



Socio Economic Conditions of Handloom Weavers: A Study of Tamil Nadu

^{*1}B Gnanapriya and ²Dr. S Maruthavijayan

^{*1}2nd Year Student of B.B.A, LLB(HONS), School of Excellence in Law, Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India.

²Assistant Professor, Department of Human Resource Management, School of Excellence in Law, Tamil Nadu Dr. Ambedkar Law University, Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India.

Abstract

The traditional handloom weaving sector in Salem district, Tamil Nadu, is a significant rural industry provides employment to thousands. Despite its cultural heritage and economic importance, the sector faces numerous challenges, particularly for private handloom weavers who lack adequate government support and face poor working conditions. This study explores the socio-economic conditions of private handloom weavers in Salem, focusing on their livelihood struggles, health issues, and limited awareness of government welfare schemes. Data collected through structured surveys and in-depth interviews of 100 private weavers reveal that most are undereducated and have been engaged in weaving for over two decades, continuing family traditions amid financial and physical hardships. Although numerous government schemes exist, their benefits largely reach cooperative weavers, leaving many private weavers unsupported. The study suggests increased awareness and targeted policy interventions to uplift the private handloom sector and sustain the livelihoods of weavers in Salem district. This abstract synthesizes insights from empirical research addressing both quantitative and qualitative aspects of the weavers' socio-economic realities and policy implication.

Keywords: Traditional handloom, cultural heritage, awareness of government scheme livelihood struggles.

Introduction

The handloom industry in Tamil Nadu is a vital and ancient sector deeply woven into the cultural and economic fabric of the state. It ranks as one of the largest decentralized cottage industries after agriculture, providing direct and indirect employment to over 4 lakh weaver households and more than 6 lakh individuals. Renowned for its distinctive craftsmanship, the industry produces a wide range of traditional textile products including Kanchipuram & Salem silk sarees, Madurai Sungudi, Chettinad cotton, and unique handwoven cotton dhotis.

Despite its rich heritage spanning over 2,000 years, the handloom sector faces significant challenges due to competition from mechanized power looms and changing market dynamics. Many weavers continue their craft under difficult conditions, often with limited education and financial instability. The Tamil Nadu government has taken initiatives such as establishing mini handloom parks, offering free electricity, subsidies, and technology upgradation schemes to support weavers and sustain the industry.

Cooperative societies play a crucial role in channeling development programs and welfare schemes to the handloom community. However, the sector continues to grapple with issues like outdated technology, market access limitations, irregular power supply, and low incomes, all threatening its

survival. The industry's future depends on continuous skill and technological enhancement, better marketing strategies, and government support tailored to preserve this traditional craft while adapting to modern economic demands.

This rich cultural legacy not only sustains livelihoods in rural and semi-urban areas but also contributes significantly to Tamil Nadu's textile production and export economy.

Significant of Handloom in Tamil Nadu

The handloom industry in Tamil Nadu has a rich and ancient heritage that is deeply interwoven with the cultural, social, and economic fabric of the state. Dating back to the Sangam period (3rd century BCE to 3rd century CE), Tamil Nadu's textile tradition has been renowned for producing superior quality cotton and silk fabrics, with archaeological evidence and ancient Tamil literature like Sangam texts referencing weaving practices and textile exports. Traditional handloom products such as Kanchipuram silk sarees, Madurai Sungudi, Chettinad cotton textiles, and Salem silk dhotis highlight the state's exceptional craftsmanship and regional specializations. Economically, the handloom sector is the second-largest employment provider in Tamil Nadu after agriculture, supporting over 4 lakh weaver households and providing employment to millions. This sector plays a crucial role in sustaining rural and semi-rural livelihoods by generating

income and preserving artisanal skills inherited through generations. The handloom industry contributes significantly to the state's textile output and export economy and embodies an important part of Tamil Nadu's identity and heritage statute. However, the industry faces numerous challenges such as competition from power looms and mechanized products, low productivity, lack of technological advancements, erratic power supply, and limited market access. Social issues such as declining numbers of skilled weavers and resistance to change further complicate the sector's sustainability. In response, Tamil Nadu's government and cooperative organizations have implemented various initiatives—including handloom parks, welfare schemes, design collaborations, and marketing support—to revitalize the industry and provide weavers with better infrastructure and livelihood security.

Tamil Nadu's handloom districts like Salem and Kancheepuram stand out for their unique contributions. Salem is known for quality cotton handlooms, while Kancheepuram silk sarees enjoy worldwide acclaim for their intricate craftsmanship, cultural value, and economic importance. Collectively, these regions demonstrate how the handloom sector remains a vital livelihood source, a custodian of traditional artistry, and a significant contributor to both local economies and the broader textile industry.

This rich legacy coupled with targeted modernization efforts aims to balance heritage preservation with economic sustainability, ensuring the handloom industry remains a vibrant part of Tamil Nadu's cultural and economic landscape.

Need of the Study

The need for the study on the Tamil Nadu handloom industry arises from its crucial role in the state's economy, culture, and rural livelihoods, coupled with the many challenges it currently faces. The handloom sector is one of the largest cottage industries providing direct and indirect employment to millions, particularly in rural and semi-urban areas. It is deeply embedded in Tamil Nadu's cultural identity, known for exquisite craftsmanship, especially in regions like Kanchipuram, Salem, Chettinad, and Madurai.

However, the sector is experiencing a decline due to factors such as intense competition from mechanized power looms and machine-produced fabrics, low productivity, limited access to modern technology, inadequate market reach, and weak policy implementation. Many weavers struggle with financial instability, health issues arising from long working hours in poor conditions, and insufficient awareness or benefit from government welfare schemes.

