

“Housing conditions of slate pencil industry workers in Madansaur district: A Geographical study”

Dr. Shantilal Erwar

Department of Geography

Assitt. Professor

Rajeev Gandhi Govt. P.G. College, Mandsaur (M.P.)

Housing is the first requirement of civilized human being. Residential Facility means an environment for workers to keep them healthy and happy all the time. This environment is a continuous influence on the health and well being of labour. The housing sector also includes water supply, roads, lighting, means of transport, entertainment, marketing etc. It is said that in good houses “LAKSHMI” (Goddess of Wealth) resides.

Study area- Slate pencil factories and rock stones are found only in Malhargarh and Mandsaur tehsils of Mandsaur district. The Factory is located in the middle of the North latitude from $24^{\circ} 3' 30''$ to $24^{\circ} 13'$ and Eastern longitude from $74^{\circ} 55' 30''$ to $75^{\circ} 3'$ from North-West of Mandsaur district headquarter to Malhargarh tehsil on the west of national highway no. 79. The area of rock mineral (binota shale) useful in slate pencil factories is 440.92 hectares in the district.

Objective - The Residential Conditions of Slate Pencil workers in Mandsaur district have been studied for the following purposes –

1. To study the status of housing of workers employed in the industry.
2. Develop a hygienic environment around the housing.
3. To study the physical condition of housing so as to improve their standard of living.
4. To inform the workers about importance of housing.
5. To study the facilities provided by the government for housing to the workers employed in the slate pencil industry.
6. To give suggesting for better facilities to the workers

A schedule for compilation of primary variables was created for the research study presented. The first schedule surveyed 25 percentage of the total workers directly involved in the construction of slate pencils in the industry driven sector. Since the member of males in this industry is high, 60 percentage male and 40 percentage female workers were surveyed. Thus, out of the total labourers in the slate pencil industry area of Mandsaur and Malhargarh in the district, 468 labourers were surveyed with 282 male and 186 female labourers.

Table- 1 ‘Accommodation facilities received by the labourers’

Condition	Types of housing of workers			State of housing system				Condition of rooms available in accommodation			
	Raw house	Concrete house	Total	Own housing	Rented accommodation	The residence factory owner	Total	One Room	Two Rooms	Three or more rooms	Total
frequency	72	396	468	300	113	55	468	212	212	44	468
percentage	15.38	84.62	100	64.10	24.15	11.75	100	45.30	45.30	9.40	100

Source - Based on compilation of primary data.

Based on the housing type inhabited by the labourers, 15.38 Percentage of the labourers have raw house and 84.62 percentage of the labourers have Concrete house. In terms of housing system, 64.10 percentage of workers own housing, 24.15 percentage of workers reside in rented accommodation and 11.75 percentage of workers reside in the housing allotted by the factory owner. Thus, Chi-squared test has been found significant that, housing is mandatory for labourers. In this context, the facilities available in housing are also important. Rooms available in workers living accommodation are important, with 45.30 Percentage of workers accommodations including one room and two rooms respectively. Three or more rooms have been found in the housing of 9.40 percentage of workers.

Extra facilities apart from rooms within side the residence also are essential. Separately information regarding kitchen facility was obtained, the trend of which has been clarified in the following table.

Table- 2 ‘Tendency of various arrangement in housing’ Year -2019

Tendency	Kitchen arrangement		Provision of Toilets		Drinking water facility	
	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
Yes	63	13.46	115	24.57	164	35.04
No	405	86.54	353	75.43	304	64.96
Total	468	100.00	468	100.00	468	100.00

Source - Based on compilation of primary data.

According to 13.46 percentage of the workers in the kitchen system for making food in the housing of workers, their accommodation has a separate kitchen facility and according to 86.54 percentage of the workers, the accommodation does not have a separate kitchen facility. Thus Chi- squared test has been found signification that kitchen arrangement are important for better housing. In the provision of toilets in housing, 24.57 percentage of the workers have toilet facilities and 75.4 percentage of the workers lack toilets. Thus Chi- squared test has been found signification that toilet is mandatory for housing. Thus, it is evident from 35.04 Percentage of the workers accommodation has tap facilities and 64.96 percentage of the workers do not have tap facility in their housing. Thus Chi- squared test has been found signification that tap facility is mandatory in housing which does not create water problem in housing.

Suggestions: -

- 1.The labourers should be allotted by construction Concrete house for residence.
- 2.Adequate amount should be provided to which are in operation for the labour welfare schemes.
- 3.Better accommodation facilities should be provides by the factory owners.
- 4.A house with adequate space should be constructed for the labourers.
- 5.Basic facilities like separate tap and kitchen system for water should be provided in the worker's house.

In the Healthy housing is more possibility to health and enjoyment, while unclean housing, gives rise to filth, intoxication, sickness, immorality and crime and ultimately makes it necessary to set up hospitals, prisons and mental asylum. Housing and health have deeply aelose relationship with each other and both have a profound impact on the efficiency of the labour. So for proper and adequate housing is very important the workers.

References -

1. Sharma, Omprakash, "Dashpur ke pashupatinath", p.-21.
2. M.P. Government, Gazette Notification, Revenue Department Notification, 1236-F-20-8,92, Seven-Sha-8 dated-02-07-1998, p. No. 743.
3. Krishnan, M.S. "*Geology of India and Burma*", Madras, 1968, P. 117-21.
4. Gupta, PK, "Labor Economics", Vrinda Publications Pvt. Ltd., Delhi, first edition, 2005, p. No. 02.
5. Sinha, V. C., "Industrial Economics", Lok Bharti Publications, New Delhi, 2007, p. No. 417.
6. Chaudhary, CM, and Jain, Prakash, "Wage Policy and Social Security", Research Publication, Jaipur, p. No. 22.
7. Vaid, K. N. '*State and Labour in India*', p. 89.
8. Jain, Manju, "Equality and Development", Hindustan Publ. Corporation, New Delhi, 2006 p. 222.

