

UGC MINOR RESEARCH PROJECT

File No.23-1374/09 (WRO)
24th February 2010

A Study of Socio Economic Conditions among Bidi Workers in Solapur

Asso.Professor: Dr.Pankaj V. Dolas
Hirachand Nemchand College of
Commerce
Solapur.

Index

Chapter No.	Content
1	Introduction. 1.1 Introduction to the Study. 1.2 Socio-Economic Conditions. 1.3 Socio-Economic Variables. 1.4 Beedi Industry in Solapur city. 1.5 Overview of Beedi Industry. 1.6 Legislations for Beedi Workers.
2	Research Methodology. 2.1 Statement of Problem. 2.2 Objectives of the study. 2.3 Hypothesis of the study. 2.4 Scope of the study. 2.5 Research Methodology.
3	Review of Literature.
4	Data Analysis & Interpretation.
5	Finding & Suggestions
	Appendix.
	Bibliography.

List of Tables

Table No.	Name of the Table
1	Marital Status of Workers
2	Distribution of Workers on the Basis of Age
3	Which Language Does Workers Speak
4	Distribution of Workers on the Basis of Education
5	Family Size of Workers
6	Children's Education of Workers
7	Nature of Employment of Workers
8	Distribution of ID-Cards among Workers
9	Working Hours of Workers.
10	Weekly Working Days
11	How the Wage Payments are made to Workers.
12	Individual Monthly Income of Workers.
13	Monthly Household Income of Workers.
14	Workers Opinion to Timely Payment of Wages.
15	Whether Workers Face Payments Cut
16	Type of House the Workers Live In
17	Type of House the Workers Live In
18	Workers Ownership to Assets
19	Whether Workers Have Taken any Loan
20	Source to Loan Procurement
21	Health Problems among Workers
22	Workers Opinion to Readiness to Accept other Type of Work.
23	Workers Affiliation to Any Type of Organisation.
24	Workers Opinion to Welfare Facilities.
25	Family Size & Household Income Cross Tabulation

Introduction

1.1 Introduction to the study.

Beedi rolling is one of the major informal sector activities in India. The government of India estimates that there are about 4.4 million workers in this industry. The majority are home based workers who live below the poverty line (BPL). Beedi is a kind of little cigarette, made of tendu leaves (instead of paper) and tobacco. According to conservative estimate more than 6 million persons are engaged in Beedi making processing and allied work. Beedi workers are vulnerable segments of the country's labour force which has increased involvement of women and child labour in Beedi rolling activities. The condition of Beedi workers at present as well as in the past have not been not very conducive. The making of the Beedi is an industry that is widely spread over the country. Hence there is a need to improve the living and working conditions, as well as to promote decent employment and income opportunities for women Beedi rollers.

Informal sector workers are generally not represented in the institutions and organizations of the labour movement. The main concentration of Beedi workers are engaged in tobacco industry. The Parliamentary standing committee on subordinate legislation (1990) says that 20 million labours and 6 million farmers are engaged in cultivation of tobacco. The size of the unorganized sector indicates its importance as a major force both economically and politically. Additionally the unorganized sector is a major contributor to the gross national product of the country contributing about 63 percent of the country's national income in 1994 – 95. These numbers point to the urgent need to deal with issues of social security of these workers and producers.

Historically, the system of social security in India, as elsewhere was started with the organized sector. The first social security legislation was the workmen's compensation Act, 1923. The size of the unorganized sector has been growing over the last few decades. In 1971 the unorganized sector comprised 89 percent of the workforce, whereas in 1995 it was 92.5 percent. This increase is the result both of (casualisation) of the existing organized sector workers and lack of growth of employment opportunities within the organized sector employment, with 96 percent of all female worker being in this sector.

1.2 Socio-Economic conditions.

Socioeconomic environment refers to a wide range of interrelated and diverse aspects and variables relating to or involving a combination of social and economic factors. These aspects and variables could, in general, be categorized into several categories including, economic, demographic, public services, fiscal and social. Socio economic is an important determinant of the livelihoods as it influences levels of knowledge, skills and income conditions which means for their living. Socioeconomic status (SES) is an economic and sociological combined total measure of a person's work experience and of family's economic and social position relative to others, based on income, education and occupation. The household income, earners education, and occupation are examined as well as combined income, versus with an individual, when their own attributes are assessed.

Socioeconomic status is typically broken into three categories, high SES, middle SES, and low SES to describe the three areas of a family. Placing a family into one of these categories any or all of the three variables (Income, education and occupation) has assessed.

1.3 Socio-economic Variables and Their Empirical Measurements Used

Sex : The respondents were differentiated on the bases of Gender classification. Typically, two gender classifications were made. (1) Male and (2) Female.

Marital Status: The concept of marital status applies to the conjugal arrangements of a person. It includes persons who are living together as husband and wife, regardless of whether they are legally married or in a common law relationship. The scores were (1) Married, (2) Un-married, (3) Widow.

Age : Age refers to the number of years the respondent lived since birth at the time of interview and was rounded to the nearest whole number. In the present study, the number of years rounded to the nearest whole number the respondent lived since birth at the time of interview was taken as a measure of age. The community was classified into four age

groups. Age group of the respondents in the present study were: (1) Below 20 Yrs. (2) 20 to 40 Yrs. (3) 40 to 60 Yrs. (4) Above 60Yrs.

Education : Economic status of an individual is influenced by his or her education level. The world map of illiteracy closely coincides with the maps of poverty, malnutrition, ill health, high infant and child mortality rates. Studies indicate that education, to some extent, compensates the effects of poverty. To quantify the educational status of the respondents, the scoring system followed by (Pareek and Trivedi, 1964) in their Socio-economic Status Scale Rural was used. The scoring was as follows: (0) Illiterate, (1) Primary, (2) Below 10th std., (3) Below 12th Std., (4) Graduation.

Income : Income strongly correlated to socio economic conditions. Greater wealth allows a household to maintain its standard of living when income falls due to job loss or health problems (Council of Economic Advisers for the President's Initiative on Race 1998). In the present study, the procedure of collecting information on income of the respondent or respondent's family in per month was followed: (1): (Less than 1000/-), (2) : (Rs: 1001/- to 2000/-), (3) : (Rs 2000 to Rs. 3000/-), (4): More then 3000.

Assets holding : The type of assets a person own in this family is termed as asset holding. The holdings were (A) Land, (B) House (C) Any other.

House type : The possession of a house and the nature of the house are important indicators of socio-economic status. The scores were for (1) Slab, (2) Tin/Asbestos, (3) Kavelu, (4) Mud/Grass.

Family type : It refers to whether there is single or joint family system and number of members in the respondent's family. A family was considered as single when the person lives alone. It consisted of husband, wife, is two and so on. In Socio-Economic Status Scale to quantify the family type of the respondents the scores were for (0) Single, (1) Two members, (2) Three members, (3) Four members, (4) More then four members.

Employment category : It refers whether the worker is employed in and organised undertaking where he does his job. The other is Un-organised where the worker performs things from home through contractors. The scores are (1) Organised, (2) Unorganised.