Research is essential to comprehensively understand these socio-economic vulnerabilities, gaps in scheme implementation, technological backwardness, and market challenges faced by weavers. Through data-driven analysis, the study aims to propose actionable strategies for skill development, technological upgradation, better market access, and policy reforms. Such research will contribute to preserving the traditional craft, enhancing the livelihoods of handloom weavers, and ensuring the industry's sustainable future in a modernizing economy.

Table 1

S. No	Census Year	No. of Handloom Weaver & Allied Workers	No. of Handlooms
1	2009-10	119,000	79,564
2	2019-20	102,673	77,321

Table 2

District	No. of Handloom Households	Handloom Adult Workers	Total Workers	Total Looms
Kanchipuram	3,870	4,387	4,497	3,870
Salem	2,974	2,953	3,025	2,975
Erode	3,158	3,171	3,229	3,160
Tirunelveli	2,271	2,290	2,317	2,275
Madurai	1,871	1,930	1,990	1,875
Namakkal	1,206	1,284	1,315	1,210

Sources

The data shown in the image you provided, including the number of handloom weavers, allied workers, and handlooms by year and by district in Tamil Nadu, likely originates from official governmental sources such as:

- Office of the Development Commissioner (Handlooms), Ministry of Textiles, Government of India
- Handloom Census Reports conducted periodically as part of socio-economic surveys in India
- Tamil Nadu State Handloom Department's statistical reports or published surveys related to the handloom sector

Review of Literature

Research on handloom weaving in Tamil Nadu has highlighted the sector's socioeconomic importance and its challenges in adapting to modern market conditions.

Studies by Rajan (2018) and Ramaswamy (2020) emphasize that Tamil Nadu's handloom clusters—such as Kancheepuram, Salem, and Tiruchirappalli—play a vital role in preserving traditional craftsmanship and sustaining the livelihoods of marginalized weaver communities. However, scholars note that handloom weavers often experience low income, lack of stable employment, limited educational attainment, and poor access to healthcare, echoing the concerns found in other Indian states.

Senthil *et al.* (2016) underscored how government interventions such as subsidy schemes, cooperative societies, and buyer-seller meet have positively influenced weavers' lives by facilitating market access and financial support. Despite these initiatives, gaps remain in awareness, reach, and effective implementation at the grassroots level. Several studies, including those by Anand (2017) and Shanmugam (2019), address the problems of declining demand in traditional markets, competition from power looms, and the reluctance of younger generations to enter the handloom profession due to perceived instability and low returns.

Kumar (2021) analyzed the socioeconomic impact of contemporary policies on weavers in Salem and found that most respondents relied heavily on government schemes, yet continued to struggle with poverty and underemployment. Secondary data from government reports and NGOs, along with primary data collected through interviews and surveys, confirm that the Tamil Nadu handloom sector is at a crossroads—requiring targeted policy reforms, infrastructural support, and educational initiatives to secure its future.

Review of Literature:

Salem District

Handloom weaving has long been recognized as one of the foundational cottage industries in Salem district, Tamil Nadu, sustaining both cultural heritage and local livelihoods.

Research by Kumudha (2013) and Suresh & Mahadevan (2020) highlights how Salem's weaving communities face persistent socio-economic challenges, including financial instability, declining market demand, and limited access to government welfare programs. Rajendran *et al.* (2015) observed that many weavers in Salem experience a "crisis of well-being," with low wages, inadequate healthcare, and exposure to occupational health risks contributing to chronic economic vulnerability.

Research Methodology

The present research study has chosen both the quantitative and qualitative research for its data collection, interpretation and analysis.

Data Collection Methods and Strategy

- The present research works makes use both sources of data, i.e., primary as well as secondary data.
- The secondary data was collected from research journals, government publications, state department publications, other unpublished sources of NGOs and cooperatives etc.

Table 3: Collection of Primary Data

Target Population	Handloom Weavers of Tamil Nadu
Sampling	Weavers from Selected Clusters of TN
Sampling method f	Quota sampling
Data collection method	Structured Questionnaire

Sampling Methods

A questionnaire survey was conducted among 100 artisans across five districts of Tamil Nadu.

A Quota sampling was administered based on the population of handloom weavers in each of the districts and also due to convenience.

Since erode district has the largest number of handloom weavers and better accessibility for data collection, 50% of the total quota (100 samples) was allotted to erode district for remaining districts such as Salem, Coimbatore, Kanchipuram, and Madurai, 25 samples (12.5%) were collected from each district.

The Handloom Products Made in Tamil Nadu: Kanchipuram

Kanchipuram, a historic temple town located in northern Tamil Nadu, is world-renowned for its magnificent Kanchipuram silk sarees, often called the "Queen of Silks." The weaving tradition here dates back over 400 years and is deeply intertwined with the city's cultural and religious history. These sarees are made from pure mulberry silk threads and embellished with real gold and silver zari. The hallmark of a Kanchipuram saree is its contrast border and pallu, which are woven separately and later joined by a traditional technique called "Korvai." Typical motifs include temple towers (gopurams), checks, peacocks, mango designs, and floral patterns, inspired by South Indian architecture and nature. Each saree takes several days to weave, reflecting both artistry and precision. Kanchipuram silk sarees are primarily worn during weddings, festivals, and religious ceremonies, symbolizing prestige and prosperity. The sarees from this district hold a Geographical Indication (GI) tag, ensuring their authenticity and protecting the livelihood of thousands of traditional weavers who continue to uphold this proud legacy through generations.



