

PROBLEMS OF COIR INDUSTRY WORKERS- AN ANALYTICAL STUDY

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ABSTRACT

The Coir Industry has an extremely long history in India.Rope and cordage made out of coconut have been being used from antiquated times.Indian navigators,who cruised the oceans to Malaya ,Java, China and to the Gulf of Arabia, hundreds of years prior, had been utilizing coir as their boats cables.Coir industry is packed in the locale of Kanniyakumari,Coimbatore, Dindigul, , Vellore, Thanjavur, Tirunelveli, Madurai, Theni, Salem, and Dharmapuri. Coir industry is vital to western locale of Tamil Nadu, as it adds to its country economy, other than giving work to the provincial individuals. It is a significant area all things considered. The greater part of the coir laborers are coming from socially and financially in reverse classes.

Key words: Coir, worker, Industry.

INTRODUCTION

The Coir industry has surprisingly a practice and legacy of hundreds of years. However, improvement of coir industry in India has start in a coordinated way just in 1959. Since the time this humble beginning,coir items have been working on in quality, quality and assortment. For

authentic reasons, development of coconuts and extraction of coir fiber and its further preparing have taken profound roots in the province of Kerala. The fast extension of coconut development in non-customary regions expanded the creation of coconut and the business has likewise grown steadily in the territories of Tamilnadu, Karnataka, Andhrapradesh and Orissa coir industry in India is one of the significant rustic enterprises.

Coir industry arises as the biggest business producing industry utilizing an amazing the greater part 1,000,000 individuals in the country. Similarly critical is the way that the majority of these individuals are from the monetarily distraught classes and as much as 80% of the laborers are ladies in the business. Besides, a large number of business people are straightforwardly and in a roundabout way associated with exercises going from the assembling of coir fiber to creating and advertising of significant worth added results of coir. These new variety of business people discover the degree offered by the business with nearly low venture an intriguing chance.

Coir' is usually called the golden fibre of India. It is one of the important natural fibres, known to the world from time immemorial. It caters to the needs of all sections of people as fibre, yarn, rope, matting's rugs, rubberized coir and teabags. It provides a good employment opportunities to the people especially for the illiterate women.

The Coir industry is one of the oldest cottage industries in India. Though its operation is still in the traditional setup, India enjoys a place of prominence among nations producing coir and its products throughout the world. The development of coir industry has taken place in areas where there is concentration of coconut cultivation and availability of coconut husks, Indian coir industry has been fortunate to get boost in the form of the ever increasing awareness about eco -protection. Coir, being a natural fiber which is environment friendly in the strictest sense of the term, is the fiber of the future today.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The current exploration study attempts to uncover the issues of coir industry workers. There are number of issues looked by coir industry laborers both monetary and social issues. These are low wages, low wages, unpredictable business, no work during stormy season, more working hours, no work satisfaction, bad working condition, no professional stability, no clinical office and no retirement benefits. So the answer for the above issues of the Coir laborers is fundamental. In this setting the specialist discovered from the enquiry that it is an immature region and a large portion of the Coir laborers between saw turned out to be living underneath the neediness line. They live one in little cabins and tiled houses. Hence it turns out to be exceptionally intriguing to make a new endeavor to glance in to the family conditions and comparable other socio - monetary condition, to draw out the genuine issues of these helpless Coir laborers and furthermore to discover and recommend approaches to bring out from their destitution and hopeless conditions.

OBJECTIVES

The study covers the following objectives;

1. To Study the economic profile of coir industrial workers.
2. To analyse the problems of Coir industrial workers in coir industry.

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Sivanesan (2013) in his article title, "A study on problems of workers in coir industries of Kanniyakumari District", has study reveals that Coir workers have longer working hours. So the working hours of the coir workers may be regulated by the government. Holidays are not given even on important national and religious festival days. The national holidays may be declared as paid holidays to the coir workers. The government may enforce labour welfare measures such as provident fund and medical facilities for coir workers. The government may establish a separate department to safeguard the welfare of the coir industry workers. The government must take the effort to increase the wages of coir industry workers. Accident benefit may be given by the government to the coir industry. The government may provide minimum amount of pension to the coir industry workers when they are unable to do the work or at their old age.

Nirmala sathish and Krishnathulasimani (2015) in their article on, "A study on Determinants of problems of Coir industry in India with special reference to Coimbatore District" in this analysis, the variable capital is compared with the other variables, such as supply of power, supply of labour, labour co-ordination, labour performance, availability of raw material, less production innovation, government concession for Coir production, problem on exporting goods, raw material cost, transportation cost, labour cost, Cost of power and overhead cost. They can be helpful to improve Coir industry in future.