1.4 Overview of Solapur city.

Solapur city the area under Solapur Municipal Corporation both existing as well as newly expand for a special area under Solapur municipal corporation and covers only the air phase of environment in solapur city Solapur is an important district head quarter in western Maharashtra and is famous for its bed sheet weaving industry (chadder) Handlooms power looms and Bidi rolling industries. The textile products, especially, the chadders and handlooms manufactured in Solapur have a great demand in abroad and product is those are exported to several countries.

Solapur city, a district head quarter, is geographically located between 17.15 degrees east longitude the city is situated in the south east fringe of Maharashtra state and lies in the Bhima and Sina river basins and it is drained either by Bhima river or its tributaries Climatically the entire district Solapur city comes under rain shadow area, but rainfall is uncertain and scanty. The monsoon period is from second fortnight of June to end September bringing rains from south west monsoon. It adversely affects the socio- economic condition of peoples. The population of Solapur city is 12, 00,000, and the area is about 180 sq kms. There are about 4783 industries in Solapur district and the major industries in Solapur are textile, oil mills, bidi factories & sugar factories.

1.5 Overview of the Beedi Industry

Beedi manufacturing on a commercial basis is about a century old, although beedi making for own consumption must have been practiced even earlier. Till today, the range of beedi manufacturing varies from individual, self-employed beedi workers (who operate and even market beedis locally) to the large branded beedi companies. Given its labour intensive nature of work, large numbers of men, women and children have been involved in making beedis.

A majority of the workforce is employed in the process of beedi rolling. It is this task which is subcontracted under different systems and undertaken at home. The three point systems under which production of beedis is organised – factory, outwork and contractual systems.

In the factory system, beedi manufacturing is carried out under the direct supervision of managers/owners. All tasks are performed within factory premises. Most of the formal production, beginning in late nineteenth and early twentieth century was under this system. (see Table 1 for the year/period when it started in different places).

Table 1
Beginnings of Formal Beedi Production

Year/Period	Place	Source
1885	Calcutta	Datar(1985)
1901	Nizamabad District, Andhra Pradesh	ILO (2001)
1902	Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh	Labour Bureau (1996), ILO (2001)
1927	Nipani (bordering Karnataka and Maharashtra)	Datar (1985), ILO (2001)
1930	Kheda District, Gujarat	Mookerjee (1984)
1920s & 1930s	Kerala and Tamil Nadu	ILO (2001), Gopal (1997)

Contracting out beedi rolling work through branches or companies which operate on behalf of the factory owners is another form of production followed. Generally, the branches hire workers either in common worksheds or in localities where work is taken home and the rolled beedis are returned to the factories, where sorting, grading, roasting, labeling, bundling and packing are done. Men generally perform these tasks, while most of the beedi rolling is done by women and children. In some of the worksheds, the latter tasks are also performed and only marketing responsibility lie on the factory-owners.

The third and most common system is that of the contractor/middlemen (*sattedars*) supplying raw materials to the workers who roll beedis in their respective homes and return the rolled beedis to the contractor. The contractor is a commission agent and this differs from outsourcing work in that the link with company is not direct as often the contractor operates as a self employed person.

Improvisations within this system have been recorded ever since the beedi workers legislation was enacted in 1966, which included homebased work in the definition of an employee. To evade the employer-employee relationship, the provision of raw materials by the contractor was recorded as a sale deed and returning the rolled beedis as a purchase deed by the contractor. This sale-purchase system is often designated as a new, fourth system of organising production (Department of Labour, 1973; Labour Bureau, 1996; Bagchi and Mukhopadhyay, 1996, among others).

The production of beedis under the homebased system using women and children is quite old. The Royal Commission on Labour (1931) mentions that beedi rolling is carried out in the dwellings of workers as well. Lakshmy Devi (1985) also mentions that outwork and contract system has been prevalent since 1930s.

The beedi industry has been a growing one, with more and more men, women and children working in it. The participation of men is seen to be higher among the factory system, while women and children form the bulk in the homebased system (about 90 per cent). Even within the factory system, women workers predominate in the task of beedi rolling.

Women's involvement in beedi rolling has been linked to the ease of learning the skill, its manual operations, the fact that work can be carried out at home and so on. However, there are references to women and children being better at the job, especially girl children. Simultaneously, it is noted that men earn more and their wages are higher (Labour Bureau, 1996; Banerjee, 1983).

Bagchi and Mukhopadhyay (1996) find patriarchy at work, in addition to the illiteracy and ignorance among women which allows for their exploitation.

Over the years, with the homebased system becoming the common mode, beedi industry was becoming a cottage industry. This process began to peak at different points of time in different places. The enactment of Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966 and its adoption and implementation in different states was an influencing factor. Many units closed down or shifted production to homebased systems. There are many instances of beedi companies shifting from one state to another. In Gujarat, when the government implemented the Factories Act, in 1952, beedi companies shifted across the border to Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh (Mookerjee, 1984; ILO, 2001). Beedi firms in Maharashtra moved to Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh (Prasad and Prasad, 1985; IRA, 1988). In Kerala, when many beedi units closed down or shifted to Tamil Nadu and Karnataka, the government decided to help the large retrenched labourforce by forming a worker's cooperative. Thus, Kerala Dinesh Beedi Workers Cooperative Society came into being, as the first cooperative in the sector in 1969 (Mohandas, 1980; Mohandas and Kumar, 1992).

The periodic changes in the industry due to alterations in demand for the product, shifting of units to avoid punitive measures provided in various legislations and altering the existing system of production processes have resulted in discontinuous work for the workers, especially the homebased workers, who constitute a substantial proportion of the workforce. Thus, the homebased women workers, who constitute about 60-70 per cent of the total workforce in the industry, become the worst hit.

1.6 Legislations of Beedi workers.

The law which directly deals with the beedi workers are:

- A. The Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act 1966
- B. The Beedi Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1976
- C. The Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act 1976

The salient features of the Acts are :

A) Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act, 1966.

It provides for coverage regarding daily hours of work, weekly rest, leave with wages, maternity leave, benefits and welfare amenities such as drinking water, toilet facilities, canteen, etc. Although the term worker encompasses home workers as well, in practice these provisions apply only to the factory/ common shed workers.

The Act prohibits an employer or contractor from arbitrarily rejecting more than 2.5% of the beedis as sub-standard beedis. Rejection of 5% would necessitate making entries in writing, recording the reasons for rejection so that the workers have a record in writing. In practice however, the rate of rejection is higher.

The Act does not apply to the occupier or owner of a private dwelling house involved in the manufacturing process with the help of his family or anybody who is dependent on him, provided the owner or occupier is not an employee of an employer to whom the Act is applicable. Also prescribed in the statute are measures to promote healthy working conditions of workers at workplace in terms of cleanliness, ventilation, first aid, etc.

The Beedi Workers Welfare Cess Act, 1976 aims to collect taxes by way of cess or by imposing excise duty on manufactured beedis.