Fig 1

Erode

Erode, situated in western Tamil Nadu, is widely known as a major hub for handloom and textile production, especially Erode cotton and silk sarees. The district has a long-standing tradition of weaving, combining both craftsmanship and commercial textile production. Erode sarees are typically made from cotton, cotton-silk blends, or soft silk, offering lightweight and comfortable options suitable for daily wear as well as festive occasions. They are characterized by simple, elegant designs with bright or contrasting borders, subtle stripes, checks, and sometimes minimal zari work, making them versatile and practical. The region's weavers are supported by cooperative societies that ensure fair trade and help preserve traditional techniques. Erode is also famous for its role in textile exports, earning the nickname "Textile City of Tamil Nadu." The sarees from this district represent a perfect balance of affordability, durability, and aesthetic appeal, reflecting the district's contribution to the state's rich handloom heritage.



Fig 2

Salem

Salem, located in the western part of Tamil Nadu, is a major center for the production of beautiful Salem silk sarees, which are admired for their glossy finish, vibrant colors, and elegant craftsmanship. The weaving tradition of Salem dates back several centuries and has evolved with modern designs while maintaining traditional techniques. The sarees are usually made from pure silk or silk-cotton blends, giving them a soft texture and lustrous appearance. They are woven on both handlooms and power looms, often featuring floral motifs, temple borders, geometric patterns, and zari work that add richness to the fabric. Salem silk sarees are more affordable compared to Kanchipuram silks, making them popular among women for festivals, family functions, and temple wear. The Salem Silk Cooperative Society (SICOS) plays a key role in supporting local weavers, providing them with raw materials and marketing assistance. The sarees from this district reflect the blend of traditional artistry and modern appeal, symbolizing Salem's contribution to Tamil Nadu's vibrant handloom heritage.



Fig 3

Arani

Arani, located in the Tiruvannamalai district of Tamil Nadu, is famous for its Arani silk sarees, which are renowned for their softness, light weight, and elegant designs. The weaving tradition in Arani has been passed down through generations, with artisans creating sarees that often resemble Kanchipuram silks but are lighter and easier to drape. These sarees are made from pure silk and frequently feature dual-tone borders, intricate zari work, and traditional motifs like flowers, peacocks, and temple patterns. Arani silk sarees are popular for festivals, weddings, and cultural events, offering an affordable yet graceful alternative to the heavier Kanchipuram sarees. Local weavers are supported by cooperative societies that help maintain the authenticity of the craft and provide sustainable livelihoods. Arani's contribution highlights Tamil Nadu's diversity in silk weaving, combining traditional artistry with practical elegance.

Madurai

Madurai, a historic city in southern Tamil Nadu, is renowned for its Sungudi sarees, a traditional handloom cotton craft that reflects the region's vibrant culture. Sungudi sarees are created using the tie-and-dye technique, similar to Bandhani, where artisans tie thousands of tiny knots on the fabric before dyeing it, resulting in intricate dotted patterns across the saree. The fabric is usually lightweight cotton, making it comfortable and breathable in the hot Tamil climate. These sarees often feature bright colors like red, blue, yellow, and green, with contrasting borders and pallus, adding a festive charm. Sungudi sarees are traditionally worn during temple visits, festivals, and celebrations, and they hold cultural significance for the people of Madurai. The craft is GI-tagged, and local cooperative societies support the weavers, helping preserve this centuries-old art form while sustaining rural livelihoods. Madurai Sungudi sarees exemplify Tamil Nadu's unique handloom heritage through their distinctive patterns, vibrant colors, and skilled craftsmanship.



Fig 4

Chettinad

Chettinad, encompassing the Sivagangai and Karaikudi regions of Tamil Nadu, is famous for its Chettinad cotton sarees, also known as Kandangi sarees, which reflect the bold and vibrant culture of the Chettiar community. These sarees are made from thick, durable cotton, making them suitable for both daily wear and special occasions in the hot and humid climate of the region. Characteristic features include bright and contrasting colors, broad borders, and checked or striped patterns, often combining two or three vivid shades. Chettinad sarees are traditionally worn during festivals, weddings, and cultural ceremonies, symbolizing the heritage and prosperity of the community. The weaving process is entirely handloom-based, preserving age-old techniques, and the craft has been GI-tagged to protect its authenticity. Local cooperative societies support the weavers, ensuring that this centuries-old weaving tradition continues to thrive. Chettinad cotton sarees are celebrated for their bold aesthetics, cultural significance, and strong handwoven texture, making them an iconic part of Tamil Nadu's handloom legacy.



Fig 5

Data Analysis

Table 4: How long have been associated with the handloom industry?

Years	Percentage %
Less than 5 years	35%
5-10 years	35%
11-20 years	15%
More than 20 years	15%

