

A Study on Socio-Economic Condition of Aari Workers in Nagercoil Corporation of Kanniyakumari District

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ABSTRACT

In India many afford have been made from time to time to study the socio-economic conditions of Aari workers in organized and unorganized industries. The present study aimed to assess the work pressure and health issues among Aari workers. They are under pressure to keep up with the production demands. It also shows that most of the Aari workers are having health issues. The aim of the study has been to improve the economic condition and to reduce the health problems faced by the Aari workers.

Keywords: *Aari workers, Embroidery, Organized, Health issues*

Introduction

Aari work is a type of embroidery which is done on a stretched fabric and stitching the design with a long needle which has a hook in the end. The needle technique originates from the mocha community, who use this type of needle to stitch intricate patterns on leather footwear, the needle is named as Aari, from which the embroidery work derives its name as Aari work. This work consists of beads, stones, golden and silver threads which gives a royal richness to the design. Aari work is known for its elegant thread work that enhances the gravity of hand embroidery. Aari gets its name from the 'Aar', which is a small, hooked needle or awl used by the craftsmen. First, the pattern is carefully traced on transparent paper by a specialized artisan. Perforations are made along the outlines and the paper is placed on the fabric. A special chalk is rubbed over the paper, imprinting the pattern on the fabric below. The fabric is mounted on a rectangular, wooden frame and the embroidery process begins.

Role of Aari Workers

- ❖ Aari workers create artistic designs using special stitching techniques to decorate fabrics and garments by hand or with the help of a machine.
- ❖ An Aari work is an occupation which involves the handling, operating, or fixing of machines.
- ❖ An Aari worker may also perform other duties related to the sewing trade.

Problems of Aari Work

- ❖ **Time consuming:** Hand embroidery is a laborious process that can take days, weeks, or even months to complete a single project.
- ❖ **Limited by design size:** Hand embroidery is limited by the size of the design; it can be hard to embroider large designs with hand.
- ❖ **Skill level needed:** Hand embroidery requires a certain level of skill to create the desired effect.

Methodology

A suitable methodology is necessary for any scientific analysis. The objectives and data interpretation of a problem cannot be done without research methodology. There are various methods to conduct research study. This feels that questionnaire methods are more suitable. In this method researcher prepare different questions, and collected information from 50 sample respondents. Also, the researcher adopts sampling methods to conduct the study.

Objectives

- ❖ To know the socio-economic condition of Aari workers.
- ❖ To examine the problems faced by Aari workers.

Data Analysis

This study deals with an analysis of “A Study on Socio-Economic Condition of Aari Workers in Nagercoil Corporation of Kanniyakumari District”. It is based upon both primary and secondary data. This is collected from Aari workers.

1. Age wise composition

Age is an important factor that influences the productive capacity of the workers. The sample respondents are unevenly distributed among different age group. The following table 1 shows the age wise composition of the sample respondents.

Table 1. Age wise composition of the sample respondents

Age (in years)	No. of Respondents	Percentage
21-30	22	44
31-40	12	24
41-50	10	20
Above 50	6	12
Total	50	100

Source: Primary data

Table 1 shows that 44 per cent of the sample respondent belongs to the age group of 21-30 years and 12 per cent of the sample respondents belong to the age group of above 50 years. From this it is understood that maximum respondents are youngsters and they are the bread winners of the family.

2. Work experience

Experience shows one's efficiency in job. The sample respondents have many years of experience. This will certainly reduce the risk in their job. Table 2 shows the work experience of the sample respondents.

Table 2. Work experience of the sample respondents

Work experience (in years)	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Below 1	6	12
1-3	12	24
3-5	10	20
5-7	7	14
More than 7	15	30
Total	50	100

Source: Primary data

Table 2 shows that 30 per cent of the sample respondents are having more than 7 years of experience and 12 per cent of the sample respondents are having less than 1 year of experience. It clearly reveals their active participation in Aari work.

3. Monthly income

An income is an amount of money or compensation paid to an employee by an employer in return for work performed. It is an important determining factor of the status of a family. Table 3 shows the monthly income of the sample respondents.

Table 3. Monthly income of the sample respondents

Monthly income (in Rupees)	No. of Respondents	Percentage
5000-10000	10	20
10000-15000	18	36
15000-20000	14	28
Above 20000	8	16
Total	50	100

Source: Primary data

Table 3 shows that 36 per cent of the sample respondents are earning Rs.10000-15000 as their monthly income and 16 per cent of the sample respondents are earning more than Rs.20000 as their monthly income. It is understood that according to their work capacity they are rewarded.

4. Health issues

Health issues refer to the health problems faced by the workers. It may be physical or mental. Aari workers face many health problems due to their heavy work. Table 4 shows the health issues faced by the sample respondents.

Table 4. Health issues faced by the sample respondents

Health issues faced by the sample respondents	No. of. Respondents	Percentage
Body pain	15	30
Head ache	9	18
Back pain	18	36
Other problems	8	16
Total	50	100

Source: Primary data

Table 4 shows that 36 per cent of the sample respondents are facing back pain and 16 per cent of the sample respondents are having other problems like vision related problems, numbness in fingers and so on. It clearly shows that the respondents are facing so many health issues due to heavy work they are undergoing daily.

Findings

1. Forty-four per cent of the sample respondents belong to the age group of 21-30 years.
2. Thirty per cent of the sample respondents are having more than 7 years of experience.
3. Thirty-six per cent of the sample respondents are earning Rs.10000-15000 as their salary.
4. Thirty-six per cent of the sample respondents are facing back pain as their health issue.

Suggestion

- ❖ Aari workers should be provided marketing linkages, both in the local and international market.
- ❖ Raw materials should be easily available for the Aari workers, and the cost of raw materials should be affordable.
- ❖ Government should provide schemes for Aari workers to improve their standard of living.

Conclusion

Aari work is a crucial aspect of fashion design that offers numerous benefits, which includes achieving the perfection, creating new designs, and enhancing the overall quality of garments. Aari workers should also stay up to date with the latest trends and developments to ensure that their designs are relevant and appealing to their target audience in order to reduce the health issues and work pressure, the working hours of the Aari workers should be reduced.

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