The Beedis Workers Welfare Fund Act, 1976 was enacted with the objective to promote financial assistance to the workers. The Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Rules, 1978 stipulate that the owner of an establishment or a factory or contractor should maintain a register of works and furnish statistics and other information as required by the government from time to time. Employers are to provide photo identity cards to every worker. The main emphasis of

the welfare measures is in the health sector as the beedi workers as a category of workers is involved in health hazardous occupations. Despite laws which seek to protect the interests of beedi workers, the real benefit does not reach the workers; the law is flouted in various ways and the workers are exploited. Helpless because of poverty and lack of awareness, they succumb to all atrocities. It is with the object of understanding the problems of women beedi workers and find out possible solutions that the NCW decided to hold public hearings at various places and have a first hand account/report from the workers themselves. Five public hearing were conducted, viz,- Ahmedabad (Gujarat), Nippani (Karnataka), Sagar (Madhya Pradesh), Tirunelveli (Tamil Nadu) and Warrangal. Apart from these laws, there are other labour law legislations also which cover the welfare of beedi workers.

Acts applicable to beedi Rollers

Apart from the various acts governing the industrial environment specific acts have been enacted by the government of India to safeguard the welfare of the beedi rollers. The various acts are as follows:

1. Payment of Wages Act, 1936[vide Sec.28 of the B&CW (COE) Act, 66];
2. Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946 [vide Sec.37 of the B&CW (CoE) Act, 66];
3. Maternity Benefit Act, 1961 [vide Sec.37 of the B&CW (COE) Act, 66];
4. Chapter IV and Section 85 of the Factories Act, 1948 [vide Sec.38 of the B&CW (COE) Act, 66];
5. Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 [vide Sec.39 of the B&CW (COE) Act, 66];
6. Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923;

E.P.F & M.P. Act, 1952

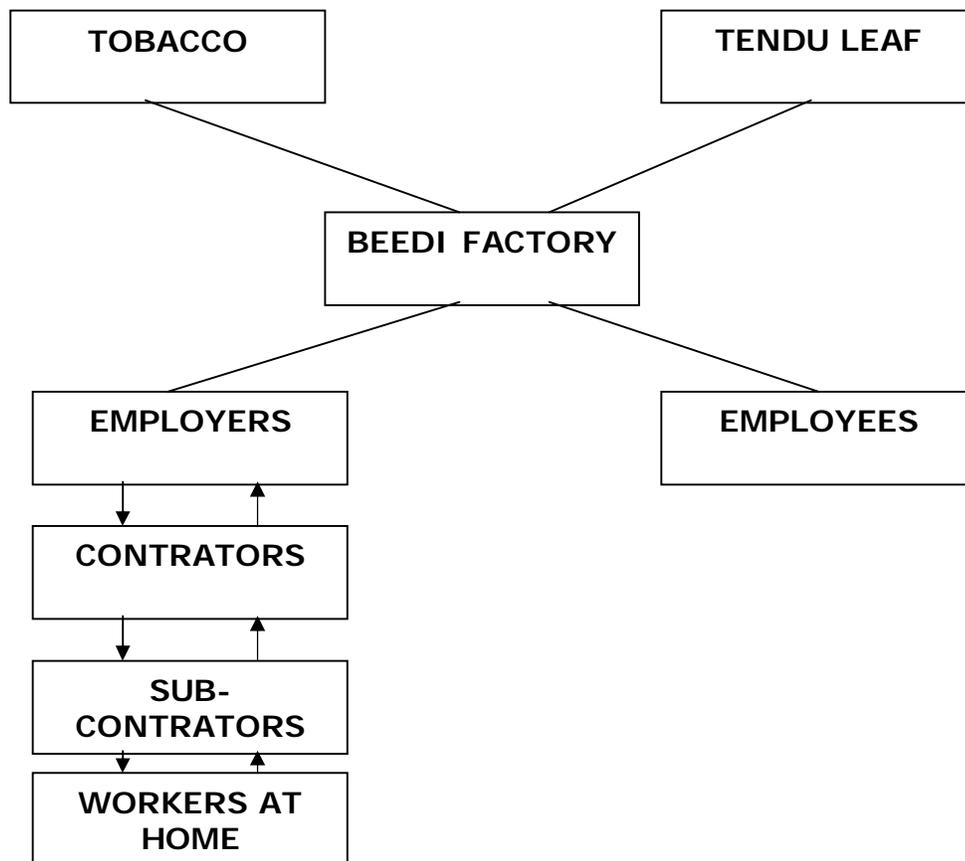
1. Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972,
2. Minimum Wages Act, 1948,
3. Child Labour (P&R) Act, 1986,

Production process of Beedis

Beedi production is carried out through different inter-related stages and at different levels. First, tendu leaves, tobacco and yarn are procured, then leaves are cut into a specified size. This specifically cut leaves are filled with required amount of tobacco and rolled into beedi and tied with yarn. Finally bundles are made for curing in the oven, then branded and sold in the market. The organisation of production process of beedi could be of three types namely

1. Factory systems
2. Factory-cum-contract system and
3. Contractor system.

The whole process has been illustrated in Fig. below



Whatever may be the year of origin, today the industry has come to occupy a very important niche in the overall industrial spectrum of the country by providing employment to a large number of people. The industry is employing more than six

million workers in its activities i.e in tendu leave collection and beedi rolling stages alone. Beedi rolling itself engages more than four million workers. State wise estimate of beedi workers shows that largest number of workers is concentrated in Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, west Bengal and Uttar Pradesh.

Nature of Employment

In the beginning employment in the industry was mostly concentrated in the factories. But now most of the beedi workers are home-based workers and again the great majority of the workers are constituted by woman and child labourers. Socially, they are mostly constituted by the scheduled castes and scheduled tribes (GOI, 1997).

The workers, being unorganised, are generally deprived of many facilities for instance, minimum wages, social securities and other employment benefits. Earlier the workers were not protected by any specific labour laws. However in 1966 an Act, namely, the Beedi and Cigar Workers (Conditions of Employment) Act 1966 was passed by the government to protect the interests of the workers.

Research Methodology

2.1 Statement of the Problem:

Solapur is one of the biggest bidi rolling centre in western Maharashtra. The study of socio- economic conditions of beedi workers in Solapur city has some significance in overall study of Beedi industry.

There are 23 different Bidi brands in Solapur. These organised beedi manufacturers also manufacturer some beedi's in their unit or get it done through contractors by given raw material at home and getting beedis done from them. It includes male and female beedi workers. In this industry the large number of Female beedi workers is involved. There is Less number of male workers, because some male in Beedi industry do their joins line – wrapping Bidi, packing rolling tobacco, tendu leaves and after weighting they given raw material to women worker, and they note all the events and some female worker take the raw material like tobacco and tendu leaves for rolling beedis at home.

The study is on “A Study of Socio economic conditions of Beedi Workers in Solapur City” which will highlight the socio economic conditions of beedi workers. Socio economic conditions focuses on the Age, sex, educational background, Family educational status, Wages, Individual earnings, Household Income, Land holdings and living conditions. It will also try to understand economical and social problems of beedi workers.

Any research is not an end itself but it is a continuous process in this process new inferences can be drawn latest information can be collected and pervious inference can be testified. The problems have been selected to know the latest situation of beedi workers in Solapur City.