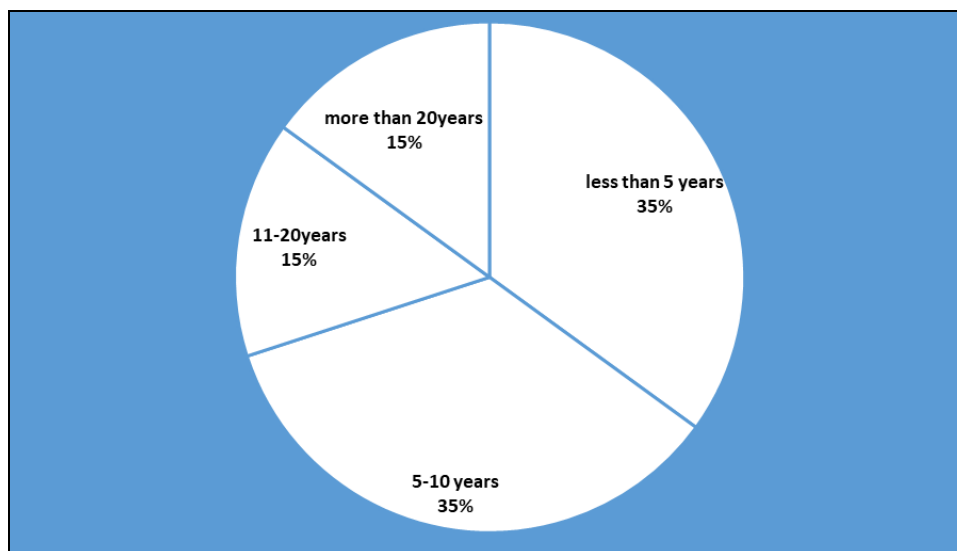


Chart 1

Inference: 35% of the respondents have been into handloom for less than 5 years. 35% of the respondents have been into handloom between 5 – 10 years. 15% of the respondents have

been into handloom between 11 – 20 years. 15% of the respondents have been into handloom more than 20 years.

Table 5: Occupation

Occupation	Percentage
Weaver	30%
Designer	13%
Retailer	0%
Whole Saler	0%
Government officials	13%
NGO worker	0%
Consumer	30%
Sales development manager	8%

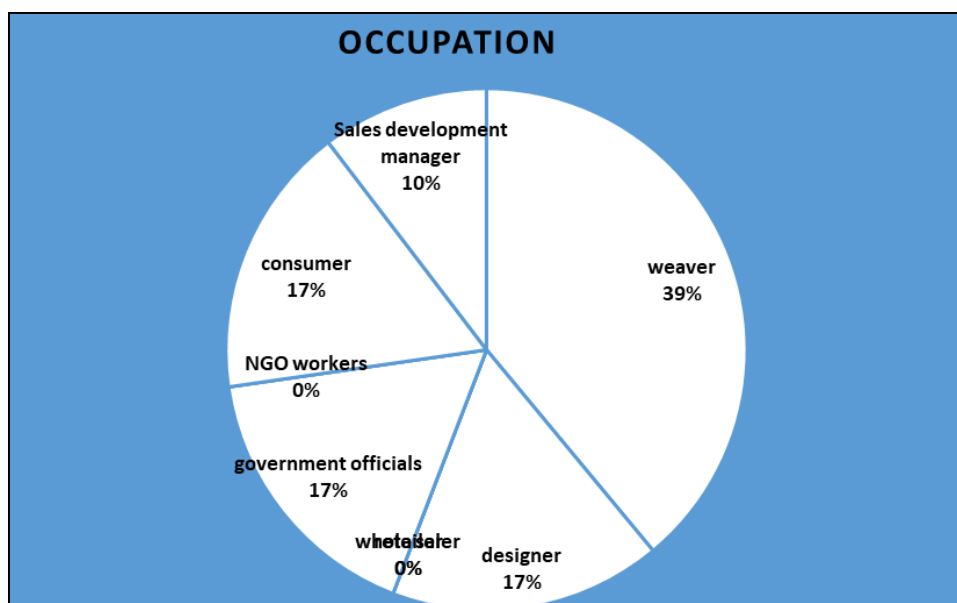


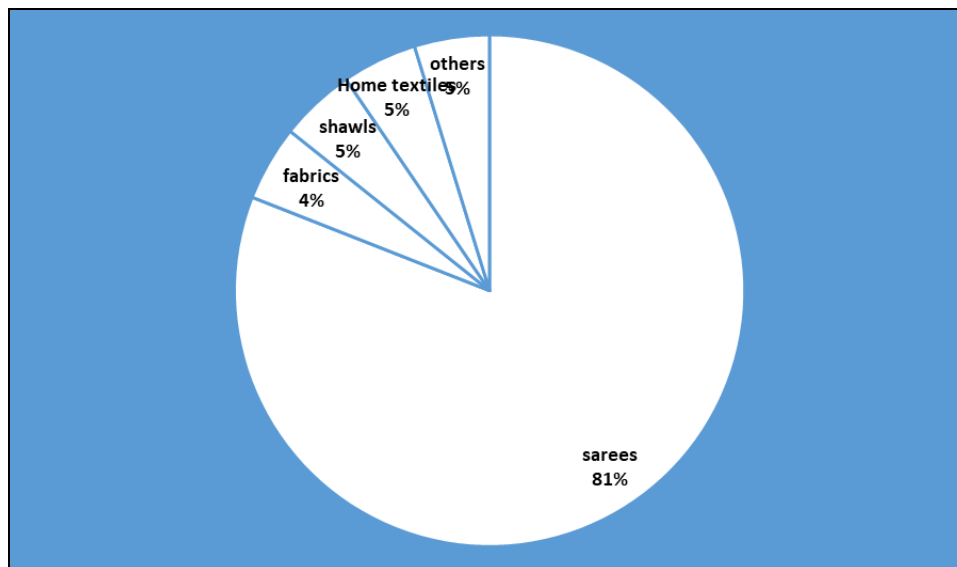
Chart 2

Inference: The chart shows that the largest groups among the respondents are Weavers and Consumers, each making up 30.4% of the total responses. Designers and Retailers each account for 13%, indicating moderate representation in the sample. Wholesalers form 8.7% of respondents, showing a smaller share. Other occupations like Government officials,

NGO workers, and Sales Development Managers are either very few or not represented in this chart. The survey is primarily dominated by weavers and consumers, showing strong participation from both the production and end-user sides of the handloom sector.

