



“A STUDY OF LABOUR PROBLEMS IN SMALL SCALE ENTERPRISES IN MAHARASHTRA – A SPECIAL REFERENCE TO PANDHARPUR”

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ABSTRACT

India is a country of fairs and festivals. There are many renowned and famous religion places in India's every part and corner. The lakes of pilgrims visit to religions place in period of festivals and fairs. There is a large market for Pooja Articles and Commodities in a fairs and religions places. Pandharpur is a famous for favorite deity Lord Vitthala in Maharashtra. Lakhs of pilgrims from Maharashtra and neighboring states of Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat, Goa, Madhya Pradesh arrive in Pandharpur on the occasions of “Ashadhi, Kartiki, Maghi and Chaitri Waries (piligrimage) Pandharpur Town has a good and reasonably long spiritual and sectarian heritage. Although thousands of pilgrims continue to visit Pandharpur through the year.



KEYWORDS: country of fairs and festivals , spiritual and sectarian heritage.

INTRODUCTION

The pilgrims coming to Pandharpur during the Wari (Pilgrimage) purchase of commodities like Kum-Kum, Prasad, Chirmure, Agarbatties, Pooja articles, religions books, musical instruments, portraits of Lord Vitthala, Tulshimala, Gopichand (Gandh), it's called wari commodities. These wari commodities are mostly produced in Pandharpur in a small and cottage enterprises. These manufacturing industries called wari (Yatra) based enterprises (Industries)

These enterprises concentrated in Pandharpur region.

This type of enterprises faces many problems like capital, machinery, power, raw material etc. The labour problem is a one of them. These articles focus on the Labour Problem of this type of small and cottage enterprises.

OBJECTIVE :

1. To identify Pooja Article manufacturing enterprises.

2. Employment generation in these Industries.
3. To study the problems of these enterprises.
4. To identify the Labour Problems of small scale enterprises.
5. To suggest some suggestions to meet the problems.

METHODOLOGY :

Primary and secondary data used for study.

- 1) Primary data : Required primary data was collected by conducting a field survey.
- 2) Secondary data was collected from municipal records and various books.

POOJA ARTICLE SMALL AND COTTAGE ENTERPRISES:

There are 14 Pooja Articles goods and commodities demanded by the pilgrims in market. Near about 8 commodities are manufacturing in the Pandharpur region in local level. The commodities produced in Pandharpur itself throughout the year. For the purpose of this study, it was also felt necessary to study a sample of the producers of their items.

Manufacturers have been registered under the Bombay Shops and Establishment Act with the local municipal council. A list of 277 manufactures having their production from the municipal council. Based on this list, there 277 production units were divided into 8 categories as shown in table 1.1 below.

Table 1.1 : Pilgrimage based commodity manufacturing enterprises.

Sr. No.	Name of Enterprises	Total No of Manufacturer	Sampled (20%)
1	Gopichand	50	10
2	Tulshimala	20	10
3	Portraits of Lord Vitthala	50	10
4	Musical Instruments	10	02
5	Agarbatties (Incense Sticks)	100	20
6	Kum-kum, Bukka, Ashtagandha	05	01
7	Chirmure	08	02
8	Sakhar Phutane (Prasad)	04	01
	Total	277	56

Table 1.1 shows the commodity wise distribution of the manufactures selected as sample 20% units taken for sampling out of each type of enterprises this is shown in above table.

Table No. 1.2 Average Investment, Average Income and Employment and total Labour demand of commodity manufactures in Pandharpur.

Sr. No.	Manufacturers	Total No.	Average Capital	Average Income	Total Labour	Average Labour per unit
1	Gopichand	50	50000	35000	200	4
2	Tulshimala	50	25000	27000	200	4
3	Portraits of Lord Vitthala	50	12500	225000	200	4
4	Musical Instruments	10	82000	160000	120	12
5	Agarbatties (Incense Sticks)	100	225000	127000	600	6
6	Kum-kum, Bukka, Ashtagandha	05	300000	180000	35	7
7	Chirmure	08	100000	120000	32	4
8	Sakhar Phutane (Prasad)	04	1000000	670000	32	8
	Total	277			1419	6.12

Source data collected from Producers.

The above table shows that the total number of small and cottage enterprises, Average Capital, Average Income and Average Labour and total engaged in manufacturing enterprises in Pandharpur.

- 1) The study shows that, an average 6.12 labour working in every unit.
- 2) Total 1419 labour employed in small and cottage enterprises in Pandharpur
- 3) Average Capital investment high in Sr. No. 8

Units and employment generation is very low. But this units like Sr. No. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 shows that the small capital investment in these units and they generates more employment. So the small and cottage enterprises are labour intensive and this is helpful for remove the problem of unemployment in country like India.

Problems Of Small And Cottage Enterprises :

- 1) Many manufactures face the problem of raw material.
- 2) All small and cottage enterprises face a problem of insufficient capital.
- 3) Some enterprises face the problem of shortage of skilled labours.
- 4) Many enterprises have not a sufficient land for set their production units.
- 5) There is big shortage of electricity supply and rural enterprises face a problem of load shedding.

Problems of labours those working in small and cottage enterprises:

- 1) Low salary is given by the producers.
- 2) There is no provision of provident fund and medical facilities for labours.
- 3) Most of labours are working temporary and daily wages basis. So there is no job guarantee.
- 4) Because of low salary the labours do not maintain their expenses. So they takes loans and borrow the money from private money leaders. So they face the problem of indebtedness.
- 5) There is o safety provision in the manufacturing units.

SUGGESTIONS:

The major suggestions may be briefly stated as

- 1) Setting up of a well-planned industrial estate for producing the wari (yatra) based commodities in Pandharpur and every religions destination.
- 2) Training should be arranged for local youth for providing sufficient number of trained and skilled workers for the small and cottage enterprises.
- 3) Setting up new units for providing employment to local youth.
- 4) To provide the sufficient capital through the financial institutions and Banks to the manufacturers and labours also.
- 5) Made provisions for safety at the working places of labours.
- 6) To make a provision of sufficient wages for the labours.
- 7) Government agency and manufactures take care of providing medical facilities to the labours.
- 8) The industrial estate established in Pandharour. This industrial estate would promote entrepreneurship development in Pandharpur bringing in its wake self-employment and employment opportunities.

CONCLUSION :

The small and cottage manufacturing units are depending upon the labours. These units take care of labours and solve their problems, discuss with them it is a solution for to meet the problems of producers are related each other of manufactures and labours. So best solutions suggested in this paper is very useful to development of industries and small scale enterprises located in Pandharpur and other religion places in Maharashtra and over all India also.

REFERENCES :

- 1) Pandharpur municipal corporation record.
- 2) Data collected from manufacturing units and labours.
- 3) Newspapers – Sakal and Lokmat.