2.2 Objectives of the study.

1. To study the socio-economic conditions among bidi workers in Solapur city.
2. To study the gender classification among bidi workers.
3. To study the awareness of welfare schemes among bidi workers.
4. To study the standard of living among workers.
5. To study whether any alternate work can be given to bidi workers.

2.3 Hypothesis of the study.

The following hypotheses are framed for the present study.

H₀: There is no relationship between family size and household income of beediworkers.

H₁: There is a relationship between family size and household income of beediworkers.

2.4 Scope of the study.

Scope:

1. The scope of the study is restricted to socio economic conditions.
2. The scope covers only Beedi workers from solapur city. So those beedi manufacturers and beedi rollers who are residing in solapur city are only considered for the study.
3. Only those parameters which highlight socio economic conditions are included in the study.

2.5 Methodology.

The data which is required for the study is collected by two ways.

- A) Primary Data
- B) Secondary Data.

A) Source of Primary data.

It is the first hand information collected by the researcher so as to get the correct picture. In this study for collecting the primary data structured questionnaire were prepared and information was collected through it.

For studying “A Study of Socio Economic conditions among Beedi workers in Solapur” the following research design is prepared.

Content of Research Design

- A) Sample Size.
- B) Sampling Method.
- C) Tools of Data Collection.

A) Sampling Size

So as to get sizeable information for analysis a total sample of 383 beedi workers were collected from Solapur city. Only those beedi workers who were actively involved in Beedi work and those who were willing to give information were included for the study.

B) Sampling Method

Since the objective of the study is to find out the socioeconomic conditions of beedi workers in solapur city, convenient sampling Method was adopted for data collection.

C) Tools of Data Collection.

1. Questionnaire.

Questionnaire was prepared so as to gather information from Beedi workers in Solapur City.

2. Discussions

Discussions with the various middle men and the manufacturers in solapur city helped to highlight the important issues among beedi workers.

3. Observations.

Some of the information in this sector were observed and noted down and was included in the research work.

B) Source of Secondary data.

It is the data which has been already collected by someone else and is taken for the study for reference. Here information was obtained from the following sources:

1) Documents.

- a. Reports of Ministry of Labour, Labour Bureau, India.
- b. Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic, The World Health Organization (WHO).

2) Journals and Periodicals.

Journals are an important source of information about telecommunication industry. Journals which are reputed which has ISSN no. and some who have impact factor are taken into consideration for the study.

The names of various **Periodicals** are Business India, Facts for You, Fortune India were used as a source of information.

3) Internet.

Internet has shrunk local and International boundaries, expanding the flow of information beyond the confines of individual systems and states. Thanks to the Internet revolution through which information was gathered from various web-sites for the purpose of the study.

Review of Literature

S. Shrinivasan and Dr.P.Jilonga (2014).

The study revealed that the Beedi workers were from the marginalized sections of the society and therefore they were socially and economically backward. Poverty was the main reason that induced the respondents to take up Beedi work as an occupation. It stressed the need of involvement of NGOs and the Government Social Welfare Department Tamil Nadu to launch necessary schemes for the welfare of female Beedi workers.

Mr. Ansari *et.al* (2014).

Women are having inherent advantage in this job in this job of beedi rolling due to deft fingers; yet significant gender bias exists. The job is mainly done by weaker economic class in the country who don't have adequate education and skill to look for alternate job. The work of beedi rolling is preferred by the women because it can be carried from home along with domestic chores. Thus, they supplement family income along with managing the household jobs.

Madhurima Mukherjee *et.al* (2014).

The study revealed that most of the beedi workers were women and they were economically weak without having education. Most of them were suffered from health related disorders. Tuberculosis, lung cancer etc. were few of them. In major cases , it was due to over exposure to the harmful tobacco dust. Women were suffering from gynecological disorders also. Further, children were born with congenital disorders. Therefore, the effect of tobacco dust was tremendous on the health of the beedi workers.

Pankaj Tiwari, Dr. Namrata Parashar (2014).

The study talks about beedi workers in Allahabad distirict. All the workers were very poor and were from socially and economically backward. Majority of workers were working for contractors which showed that they were subject to exploitation. Nearly 70 percent of the workers stated that their health problems were due to their occupation.

Dr. Sunil G. Losarwar *et.al* (2014)

The study highlights that unorganized sectors tries to earn maximum profits and this thinking is said to be unethical as they believe that ethical standards may cause them reduction in their profitability. The Corporate responsibilities of beedi industry is very much high because it deals with the product which is no way useful to the healthier society it only generates profits and entire benefits goes to the management though millions of workers are engaged they get very nominal in case of each worker after the great hardship at the cost of health and life of workers and their family members due to regular contact with the tobacco.

Das Chandra Kanta (2013)

As the per capita daily incomes of the families are low, they consider their children as extra helping hands. Therefore, the families are suffered from the incidents of higher fertility rate, higher cases of school drop-outs, lower standard of living and involvement of their children in unorganized sectors again and again. So, the generations are chased by the obstinate trap of poverty.

Gadapani Sarma (2013)

The study highlights the socio economic conditions of tea community and to which conditions they are deprived of. Some factors which lead to low socio economic conditions are low wages, lack of job opportunities and proper work culture.

R.Sivanesan (2013)

It studies the working conditions of women workers in cashew industries and analyzes the income and expenditure pattern and problems faced by women workers. It also has identified the living conditions of women in kanyakumari district.

S.Srinivasan (2012)

The paper highlights the aim to gain insight into the “Socio-economic conditions of female beedi workers at Khajamalai near Trichy. Its seen that due to poverty many

people are forced to go with the beedi rolling. Majority of them were working under contractors which again resulted in exploitation to wages.

Dr.G.R.Rathod *et.al* (2012)

The socio economic is an important determinant of the livelihoods as it influences levels of knowledge, skill and income conditions which mean for the living. The study measures the status of urban below poverty line families in imphal city and their socio economic status.

A.Mahalakshmi (2012)

It's an in-depth study of woman employees in tea industries and their socio economic status. The study has focused on living conditions, wages, earnings and socio security benefits. It also highlights the important factor for their development and the problem faced by the employees.

Girish Kumar Painoli (2012)

The study suggests that devising an appropriate social policy and a plan of action to remedy the continuing evils of exploitative practices in this industry and protect the workers from any threat of prospective, unemployment through sustainable diversification strategies and skill development require a diagnostic study on the working and living conditions of the workers. Assessing the threat potential and possibility of their rehabilitation through employment diversification strategies through enactment of various legislations in the interest of women beedi workers will definitely cause for the employment in beedi industry otherwise employment in beedi work will be a risk factor or a threat to the women's.

Padmaja H Chowdhary *et.al* (2012)

Descriptive, cross-sectional, community based study was carried in the urban slums of Mumbai to study working condition and health hazard in beedi rollers who Hindu females. Around 50 % were illiterate and the Mean years of service were 30 years and they work on an average for eight hours. Children were not involved in beedi rolling. Most common morbidity was fatigue. None were aware of the benefits provided for them. Awareness regarding health hazard and safety measures was poor.