Table 6: What type of handloom products do you produce/work with?

Product	Percentage
Sarees	81%
fabrics	4%
shawls	5%
Home textiles	5%
Others	5%

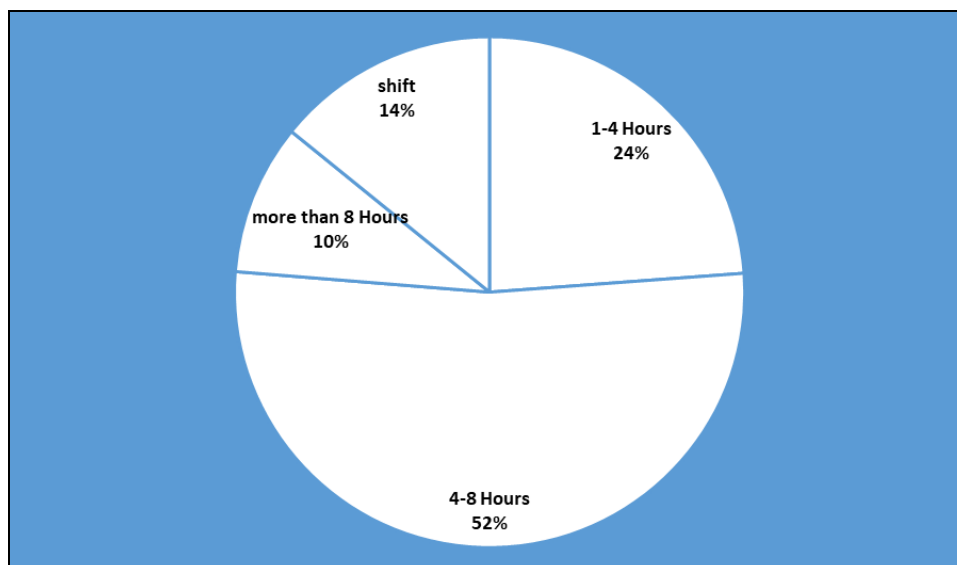
**Chart 3**

Inference: 81% of the respondent have been produce sarees in handloom. 4% of the respondent have been produce fabrics in handloom. 5% of the respondent have been produce shawls

in handloom. 5% of the respondent have been produce home textiles in handloom. 5% of the respondent have been produce other types of woolen material in handloom.

Table 7: How many hours a day do you work on handloom?

Working hours	Percentage
1-4 Hours	24%
4-8 Hours	52%
More than 8 Hours	10%
Other (shift)	14%

**Chart 4**

Inference: 24% of the respondents have been working 1-4 Hours in a day. 52% of then respondent have been working 4-8 Hours in a day. 105 of the respondents have been working

more than 8 Hours in a day. 14% of the respondents have been working in shift based (Day/Night)

Table 8: What is your monthly income from handloom activity?

Income	Percentage
Below 5000	32%
5000-10000	32%
10000-20000	26%
Above 20000	10%

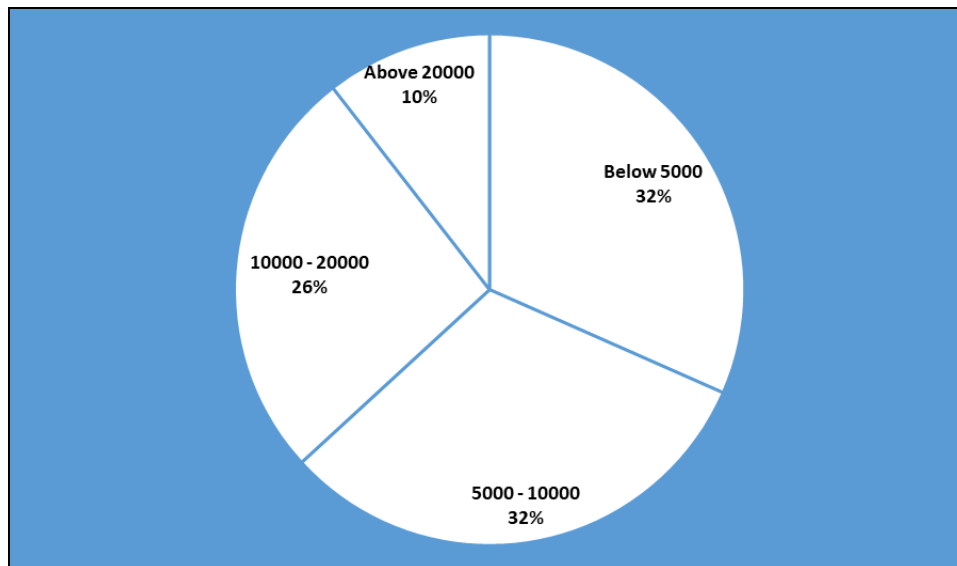


Chart 5

Inference: 32% of the respondents have been earn below 5000 incomes from handloom activities. 32% of the respondents have been earn 5000-10000 incomes from handloom activities. 26% of the respondents have been earn

10000-20000 incomes from handloom activities. 10% of the respondents have been earn above 20000 incomes from handloom activities.

Table 9: Do you receive any support or subsidy from the Government?

