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Constraints faced by bamboo artisans in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra

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Abstract

This study investigates the constraints faced by bamboo artisans in Dhanora, Gadchiroli and Kurkheda block/tahsils of Gadchiroli district of Vidarbha region of Maharashtra. Total 90 bamboo artisans were selected on the basis of more number of bamboo artisans actually present in the three selected tahsils of Gadchiroli district. The findings indicated that, 66.67 percent of bamboo artisans belongs to middle age group, 44.44 percent belongs to secondary school level education, 52.22 percent of the bamboo artisans were male, 52.22 percent of the bamboo artisans belonged to small family size, 75.56 percent of the bamboo artisans were landless, 48.89 percent of the bamboo artisans had Rs. 1,50,001 to 2,00,000 annual income, 72.22 percent of the bamboo artisans had not attended training, 67.78 percent of the bamboo artisans had medium level of sources of information, 67.78 percent of the bamboo artisans had medium level of economic motivation, 64.44 percent of the bamboo artisans had medium level of achievement motivation and 60.00 percent of the bamboo artisans had medium level of innovativeness. It was observed that, majority of the respondents faced the constraint of unavailability of raw bamboo (81.11), followed by Bamboo craft involves drudgery prone work (77.78%), There is not enough suitable markets for bamboo products (74.44%), Limited demand for bamboo product due to availability of cheap and affordable alternative (67.78%), Lack of awareness about the training programs (66.67%), Lack of awareness among bamboo artisans about the technologies available to enhance their craft (61.11%), Bamboo products often do not receive a satisfactory price in the market (55.56%) respectively.

Keywords: Bamboo artisans, Bamboo entrepreneurship, Constraints, Bamboo product

Introduction

Bamboo is probably the most extensively used plant resources and associated with all spheres of life (e.g., food, medicines, crafts, agricultural implements, house building material, etc). The bamboo craft is associated with the artisans and had been a part of Indian crafts giving rise to the expression of art and provided them a livelihood. It has been the friend of most of the craftsmen. Indigenous artisans are an important factor in the equation of the Indian society and culture that actually developed the handicrafts section of the nation. These local artisans have been played a significant role in the development of rural lives in a country. In Gadchiroli district, the bamboo craft is predominant in nature and mostly carried out in rural areas livelihood and playing a significant role in rural economy. These traditional artisans especially involve in bamboo craft has been functioning in an unorganized manner and faced various problems in the application of their informal local knowledge. They produced various items from bamboo by using traditional technique, especially hand made goods relative to house utility goods like Dholi, Topli, Wadga, Sup, Bendwa, Parda, Bewdya, Tatvi and various weaving accessories etc. From the choice of raw materials to the final product, at every stage, the artisans have been faced various problems in relation to supply raw materials, provision of finance, availability of orders and marketing problems etc. (Puna Das, 2019) ^[6].

Objective

1. To study the profile of bamboo artisans
2. To identify constraints faced by bamboo artisans in bamboo entrepreneurship

Materials and Methods

The study was conducted in Gadchiroli district of Maharashtra State. Out of 12 talukas of Gadchiroli district namely, Dhanora, Gadchiroli and Kurkheda talukas were purposively selected for the study. Total 90 bamboo artisans were selected on the basis of more number of bamboo artisans actually Present in selected tahsils. The exploratory research design was used for the study. The data were collected in face-to-face situation by the personal interview method with the help of structured interview schedule

containing the questions on profile of bamboo artisans and constraints faced by them. The data were analyzed and the results were interpreted in Table 1 and Table 2.

Results and Discussion

The findings of the study had been presented under the following headings.

Profile of the bamboo artisans

Table 1: Distribution of bamboo artisans according to their personal, socio-economical, communicational and psychological characteristics