METHODOLOGY

The study is an analytical in nature based on both primary and secondary data. The primary data are collected from the workers in the coir industry through a pre-tested interview schedule. The secondary data are collected from published magazines, unpublished dissertation, records maintained by the coir co-operative societies and also from the internet. The sample size is fixed by the researcher is 100 as simple random sampling method. The researcher have been used simple percentage and Garrett ranking techniques used for analysis of data. The study is limited to Kanniyakumari District.

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

1. DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF COIR INDUSTRY WORKERS

Sl.No	AGE	No.of Respondents	Percentage(%)
1	Less than 15 years	10	10
2	15-20	25	25
3	20-25	15	15
4	25-30	20	20
5	Above 30	30	30
		100	100
Sl.No	Sex	No.of Respondents	Percentage(%)
1	Male	52	52
2	Female	48	48
Total		100	100
Sl.No	Age	No.of Respondents	Percentage(%)
1	Married	40	40
2	Unmarried	60	60
Total		100	100
Sl.No	Educational Qualification	No.of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Illiterate	20	20
2	Primary school	64	64
3	High school	10	10
4	Higher sec.school	6	6
5	Above Hr.sec school	-	-
	Total	100	100
Sl.No	Size of the Family	No.of Respondents	Percentage (%)
1	Below 4	16	16
2	4 to 6	76	76
3	Above 6	8	8
Total		100	100
Sl.No	Monthly Saving	No.of Respondents	Percentage(%)
1	Below Rs.5,000	70	70
2	Rs.5,000-Rs.15,000	26	26
3	Rs.15,000- Rs.30,000	4	4
Total		100	100

Source : Primary Data

The above table shows that 30 per cent of respondents are in the age group of above 30 years.52 Per cent of the respondents are male .Majority of the respondents are unmarried.64 per cent of the respondents Primary school.Majority of the respondents size of the families dependents members are between 4 to 6 .70 per cent of respondents savings monthly Rs.5,000.

2. PROBLEMS FACED BY COIR INDUSTRY WORKERS

The problems of coir industry workers are analysed with the help of Garrett ranking techniques. The result of analysis shown in Table.7

Table.7

Garrett mean scores for basic problems of the sample workers

SL.No	Basic problem	Garrett means score	Rank
1	Low wage/ income	60.80	I
2	Irregular employment	50.10	VII
3	No work during rainy season	50.16	VI
4	More working hour	45.98	X
5	No job satisfaction	51.86	V
6	Bad working condition	53.88	IV
7	No job security	56.20	II
8	No medical allowance	47.82	IX
9	No bonus & incentive	48.40	VIII
10	No retirement benefits	55.25	III

Source: primary data

The above table.7 reveals that Low wage/ income with the highest mean square of 60.80 has been ranked first as the most felt basic problem of the sample workers.The problems of no job security & No retirement benefits have been ranked second and third respectively.The respondents are satisfied about the working hours and No medical allowance as the mean score are the least for these variables.

SUGGESTIONS

Most of the workers are found to be up to primary level , an education centre may be opened for improving their knowledge. Further to improve the conditions of workers it is recommended that they should try to sanction housing loans with the help of banks, and the coir workers could be given marriage loans from the government at a low rate of interest . It will great help to the coir industry workers

The government should take the responsibility of sanitary conditions and should appoint health inspectors to check in sanitary conditions.

The most important problems faced by the coir industry workers is low wages. Hence the government must fix minimum normal wages in the current cost of inflation, in order to enhance the standard of living of coir industry workers.

The study reveals that coir workers have longer working hours. So the working hours of the coir workers may be regulated by the Government. Holidays are not given even on important national and religious festival days. The national holidays may be declared as paid holidays to the coir workers. Accident benefit may be given by the government to the coir industry workers. Welfare schemes may be implemented to the workers of coir industry and their children. The government may provide minimum amount of pension to the coir industry workers when they are unable to do the work or at their old age.

CONCLUSION

Today most of the workers live below the poverty line. The wages they get will not improve their economic conditions. These problems are reduced only by increasing the present wages system by employer. To improve the job satisfaction of the workers, the employer must provides necessary facilities such as provident fund facilities, reduce the working hours , increase the working condition , and also provides Bonus and incentives.

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