Support from Govt.	Percentage
Yes	44%
No	56%

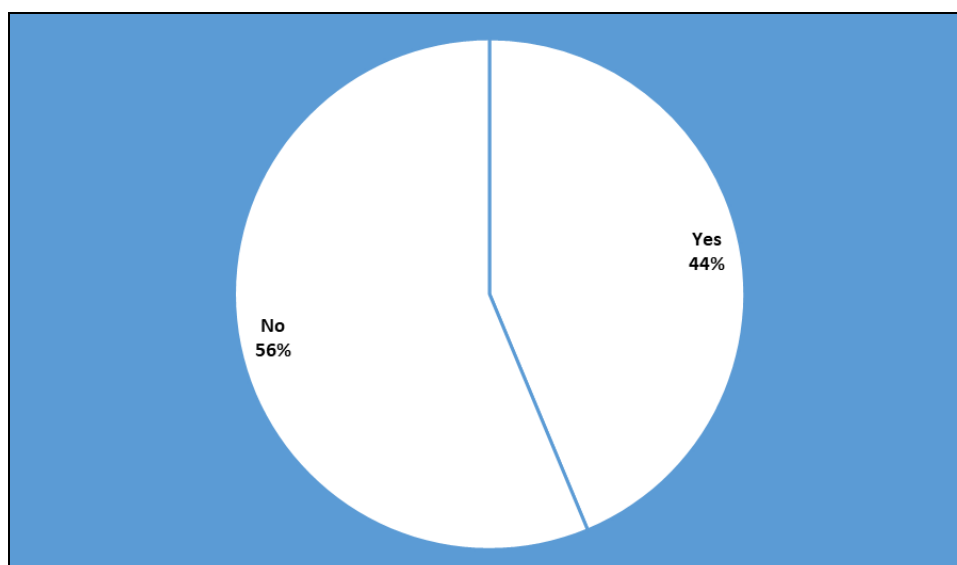


Chart 6

Inference: 44% of the respondents have been receive any support from Government. 56% of the respondents have not

been receive any support from government.

Table 10: What are the major challenges in this sector?

Challenges	Percentage
Low income	69%
Middle man exploitation	35%
Lack of marketing	13%
Poor raw material	13%
Lack of modern tools	13%
Good companies	4%
Others	22%

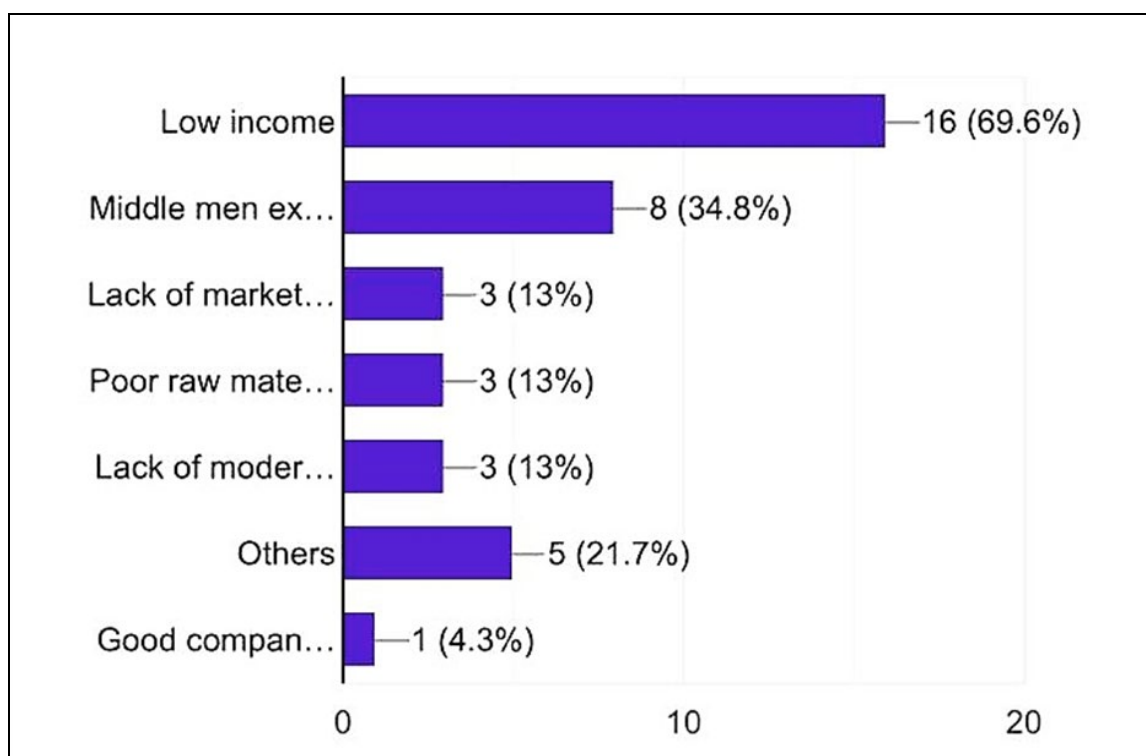


Chart 7

Inference: From the above chart, it is observed that the major cause for the decline of the handloom sector is low income (69.6%), indicating that most weavers are not earning sufficient wages for their livelihood. This is followed by the exploitation by middlemen (34.8%), which shows that intermediaries take a large share of profits, reducing weavers' earnings. Other factors such as lack of market facilities, poor

raw materials, lack of modernization (13% each), and others (2.7%) also contribute to the decline. A very small percentage (4.3%) mentioned having good company support.

Hence, it can be inferred that economic insecurity and unfair trade practices are the primary reasons for the decline in the handloom industry.

Table 11: Do you work independently or as a part of a cooperative/society?