Pankaj Tiwari, Dr. Namrata Parashar (2012)

A survey among women beedi workers was carried out in this regard in Allahabad district. Majority of the beedi workers were from the marginalized sections of the society and therefore they were socially and economically backward. Poverty was the main reason that induced the respondents to take up beedi work as an occupation. Majority of the respondents were working for contractors which showed that they were subjected to exploitation.

P. C. Ghosh *et.al* (2005)

The main problem for beedi workers is their poor socio-economic status, education, and training which forces them to work in unsafe environmental conditions and improper working postures. It throws light on various welfare measures and schemes for the beedi workers like, Welfare measure for beedi workers, Health schemes, Education schemes, Housing scheme, Social security, etc. In spite of various welfare measures, the socio economic status of the beedi workers remain at low level since the welfare measures are insufficient in comparison to the number of beedi workers in India.

Report on Socio Economic status of Domestic workers, Report submitted to Ministry of WCD, Govt. of India.

It highlights on the socio economic conditions of women Domestic workers (WDW). Most of the WDW are illiterate and they stay kachha houses and straw thatched roofs. It has considered various parameters for study like illiteracy, housing structure, drinking water, fuel for livelihood and income. On these parameters the report projects a true picture of domestic workers in Five major townships of Orrisa.

The World Health Organization (WHO) (2008) Report on the Global Tobacco Epidemic.

The World Health Organization's landmark report on the global tobacco epidemic makes clear both the devastating scope of the global tobacco epidemic – it is the leading cause of preventable death in the world today – and the fact that it is entirely preventable if nations urgently implement proven solutions. This report presents the first

comprehensive picture of what the world's nations are doing to address this public health crisis, and it demonstrates starkly that most nations are not doing nearly enough.

Government of India. Ministry of Labour. Labour Bureau. Smila/Chandigarh (2008).

The study is to bring into focus the working and living conditions of women workers, social and economic aspects of life of women workers including focus on wages, income, family size, literacy level and living conditions etc. Literacy rate was good and very few woman were illiterate. The household income also was quite good.

Reddy S, Gupta P. (2004). Report on Tobacco Control in India.

Published by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and written by the country's leading experts in the field, this is a comprehensive overview of tobacco related issues in India. It includes culture and history, types of tobacco use throughout India, health effects, current policies, and future policy recommendations.

The World Bank. (1999). Curbing the Epidemic: Governments and the Economics of Tobacco Control.

This World Bank report outlines effective policy interventions to reduce smoking in developing countries. It discusses tobacco use and its consequences both on health and on the economy, and highlights the relationship between smoking and poverty. Critically, for policymakers, the report discusses the impact of tobacco control programs on economies: on jobs, tax revenue and on individual consumers. It concludes that many of the concerns that have deterred policymakers from acting to control tobacco in the past are unfounded or exaggerated.

National Human Rights Commission. Report on Rights of Home based Workers by Shalini Sinha.

The report highlights on 'Home-based worker' which refers to the general category of workers, within the informal or unorganized sector, who carry out remunerative work within their homes or in the surrounding grounds. It is observed that in India 90% of bidi workers (cigarette rollers) are women. It also highlights the various problems faced by a bidi worker either by lack of quality of raw material or by the middlemen or health problems faced by bidi workers.

Data Analysis and Interpretation.

Table No. 1. Table showing Marital status of Workers.

Marital status	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Married	348	90.9	90.9
Un-married	5	1.3	92.2
Widow	30	7.8	100.0
Total	383	100.0	

From the above table it can be interpreted that 91 % of beedi workers are married. Out of the remaining 9 %, only 1 % are un-married while another 8% are widows.

Table No. 2. Distribution of workers on the basis of Age.

Age	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Below 20 yrs	6	1.6	1.6
21 to 40 yrs	228	59.5	61.1
41 to 60 yrs	138	36.0	97.1
Above 60 yrs	11	2.9	100.0
	383	100.0	

It is observed that 60 % of workers fall into the age bracket of 21 to 40 years. This is the age during which a person's earning capacity is at its peak. Another 36 % of workers are in the age bracket of 41 to 60 years. Now these will not be thinking of having any other alternate work. While as 3% are from age group above 60 yrs.

Table No. 3. Table showing which language does workers speak.

Mother tongue.	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Marathi	26	6.8	6.8
Hindi	7	1.8	8.6
Telugu	326	85.1	93.7
Kannada	21	5.5	99.2
Other	3	.8	100.0
	383	100.0	

It can be interpreted that 85 % of the workers speak Telugu and remaining 15 % speak Marathi, Hindi, Kannada or other language. It has a implication that majority of workers belonging to telugu speaking are familiar with the skill of beedi rolling. These mostly belong to padmashali religion, a community who are actively involved in beedi rolling.

Table No. 4. Distribution of workers on the basis of Education.

Educational Level	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Illiterate	144	37.6	37.6
Primary school	119	31.1	68.7
Below 10 th Std.	85	22.2	90.9
Below 12 th Std.	32	8.4	99.2
Graduation	3	.8	100.0
	383	100.0	

The results reveal that around 37 % of the beedi workers are illiterate. Majority means 91 % of workers have at the most completed 10th standard and have left their education in between seeing their age bracket. So this shows that workers educational level is very less and so they are forced to accept this type of work.

Table No. 5. Table showing Family size of workers.

Family Size	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Single	10	2.6	2.6
Two	38	9.9	12.5
Three	64	16.7	29.2
Four	126	32.9	62.1
More than Four.	145	37.9	100.0
	383	100.0	

The table indicates that more than 50 % of the beedi workers family size includes 4 and above members in it.

Table No. 6. Table showing Childrens education of workers.

Educational Level	Frequency	Percent	Cumulative Percent
Illiterate	42	11.0	11.0
Primary school	92	24.0	35.0
Below 10 th Std.	85	22.2	57.2
Below 12 th Std.	72	18.8	76.0
Graduation	92	24.0	100.0
	383	100.0	

The beedi workers children's are having very good educational background. It shows that only 11 % are illiterate while as 24 % have done their primary schooling. Another 40 % of respondents have done their 10th and 12th standard. More surprising is that 24 % of children have done their graduation.

The comparison between education level between beedi workers and their children implicates that there is increase in education level of beedi workers children. This shows that the beedi workers don't want their children to continue in same type of work and so they are giving importance to education.

Table No. 7. Table showing Nature of employment of workers.

Employment	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Organized	317	82.77	82.77
Un-organized (Contractors)	66	17.23	100
	383	100	

Data analysis showed that 82.77 of the workers are working under organized factories and remaining 17.5% are working under Unorganized factory.

Table No. 8. Distribution of ID-Cards among workers.

ID-Card	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Yes	373	97.4	97.4
No	10	2.6	100.0
	383	100.0	

The table shows that around 98% of the workers have ID-Cards and very negligible percent that is 2.6 % don't have it. It indicates that beedi workers get individual recognition in their manufacturing unit and they are liable to get all the welfare facilities offered by government.

Table No. 9. Table showing Working hours of workers.

