

Research Paper



June, 2010

INDIAN POWERLOOM INDUSTRY: CHALLENGES & PERSPECTIVES



* Dr. D. V. Thakor ** Dr. Y.T. Pawar,
*** Mr. Arif Anjum Md. Saeed

* Assot. Prof. M.S.G. Arts & Sc.& Com. College Malegaon
** Assot. Prof. GDAB Atrs& Com. College, Malegaon Nasik,
*** Ph.D. Research Scholor M.S.G. Arts Sc. &Com. College. Malegaon.

INTRODUCTION:

The powerloom industry in divided into two parts one is Mill Sector and other is decentralised sector. The decentralised sector occupies the major share in powerloom industry. The formation of powerloom sector in India is because conversion of Handloom industry into powerloom industry.

Many handloom weaving clusters, concentrated geographically at various places, gradually switched over to power driven looms, because of achieving higher productivity and earning better livelihood. Handloom weavers in various clusters like Bhiwandi, Malegaon Surat etc. started installation of power looms. With the closure of textile mills in 1970s, and after serious labour turbulence and strike in 1980-1981, in Mumbai, the organised mill sector started loosing ground and the powerloom sector came into existence with a big leap.

ROLE OF POWERLOOM INDUSTRY:

The powerloom sector plays a vital role in meeting the clothing needs of the country. Production of cloth as well as generation of employment has been rapidly increasing in the powerloom sector. There were over 19 lakh powerlooms in the country as on 31st March 2006 distributed over approximately 4.30 lakh units. This is about 47% of the total powerlooms in the world. The powerloom sector contributes about 95% of the total cloth production of the country, and provide employment to about 48 lakh persons.

INDIAN POWERLOOM INDUSTRY : SWOT ANALYSIS

Strength : 1. Second largest employer after agriculture.

2. Low wage rates at 0.75US\$ per operator hour as compared to 1.00 US\$ of China and US\$ 3 of Turkey. 3. It provides employment to 48.60 lakh persons and contributes 62 percent to total cloth production in the country.

Weakness : 1. Technology level requires upgradation. 2. Manpower desires to be trained & educated. 3. Scarcity of availability of finance from financial institutions.

Opportunities:

1. There should be change in the production pattern as per the market demand.
2. Production must be in different fabrics with different properties.
3. Must upgrade production technology.

Threats :

1. Interrupted and high cost of power supply.
2. To produce quality control fabrics with low cost of production.
3. Use of new advanced technology has to be encouraged.

MAJOR ISSUES BEFORE THE DECENTRALISED POWERLOOM SECTOR :

- 1) Technological Obsolescence 2) Lack of Capital availability 3) Fragmented small Units 4) Low quality and poor production 5) Lack of good marketability 6) Undeveloped Infrastructure

CONCLUSION

The decentralized powerloom sector came into existence, mainly with the conversion of handloom into power driven looms and the mill sector looses the ground. The powerloom sector is the second largest

employer after agriculture. There are about 19 lakhs powerlooms in the country which employees about 48 lakh peoples. Today the decentralized sector is facing numerous problems like obsolete technology, no implementation of business ethics, traditional

method of marketing, lack of trained human resource, high cost of production with low quality etc. But the performance of the industry within last few years has proven that the industry is standing against the age of globalization. The industry has transforming itself into a modern industry.

REFERENCE

1. Report on Growth and Prospects of the Handloom Industry, Planning Commission, Govt. of India, New Delhi -2001.
2. Report on Working and living Conditions of Workers in Powerloom industry in India, Ministry of Labour, Govt. of India, New Delhi -1988
3. A survey of various aspects of Powerloom industry of Maharashtra, Textile Committee, Mumbai
4. Report of Powerloom Service Centre, Ministry of Textile, Govt. of India, Malegaon.
5. Textile Commissioner, Handbook on Powerloom, Office of Textile Commissioner, Mumbai – 2006
6. www.txcindia.nic.in
7. www.fibre2fashion.com
8. www.textilecommittee.com