Work type	Percentage
Independent	52%
Cooperative	19%
Government agencies	13%
Private employer	26%

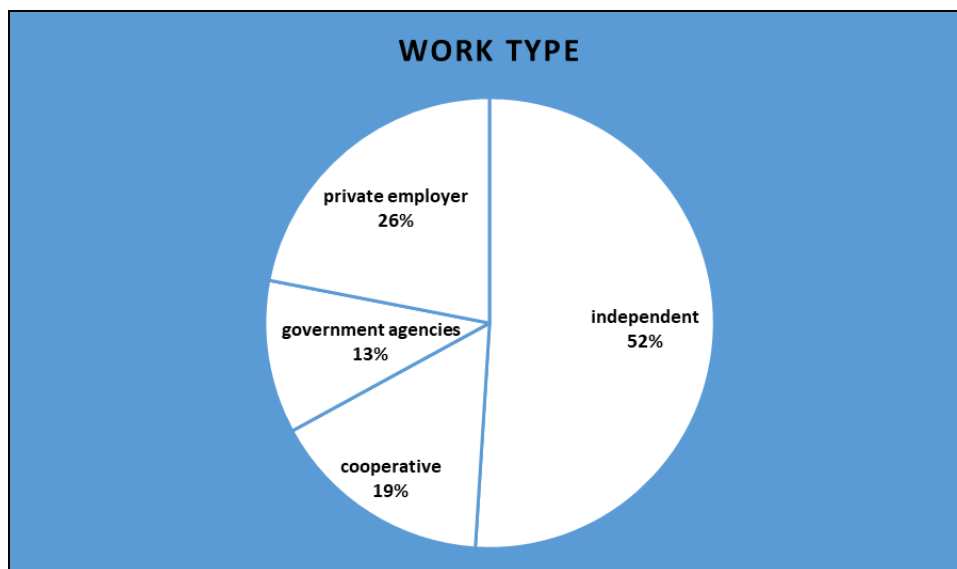


Chart 8

Inference: 52% of the respondents have been work independently in the handloom sector. 19% of the respondents have been work cooperatively in the handloom sector. 13% of

the respondents have been work through government agencies in the handloom sector. 26% of the respondents have been work privately employed in handloom sector.

Table 12: What tools or technology do you use?

Tools	Percentage
Traditional handloom	17%
Semi-automatic loom	8%
Power loom	60%
Jacquard loom	8%
Customer handling	11%

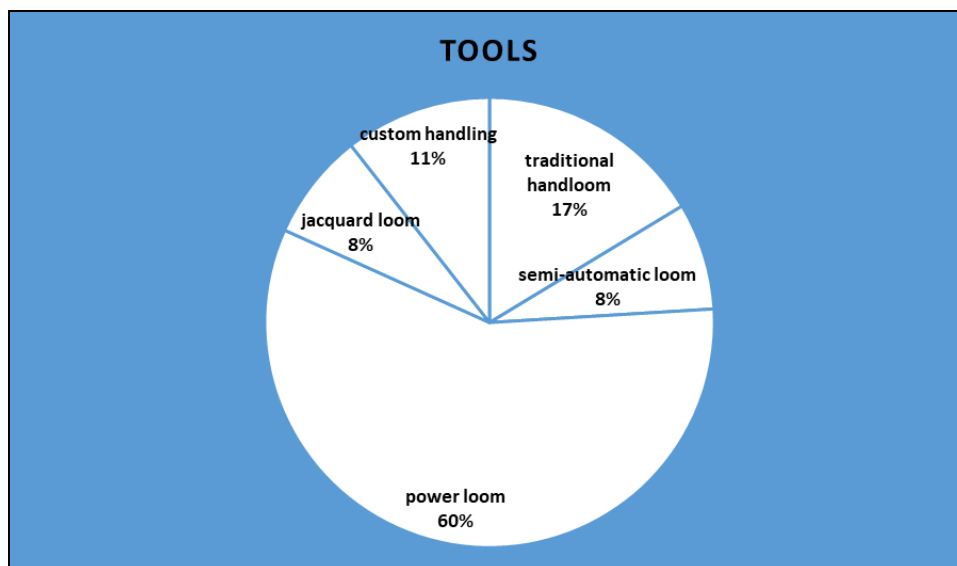


Chart 9

Inference: 17% of the respondents have been utilizing traditional tool for their work. 8% of the respondents have been utilizing semi-automatic loom for their work. 60% of the respondents have been utilizing power loom for their work.

8% of the respondents have been utilizing Jacquard loom for their work. 11% of the respondents have been utilizing customer handling for their work.

Table 13: Are you aware of government schemes for handloom weavers (e.g., Weaver MUDRA scheme, weaver card, etc.)?