Working hours	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
8	185	48.3	48.3
10	166	43.3	91.6
12	32	8.4	100.0
15	383	100.0	

The table reveals that 48.3 % of the employees work for 8 hours a day. Another 43.3 % work for 10 hours a day. It can be interpreted that 97 % of the employees were working for 8 to 10 hours a day and 8.4 % of the workers were working for 12 hours a day. This shows that working hours are as per the norms.

Table No. 10. Table showing Weekly working days.

Working days	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
4	4	1.0	1.0
5	37	9.7	10.7
6	321	83.8	94.5
7	21	5.5	100.0
	383	100.0	

From the above table it can be interpreted that 83.8 % of workers work for 6 days a week, 9.7 % of workers work for 5 days a week, 5.5 % of workers work for 7 days a week and only 1 % work for 4 days a week. It means that majority of workers work 6 days a week.

Table No. 11. Table showing how the wage payments are made to workers.

Wage Payment	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Daily	29	7.6	7.6
Weekly	350	91.4	99.0
Fortnightly	4	1.0	100.0
Monthly	383	100.0	

From the above table it can be interpreted that 91.4 workers have reported that they get weekly payment for their work. This shows that beedi workers are paid on a weekly basis and it directly depends upon the number of beedi they have rolled in a week.

Table No. 12. Table showing Individual Monthly income of workers.

Monthly Income (in Rupees)	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
1000	2	0.5	0.5
1001 to 2000	71	18.5	19.1
2001 to 3000	187	48.8	67.9
More than 3000	123	32.1	100.0
	383	100.0	

It is said that income is an important factor to find out the standard of living of a particular family. The income level of workers is shown in the above table.

It can be observed that Individual monthly income of 68 % workers is less than Rs. 3000 a month. Only 32 % of workers individual monthly income is above Rs 3000 a month.

Table No. 13. Table showing monthly household income of workers.

Monthly Household Income (in Rupees)	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
2000	8	2.1	2.1
2000 to 4000	42	11.0	13.1
4001 to 6000	123	32.1	45.2
More than 6000	210	54.8	100.0
	383	100.0	

The monthly household income of an individual refers to whether the workers are able to live a comfortable life with the income they earn. From the above table it can be interpreted that 45 % of workers have a household income up to Rs 6000 a month while 55 % of workers have more than Rs 6000. This indicates that though the individual income of workers is less, then too as the more number of household members are involved in the act more income is generated.

Table No. 14. Table showing workers opinion to timely payment of wages.

Particulars	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Yes	282	73.6	73.6
No	101	26.4	100.0
	383	100.0	

The data analysis reveals that around 74 % of workers said that they get timely payment to their wages. While as 26 % said that they don't get it on time but gets delayed by 2 to 3 days.

Table No. 15. Table showing whether workers face payments cut.

Payment cut.	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Yes	142	37.1	37.1
No	241	62.9	100.0
	383	100.0	

As from the above table it can be seen that 37 % of workers have complaints about payment cuts and 63 % of employees don't face it as they complete the work within time. The workers are given targets for rolling bidis. If they don't comply with the set targets they are bound to lose their payments. But sometimes it is that the raw material itself is of low quality and so there is lot of wastage and so the payments are cut due to it.

Table No. 16. Table showing type of house the workers live in.

Kind of house	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Owned	279	72.8	72.8
Rented	104	27.2	100.0
	383	100.0	

The above table shows that 73% of workers live in their own house while as only 27% of them live in rented houses. This shows that it's a good sign that they are living in their own houses which is an important indicator of socio-economic conditions of bidi workers.

Table No. 17. Table showing the type of house the workers live in.

House Structure	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Slab	186	48.6	49.6
Tin/Asbestos	176	46.0	95.6
Kavelu	16	4.2	99.7
Mud/Grass	1	.3	100.0
	383	100.0	

A sizeable amount of workers that is 50 % live in slab houses while as another 46 % live in under Tin/Asbestos roof. This type of roofing radiates a lot of heat and does can cause health problems among workers.

Table No. 18. Table showing workers ownership to assets.

Particulars	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
None	150	39.2	39.2
Land	22	5.7	44.9
House	166	43.3	88.3
Any other	45	11.7	100.0
	383	100.0	

The table reveals that 43.3 % of workers live in their own house while as 39 % don't own any assets. It is quite interesting to note that out of 72.8% who had said that they own their own house in earlier table, only 30% have got their houses from government under Bidi Gharkul scheme.

Table No. 19. Table showing whether workers have taken any loan.

Loan taken.	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Yes	74	19.6	19.6
No	308	80.4	100.0
	383	100.0	

The analysis indicated that around 81 % of workers have not taken any loan and around 19 % of them have taken some or other loan from different sources. This shows that the Majority of workers are not under economic burden of repaying loans and this indicates that it's a good sign of economic stability.

Table No. 20. Table showing source to loan procurement.

Particulars	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
None	313	81.7	81.7
Bank	25	6.5	88.3
Friends	16	4.2	92.4
Relatives	16	4.2	96.6
Savkar	13	3.4	100.0
	383	100.0	

It can be observed that 81 % of workers have not taken any loan and remaining 19 % have either taken it from friends, relatives or from savkar.

Table No. 21. Table showing Health problems among workers.

Health Problems	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Yes	28	7.3	7.3
No	355	92.7	100.0
	383	100.0	

From the above table it indicates that 93 % of respondents have good health and only 7 % showed some health problems. In majority of cases it is observed that bidi workers are prone to some health disease but from the survey it is remarkably noted that health issues are not there amongst them.

Table No.22. Table showing workers opinion to readiness to accept other type of work.

Other type of work	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Yes	40	10.4	10.4
No	343	89.6	100.0
	383	100.0	

The table reveals that 90 % of workers are not ready to accept any other type of work as they are comfortable to work with this type of work. Only 10 % have shown some interest in accepting different types of work. This may be due to low literacy level and they may not be having confidence that they will be able to do some other type of work.

Table No. 23. Table showing workers Affiliation to any type of organisation.

Particulars	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
None	218	56.9	56.9
Self Help group	54	14.1	71.0
Unions	111	29.0	100.0
	383	100.0	

The data analysis shows that around 57% of the respondents are free from any affiliation, while as 29% of them are attached to some trade unions and only 14% are attached with self help group.

Table No. 24. Table showing workers opinion to welfare facilities.

Particulars	Frequency	Percentage	Cumulative Percentage
Yes	288	75.2	75.2
No	95	24.8	100.0
	383	100.0	

The table shows that 75% of the bidi workers have been provided with benefits and welfare facility. There is still 24.8 % the workers need to be provided with the benefits and welfare facility.

**Table No. 25. Table showing Family size & Household Income
Cross tabulation.**

Family size	Household Income (Rs.)				Total
	2000	2001 – 4000	4001 - 6000	6000 & Above	
Single	5	3	2	0	10
Two	1	11	13	13	38
Three	2	5	27	30	64
Four	0	17	40	69	125
More then Four	0	6	41	98	145
Total	8	42	123	210	383

The cross tabulation shows that 210 respondents earn more than Rs 6000 a month. The family income increases with family size.

