (31.53 per cent) who have joined life insurance schemes.

Majority i.e., 76 out of 120 respondent handloom weavers (63.33 per cent) have not joined the life insurance schemes and followed by 44 respondents (36.67 per cent) who have joined life insurance schemes in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Majority i.e., 71 out of 100 respondent handloom weavers (71.00 per cent) have not joined the life insurance schemes and followed by 29 respondents (29.00 per cent) who have joined life insurance schemes in Chandur Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Majority i.e., 73 out of 100 respondent handloom weavers (73.00 per cent) have not joined the life insurance schemes and followed by 27 respondents (27.00 per cent) who have joined life insurance schemes in Warangal Mandal of Warangal district.

Majority i.e., 48 out of 70 respondent handloom weavers (68.57 per cent) have not joined the life insurance schemes and followed by 22 respondents (31.43 per cent) who have joined life insurance schemes in Rajoli Mandal of Mahbubnagar district.

Majority i.e., 23 out of 35 respondent handloom weavers (65.71 per cent) have not joined the life insurance schemes and followed by 12 respondents (34.29 per cent) who have joined life insurance schemes in Huzurabad Mandal of Karimnagar district.

One can infer that overall majority of sample respondent handloom weavers (68.47 per cent) have not joined the life insurance schemes and least percent of sample respondent handloom weavers (31.53 per cent) who have joined life insurance schemes in select districts of Telangana State. The majority of respondent handloom weavers have not joined life insurance schemes represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district, whereas the majority of sample respondent handloom weavers who have joined life insurance schemes represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Findings

A brief account of the consolidated findings on different parameters has been presented hereunder:

1. Majority of the sample respondent handloom weavers (45.41 per cent) who spread over different districts, fall in the age ranging from 50-60 years and a small percentage of the sample respondent handloom weavers (7.29 per cent) are aged below 40 years in select districts of Telangana State. Majority of the respondent handloom weavers who fall in the age ranging from 50-60 years represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district, whereas majority of the respondent handloom weavers who are aged below 40 years represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district.
2. Majority of the sample respondent handloom weavers (96.71 per cent) belong to male category and a very meager percent of sample respondents (3.29 per cent) belong to female category in select districts of Telangana State. Majority of the respondent handloom weavers belong to male category represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district, whereas majority of the respondent handloom weavers belong to female category represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district.



3. Majority of the sample respondent handloom weavers (34.59 per cent) possess primary education, and a very meager per cent of the respondents (3.29 per cent) having intermediate education in select districts of Telangana State. Majority of the respondents of those who possess primary education represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district, whereas majority of the respondent handloom weavers having intermediate education represent in Warangal Mandal of Warangal district.
4. Majority respondent handloom weavers (89.88 per cent) are having nuclear families and meager percentage of sample respondents (10.12 per cent) are having joint families in select districts of Telangana State. Majority sample respondents are having nuclear families represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district, whereas majority of the sample respondents are having joint families in Warangal Mandal of Warangal district.
5. Majority of sample respondent handloom weavers (96.24 per cent) belong to BC category and least percentage of sample respondents (3.76 per cent) belong to SC category in select districts of Telangana State. Majority of sample respondents belong to BC category represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district, whereas the majority of sample respondents belong to SC category represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district.
6. Majority of the sample respondent handloom weavers (93.41 per cent) are having owned dwelling units and least percent of sample respondent (6.59 per cent) handloom weavers are having rented units in select districts of Telangana State. Majority of sample respondent handloom weavers are having owned dwelling units represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district, whereas the majority of sample respondent handloom weavers are having rented units represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district.
7. Majority of sample respondent handloom weavers (68.47 per cent) have not joined the life insurance schemes and least percent of sample respondent handloom weavers (31.53 per cent) who have joined life insurance schemes in select districts of Telangana State. The majority of respondent handloom weavers have not joined life insurance schemes represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district, whereas the majority of sample respondent handloom weavers who have joined life insurance schemes represent in Pochampalle Mandal of Nalgonda district.

Suggestions

The following are the main suggestions made for the welfare and betterment of the handloom weavers in select districts of Telangana State in particular and also for the handloom weavers of other States in India in general:

1. The government can provide training to weavers with respect to weaving clothes of improved designs, so that they will be able to earn more wages and their economic conditions will improve through training.
2. Government should provide free health insurance, regular health checkups, education for the children of the handloom weavers, training & capacity building, interest free loans etc.
3. The weavers should keep alive the finer and quality improvised of handlooms to meet the competition from power loom.
4. Due to their low wages caused by low value addition, mixed with low productivity, low technological levels and occupational health hazards, the handloom weavers are migrating to other occupations and hence courses like textile technology, fashion designing may be



introduced at free of cost to encourage weavers to continue their occupation for their next generations also.

5. The young weavers should be motivated to come forward to sustain the handloom industry by providing special incentives to innovative designs.
6. The weavers should be encouraged to develop saving habit for future needs and safety.
7. The State Government should release the Textile Policy for the states at the earliest. Regarding the awareness about Government Schemes, there is needed to initiate a mechanism by the government. The mechanism should be in such a way that weavers can reap benefits from the schemes with better understanding and easy access.
8. There should be simplified terms and conditions for security loans for fixed capital, working capital and other forms of assistance at subsidized interest rates.
9. Government has to take measures to attract more non-active members towards societies, so that they also could draw benefits from the societies.

Conclusion

The handloom industry is largely household-based industry and is carried out with labour contributed by the entire family. The handloom sector plays central role in the country's economy. Now-a-days the condition of handloom industry is very critical and tragic. People, who live here mostly, are very poor. Middle aged people are unable to sustain a living in this area due to lack of availability of job resources and hence are compelled to migrate to other states in search of better jobs. This pathetic condition shall be avoided and the handloom weavers shall be provided with better conditions to enliven the age long tradition of our country.

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