Sr. No.	Category	Frequency	Percent
(I) Personal characteristics			
Gender			
1	Male	47	52.22
	Female	43	47.78
Age			
2	Young age (Up to 35 years)	10	11.11
	Middle age (36 to 50 years)	60	66.67
	Old age (Above 50 years)	20	22.22
Education			
3	Illiterate (No. schooling)	05	05.56
	Primary school (1-4 Standards)	10	11.11
	Middle school (5-7 Standards)	29	32.22
	Secondary school (8-10 Standards)	40	44.44
	Higher secondary school (11-12 Standards)	06	06.67
Family size			
4	Small (Up to 4)	47	52.22
	Medium (5 to 6)	39	43.33
	Large (above 6)	04	04.45
Land holding			
5	Landless (0)	68	75.56
	Marginal (Up to 1 ha.)	16	17.78
	Small (1.01 to 2 ha)	06	06.66
Annual income			
6	Rs. 50,001 to 1,00,000	20	22.22
	Rs 1,00,001 to 1,50,000	26	28.89
	Rs 1,50,001 to 2,00,000	44	48.89
Training attended			
7	No training	65	72.22
	Three month and above training	25	27.78
B. Communication variables			
Sources of information			
8	Low sources of information (Up to 3.43 score)	14	15.56
	Medium sources of information (3.44 to 9.09 score)	61	67.78
	High sources of information (Above 9.09 score)	15	16.67
C. Psychological variables			
Economic motivation			
9	Low economic motivation (Up to 20.23 score)	15	16.67
	Medium economic motivation (20.24 to 23.71 score)	61	67.78
	High economic motivation (Above 23.71 score)	14	15.55
Achievement motivation			
10	Low achievement motivation (Up to 19.36 score)	16	17.78
	Medium achievement motivation (19.36 to 24.72 score)	58	64.44
	High achievement motivation (Above 24.72 score)	16	17.78
Innovativeness			
11	Low innovativeness (Up to 15.20 score)	20	22.22
	Medium innovativeness (15.21 to 20.92 score)	54	60.00
	High innovativeness (Above 20.92 score)	16	17.78

The result demonstrated in the table no. 1 revealed that, 66.67 percent of bamboo artisans belongs to middle age group, 44.44 percent of the bamboo artisans completed their education up to secondary school level, 52.22 percent of the bamboo artisans were male, 52.22 percent of the bamboo artisans belonged to small family size, 75.56 percent of the

bamboo artisans were landless, 48.89 percent of the bamboo artisans had Rs. 1,50,001 to 2,00,000 annual income, 72.22 percent of the bamboo artisans had not attended training, 67.78 percent of the bamboo artisans had medium level of sources of information, 67.78 percent of the bamboo artisans had medium level of economic motivation, 64.44 percent of

the bamboo artisans had medium level of achievement motivation and 60.00 percent of the bamboo artisans had

medium level of innovativeness.

Table 2: Distribution of bamboo artisans according to constraints faced by them

Sl. No.	Constraints	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
1	Unavailability of raw bamboo	73	81.11	I
2	Bamboo craft involves drudgery prone work	70	77.78	II
6	There are not enough suitable markets for bamboo products	67	74.44	III
3	Limited demand for bamboo product due to availability of cheap and affordable alternative	61	67.78	IV
4	Lack of awareness about the training programs	60	66.67	V
5	Lack of awareness among bamboo artisans about the technologies available to enhance their craft.	55	61.11	VI
7	Bamboo products often do not receive a satisfactory price in the market	50	55.56	VII

The data in table 2. revealed that majority of the bamboo artisans (81.11%) faced the constraint of unavailability of raw bamboo, as it was used as primary raw material, hence it is necessary to promote bamboo cultivation and increase the bamboo production in order to promote the sustainable bamboo entrepreneurship.

77.78 percent of the bamboo artisans faced the problem of Bamboo craft involves drudgery prone work, as it is physically demanding and time consuming work, it is important to available cheap and affordable tools for bamboo artisans in order to make it more easy and fast.

Majority of the bamboo artisans (74.44%) had reported that there is not enough suitable markets for bamboo products, it can be addressed by forming co-operatives and creating linkage with industries. Additionally awareness campaign can boost demand for eco-friendly bamboo product.

67.78 percent of the bamboo artisans expressed the constraints of limited demand for bamboo product due to availability of cheap and affordable alternative. Nowadays many cheap and affordable alternatives are available in markets which limits the use of sustainable bamboo products, hence it is necessary to spread awareness among the people about the use of bamboo products as it leads us towards the sustainable lifestyle.

66.67 percent of the bamboo artisans expressed the constraints of Lack of awareness about the training programs. In order to increase the bamboo based entrepreneurship it is necessary to spread awareness about training programmes among bamboo artisans, which helps to increase the participation of more bamboo artisans in bamboo entrepreneurship.

61.11 percent of the bamboo artisans faced the problem regarding lack of awareness among bamboo artisans about the technologies available to enhance their craft, as it is necessary to spread awareness about available technologies among bamboo artisans.

Bamboo products often do not receive a satisfactory price in the market (55.56%), by breaking the bridge between artisans and middleman and develop direct market channel from artisans to consumer can helps to improve the profit margin of bamboo artisans.

Conclusion

It can be conclude that majority of the bamboo artisans in Gadchiroli district faced a lot of problem. Unavailability of the raw bamboo majorly affect the bamboo entrepreneurship and livelihood of the bamboo artisans, as it was used as primary raw material, hence it is necessary to promote bamboo cultivation and increase the bamboo production in order to promote the sustainable bamboo entrepreneurship. The findings conclude that there is need for skill

development programs, access to credit, and establishment of market linkages, Government schemes, NGOs, and ensure sustainable livelihood options for artisans

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