	Value	Df	Asymp.Sig (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	154.599	12	.000
Likelihood Ratio	75.454	12	.000
Linear-by-Linear Association	54.656	1	.000
No. of valid Cases	383		

The Chi-square table showed that there is a significant positive association between family size and family income. The result achieved that there is significance level of 1%. It means that chi-square table showing significant association at 99% of level of confidence. Hence null hypothesis is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted.

FINDINGS

1. It is found that all bidi workers are women. 91 % of bidi workers are married. Out of the remaining 9 %, only 1 % are un-married while another 8% are widows.
2. It is observed that 60 % of workers fall into the age bracket of 21 to 40 years. This is the age during which a person's earning capacity is at its peak. Another 40 % of workers are in the age bracket of 41 years and above and these are not ready to accept alternate work.
3. It can be interpreted that 85 % of the workers speak Telugu. It has a implication that majority of workers belonging to telugu speaking are familiar with the skill of bidi rolling. These mostly belong to padmashali religion, a community who is actively involved in bidi rolling.
4. Literacy can be considered as acid test of socio-economic and cultural improvement of a society. Education is considered as the major component of human resource development and socio-economic development of the society. The results reveal that around 37 % of the bidi workers are illiterate. Majority means 91 % of workers have at the most completed 10th standard and have left their education in between. As educational level is very low, so they are forced to accept bidi rolling job.
5. Among bidi workers more the number of members in the family the more income will be generated as they will get a helping hand for work. 70 % of employees have either four or more then four members in their family.
6. In concern to good educational background amongst bidi workers on 11% are illiterate. While remaining 89 % are literate. More surprising is that 24 % of children have done their graduation and non of these educated children are involved in bidi rolling work.

7. The comparison between education level between bidi workers and their children implicates that there is increase in education level of bidi workers children. This shows that the bidi workers don't want their children to continue in same type of work and so they are giving importance to education.
8. 82.77 % of the workers are working under organized factories where the manufacturing unit provides all kinds of raw material to workers and then they prepare bidis. This type of work structure is also termed as organised employment. Only 17.5% of workers are working under Un-organized factory undertaking where a middleman operates between the manufacturer and worker and this may lead to exploitation.
9. It is analysed that around 98% of the workers have ID-Cards which they get on completing 18 years of age and which is compulsory for getting benefits offered by the government.
10. It is observed that 92 % of the workers were working for 8 to 10 hours a day. They have to simultaneously do household work like cooking and also bidi rolling. Only 8 % of the workers were working for 12 hours a day.
11. Majority means 84 % of workers work for 6 days a week. They get one day weekly off either on Wednesday or Sunday which differs from organisation to organisation. Only 5.5 % of workers work for 7 days a week.
12. 91% workers have reported that they get weekly payment for their work depending upon the number of bidi they have rolled in a week. The last day before their weekly off is their payment day.
13. Income is an important factor to find out the standard of living of a particular family. 68 % of workers get less than Rs 3000 a month while remaining have

above Rs 3000. The workers are given targets of rolling 1000 bidis a day for which they get Rs120 as wages. In a month they get 25 days payment.

14. Most of the workers live under below poverty line. The basic cause of poverty among bidi workers is basically inheritant in nature. As their parents are poor the next generation also faces the same problems of poverty. A part from this cause some other causes like low wages, lack of job opportunities and the work culture of these workers are highly responsible for poverty.
15. The monthly household income of an individual refers to whether the workers are able to live a comfortable life with the income they earn. 45 % of workers have a household income up to Rs 6000 a month while 55 % of workers have more than Rs 6000. This indicates that though the individual income of workers is less, then too as the more number of household members are involved in the act more income is generated.
16. 37 % of workers have complaints about payment cuts if they don't comply with the set standards and targets. But sometimes it is that the raw material itself is of low quality, the shape of bidi is not proper or when the tobacco is leaking from bidi then it is considered as wastage and so the payments is cut accordingly as per the number of bidis get discarded. 74 % of workers said that they get timely payment to their wages. While as 26 % said that they don't get it on time but gets delayed by 1 to 2 days.
17. It is observed that all the bidi workers have to travel around 5 to 6 km a day for bringing raw material and then providing them with finished goods. This work also of getting raw material and returning bidis of it has a shift timings. In morning it is 10 to 1 am and in afternoon it is from 2 pm to 5 pm. The workers have to come for collection in their allotted time only.
18. It is interesting to know that 73% of workers live in their own house which is termed to be a good socio economic condition. Here majority of workers have referred that they own their house as they have got it under central government housing scheme for bidi workers.

19. A sizeable amount of workers that is 50 % live in slab houses while as another 46 % live under Tin/Asbestos roof. This type of roofing radiates a lot of heat and does can cause health problems among workers.
20. Bidi workers who have not got houses from government do not have proper sanitation facilities in their house. They use common sanitation facilities. The government had given them an offer of building toilets in their houses where they will get Rs 9000 for the same. But the scheme was a total failure as no drainage facilities is available where they stay.
21. The analysis indicated that around 81 % of workers have not taken any loan and around 19 % of them have taken some or other loan from different sources. Workers are unable to get loan from any other sources due to weak economic background. While as the savkar's charge a lot of interest so they don't go for borrowing loans and have limited their needs.
22. 81 % of workers have not taken any loan due to fewer earnings and they are unable to pay loan from their monthly earnings. Secondly as they are termed as people under below poverty line so they don't get easy loans. In case of emergency they either borrow it from friend, relatives or from savkar's. The savkars generally charge a very high rate of interest.
23. 93 % of respondents have good health and only 7 % have some health problems. The survey remarkably noted that majority of them don't have serious health issues. The only complaint was to back pain as they have to sit and roll bidis and that too for 8 to 10 hours a day.
24. It's revealed that 90 % of workers are not ready to accept any other type of work as they are comfortable with bidi rolling. Only 10 % have shown some interest in accepting different types of work. This may be due to low literacy level and they lag confidence and awareness to whether they will be able to take some other type of work.

25. Majority (57%) of the respondents are free from any affiliation, while as 29% of them are attached to some trade unions and only 14% are attached with self help groups.
26. The table shows that 75% of the bidi workers said that they get benefits/welfare facilities. These workers get a yellow ration card so they get all the benefits from ration shop at a concessional rate. While 25 % the workers said that no welfare facility is provided by the employer.
27. The Chi-square table showed that there is a significant positive association between family size and family income. The result achieved that there is significance level of 1%. It means that chi-square table showing significant association at 99% of level of confidence. Hence null hypothesis is rejected and alternative hypothesis is accepted.

