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TO STUDY THE DEMOGRAPHIC VARIABLES OF THE JEWELLERY WORKERS IN NAGPUR DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

The proposed study is important because it deals with the analysis of working conditions of workers in the jewellery industry in Nagpur District. The study aims to explore some of the different areas of workers' lives, such as socio-economic status, employment status, income sources, work facilities, health issues, job security and other areas that may affect their quality of life. The study seeks to paint a full picture of the realities of working in jewellery by exploring these dimensions.



KEYWORDS: Feminine consciousness, Modern sensibilities, Shobha De, Female vices, Feminism, Indian fiction, Identity, Gender, Sexuality.

INTRODUCTION

Employees' overall well-being, productivity, job satisfaction and economic security depend on their working conditions to a large extent. The jewellery industry is one of the traditional and skilled industries which provides jobs to a large number of people engaged in designing, manufacturing, polishing, finishing and repairing jewellery and other related activities. Even though this is an economically significant sector, there are several problems with working conditions, occupational safety and security, income stability, hours of work, labour security and access to welfare facilities.

Many jewellery-making companies, particularly those of small and medium size, are engaged in highly specific or fine activities, such as manual work, precision and concentration. They have a number of physical and occupational risk factors such as sitting for long periods, eye strain, dust and chemical exposure, repetitive strain and harsh working conditions. Besides, lack of workplace facilities, social security benefits, non-standard employment, and lack of knowledge about the rights of workers can impact their quality of life.

The Nagpur district is having a huge base of jewellery industry-related businesses with skilled and semi-skilled workers involved in the production and service activity of the industry. But there is not much systematic research available which can explain the actual working conditions, problems and socio-economic situation of the workers engaged in this sector. Thus, a detailed analytical study is needed to explore different facets of the working conditions of workers in the jewellery industry of Nagpur District.

This study seeks to examine aspects of the working environment and working conditions of workers in the jewellery industry, including facilities, wage structure, working hours, job security, health and safety measures, welfare provision and overall experience at work. The study also aims to

attempt to ascertain the main issues encountered by workers and to gain insight into the elements that affect their satisfaction and quality of working life.

In this study, an attempt has been made to find out the various workers' situations in the jewellery industry of Nagpur District. The study results could be useful in identifying recommendations that industry owners, regulators, labour representatives and others would benefit from in shaping appropriate initiatives that enhance workplace conditions and the wellbeing of workers in this industry.

Table 1: Analysis of correlation between the age, gender, income and type of work of jewellery workers and their socioeconomic status

	Socio-Economic Status	
Age	N	5
	R	0.962
	Sig.	0.008841**
Gender	N	5
	r	0.931
	Sig.	0.024531*
Income	N	5
	r	0.984
	Sig.	0.002424**
Type of Work	N	5
	r	0.927
	Sig.	0.023416*
* - Significant at 0.05 level		
** - Significant at 0.01 level		

Above **Table 1** illustrates results of analysis of correlation between the age, gender, income and type of work of jewellery workers and their socioeconomic status. It is apparent from the results that –

- There is significant positive correlation ($r = 0.962$; $P < 0.01$) between age and socioeconomic status of jewellery workers. This shows that age of jewellery worker has significant impact on their socio-economic status.
- There is significant positive correlation ($r = 0.931$; $P < 0.05$) between gender and socioeconomic status of jewellery workers. This shows that gender of jewellery worker has significant impact on their socio-economic status.
- There is significant positive correlation ($r = 0.984$; $P < 0.01$) between income and socioeconomic status of jewellery workers. This shows that income of jewellery worker has significant impact on their socio-economic status.
- There is significant positive correlation ($r = 0.927$; $P < 0.05$) between type of work and socioeconomic status of jewellery workers. This shows that type of work of jewellery worker has significant impact on their socio-economic status.

CONCLUSION

Significant number of workers belong to 21 to 30 years of age group. Substantial number of workers are male. Considerable number of workers belong to Hindu religion. Notable number of workers educated up to secondary level. Most of the workers resided in urban areas.

Substantial number of workers belong to nuclear families. Considerable number of workers resided in pucca houses. Notable number of workers have water-related facilities in their home. Most of the workers have access to piped water. Significant number of workers have restroom facilities available.

Considerable number of workers have 4 to 6 members in their family. Notable number of workers earned Rs. 3000 to Rs. 5000. Most of the workers are savers by nature. Significant number of workers made savings in commercial banks. Substantial number of workers are currently in debt. Significant number of workers have taken debt from money lenders.

Workers agree that the very important purpose for availing debt was running the family, medical expenses and education whereas the moderately important purpose for which workers used debt was festival related expenses, purchase cattle wealth and construction of house. However, it is apparent that workers considered important purposes of debt usage by workers working in jewellery industry.

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