SUGGESTIONS

1. The educational level of bidi workers is very low, so they don't have confidence of taking any alternate work. Here with the help of some NGO's the government can promote training for some alternate work which the bidi workers can undertake.
2. The bidi workers now get only Rs.120 for 1000 rolled bidi's. But there are some state governments who have sanctioned Rs 165 for 1000 bidi's as the minimum wage. So the state labour department should take necessary actions to implement the minimum wage rate.
3. The general living conditions of workers is poor. Those who haven't got houses from government schemes live in slums with no proper roofing, drinking water facility and sanitation. The government should try to implement housing schemes to those remaining workers under Bidi Gharakul where they get good houses and other facilities in it.
4. So as to bring the workers above poverty line they should be provided with fair wages. Some form of other work should be taught to them which may give them higher wages. The government with some social works department can go for skill development where they learn new things and are able to come out from the trap of below poverty line.
5. Every bidi workers has to travel nearly 5 to 6 kilometers a day for bring bidi material from manufacturer and returning the finished ones. This takes a lot of time to go and come back along with material. So it is suggested that manufacturer should provided distribution center at near by places so they can save time which can be effectively used for making more bidis and getting more payment.

6. It is suggested that the bidi workers should be able to sort their tendu leaves on their own. This will avoid getting faulty leaves and thus they may not have a payment cut due to faulty raw material.
7. As in the present generation, the children of bidi workers are getting more literate, it is suggested that the state government should increase the amount of bidi scholarships to their children. This will help them for future studies and help them to come out of this inheritant work and improve their socio economic conditions.
8. Workers are not taking loans as they get at a very higher rate from savkar. Secondly banks are not giving loans to them as they cant give bank guarantees. So it is suggested that the government can start a special **“Bidi kamgar Loan Scheme”** under which the bank will give loans after seeing their bidi ID cards and their length of service and give loan which can have a repayment facility to some amount on daily basis as a recurring account.
9. As bidi workers are more prone to health diseases they should be provided with free health check-up. This can be provided by the Health department under Municipal Corporation. This should be provided only to yellow ration card holders having Bidi Identity cards.

QUESTIONNAIRE

A Study on Socio-economic Conditions of Bidi Workers in Solapur

1. Name of the Respondent. _____

2. Gender of respondent.

Scores	Gender
1	Male
2	Female

3. Specify your age.

Scores	Age in Yrs
1	Below 20 yrs
2	20 to 40 yrs
3	40 to 60 yrs
4	Above 60 yrs

4. Language they speak.

Scores	Language
1	Marathi
2	Hindi
3	Telugu
4	Kannada
5	Other

5. Religion. _____

6. Educational level.

Scores	Educational Level
0	Illiterate
1	Primary school
2	Below 10 th Std.
3	Below 12 th Std.
4	Graduation

7. How many members are there in family.

Scores	Members
0	Single
1	Two
2	Three
3	Four
4	More then Four

8. What is the educational level of children. _____

Scores	Educational Level
0	Illiterate
1	Primary school
2	Below 10 th Std.
3	Below 12 th Std.
4	Graduation

9. Category of Employment.

Scores	Employment
1	Organised
2	Un-organised (Contractors)

If organised. Factory Name _____

10. Whether holds Identity cards. A) Yes B) No.

Scores	Particulars
1	Yes
2	No

Whether any other member in family holds identity card. _____ .

11. How many Bidis you roll in a day - _____

12. Do you have targets for rolling bidis in a day. _____.

13. How many hours do you work in a day.

Scores	Working hours
1	8
2	10
3	12
4	15

14. How many days you get work in a week.

Scores	Working days
1	4
2	5
3	6
4	7

15. What is the rate you get for rolling bidis. _____

16. How you get your wages.

Scores	Wage Payment
1	Daily
2	Weekly
3	Fortnightly
4	Monthly

17. How much you earn in a month.

Scores	Monthly Income (in Rupees)
1	1000
2	1000 to 2000
3	2000 to 3000
4	More than 3000

18. How many family members are earning. _____

19. Total household income.

Scores	Monthly Household Income (in Rupees)
1	2000
2	2000 to 4000
3	4001 to 6000
4	More than 6000

20. Do you get payment on time.

Scores	Particulars
1	Yes
2	No

21. Is there any payment cut if you don't complete the target.

Scores	Particulars
1	Yes
2	No

22. What kind of house you live in.

Scores	Particulars
1	Owned
2	Rented

Scores	House Structure
1	Slab
2	Tin/Asbestos
3	Kavelu
4	Mud/Grass

23. Whether you own any assets in family.

A) Land B) House C) Any other _____

24. Have you taken any loan.

Scores	Particulars
1	Yes
2	No

Scores	House Structure
1	Bank
2	Friends
3	Relatives
4	Savkar

25. Are you facing any health problems? Disease - _____

Scores	Particulars
1	Yes
2	No

26. Are you ready for any other type of work.

Scores	Particulars
1	Yes
2	No

If yes type of work. _____.

27. Are you attached to any organisation.

Scores	Particulars
1	Self Help group
2	Union

28. Are you provided with any kind of welfare facility.

Scores	Particulars
1	Yes
2	No

If yes. What kind. _____

Books

The Beedi and Cigar Workers(Conditions of Employment)Act,1966 along with The Beedi Workers Welfare Cess Act,1976,The Beedi Workers Welfare Cess Rules,1976, The Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Act,1976,The Beedi Workers Welfare Fund Rules,1976, Bare Act with short notes.-New Delhi: Universal Law Book,2002.
63p.
MP-R

Daur, Arun Kumar
Work,livelihood and employment in the beedi sector
paper 4 IN Seminar on Globalisation and the Women's Movement in India(2005: New Delhi).
Organised by Centre for Women's Development Studies, January 20-22, 2005.

India. Ministry of Labour. Labour Bureau
Report on socio-economic conditions of women workers in selected beedi units in India (1994-95).-
Chandigarh: The Bureau, 1996
102p.

Manjeshwar, Madhava B
Study of the problems of women beedi workers in Dakshina
Kannada.-sl:sn,n.d.
7p.

Government of India. Ministry of Labour. Labour Bureau.
Smila/Chandigarh
Socio-Economic conditions of woman workers in selected food processing industries including sea and marine products (2008).

A study on the socio-economic status of women employees in tea plantation industries by A.Mahalakshmi
International journal of Science, Engineering and Technology Research (IJSETR) Volume 1, Issue 6, December 2012.

Measuring the Socio-economic status of urban below poverty line families in Imphal city, Manipur: A livelihood study.
Dr.G.R.Rathod et.al
International journal of marketing, Financial services & Management Research. Vol 1 Issue 12, Dec. 2012, ISSN 22773622.

A study on occupational health hazards among women Beedi-workers of murshidabad district in west Bengal. By Chandra Kanta Das. International Journal of Research in commerce and Management. Vol. 4 (2013) Issue No. 1 (January).

A study on Socioeconomic conditions of women workers in cashew industries of Kanyakumari district. By R Sivanesan. Int. Journal of Management Research & Business Strategy, Vol.2, No.4, October 2013.

A Case study on Socio-economic conditions of Tea Garden Labourers- Lohpohia Tea Estate of Jorhat District, Assam. By Gadapani Sarma. A journal of Humanities & Social Science, Vol. – I, Issue – III, January 2013.

Study on the Effect of Socio-economic Parameters on Health Status of the Toto, Santal, Sabar and Lodha Tribes of West Bengal, India
Antara Dhargupta¹, A. Gos Stud Tribes Tribals, 7(1): 31-38 (2009)