Aware of Government Scheme	Percentage
Yes	76%
No	24%

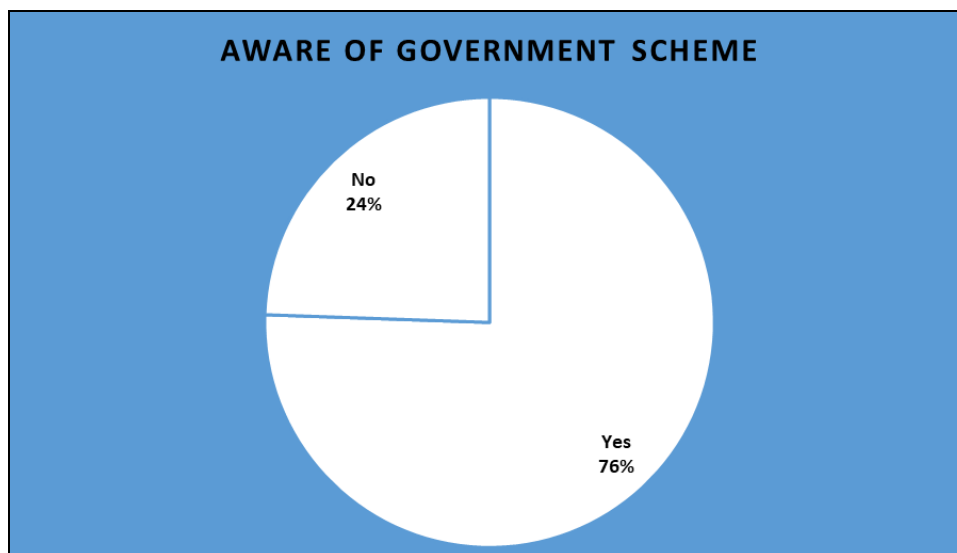


Chart 10

Inference: 76% of the respondents have been known about the Government scheme. 24% of the respondents have not been known about Government scheme.

Table 14: Where do you sell your products?

Selling Place of the Product	Percentage
Local market	40%
State/National exhibition	13%
Online platform	15%
Middle man	15%
Export	13%

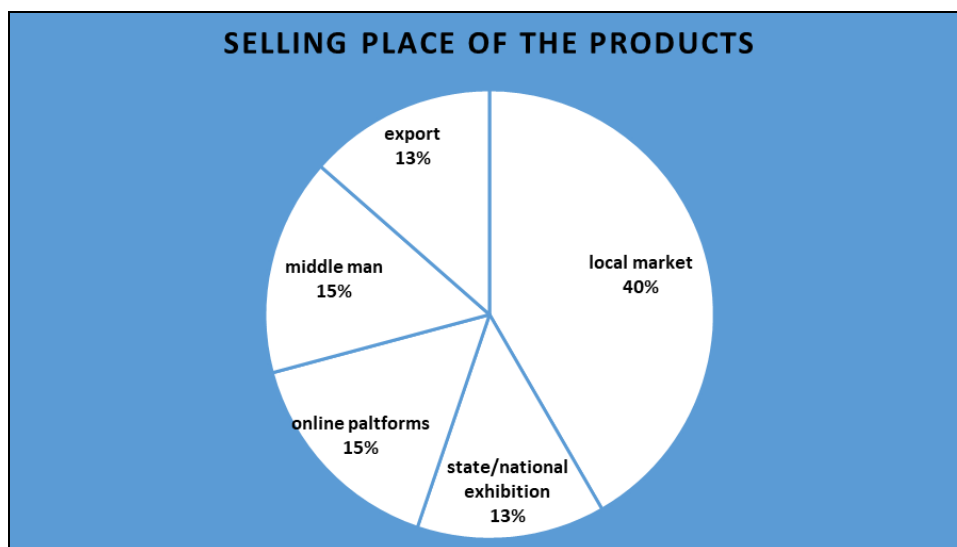


Chart 11

Inference: 40% of the respondents have been sell their products in local markets. 13% of the respondents have been sell their products in state/national exhibition. 15% of the respondents have been sell their product in online platforms.

15% of the respondents have been sell their product with help of middle mans. 13% of the respondents have been sell their products through export.

Table 15: Do you get fair value for your products?

Fair Value	Percentage
Always	22%
Sometimes	56%
Rarely	13%
Never	9%

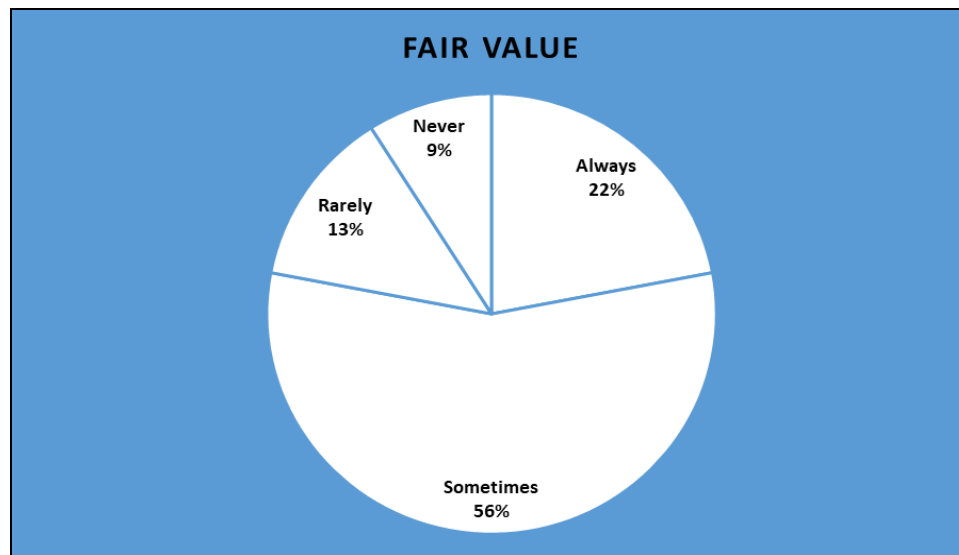


Chart 12

Inference: 22% of the respondents have been always get fair value for the work. 56% of the respondents have been sometimes get fair value for the work. 13% of the respondents

have been rarely get fair value for the work. 9% of the respondents have been never get fair value for the work.

Table 16: Are consumers interested in traditional handloom now?

Interest	Percentage
Increasing	22%
Decreasing	35%
Constant	9%
Not sure	34%

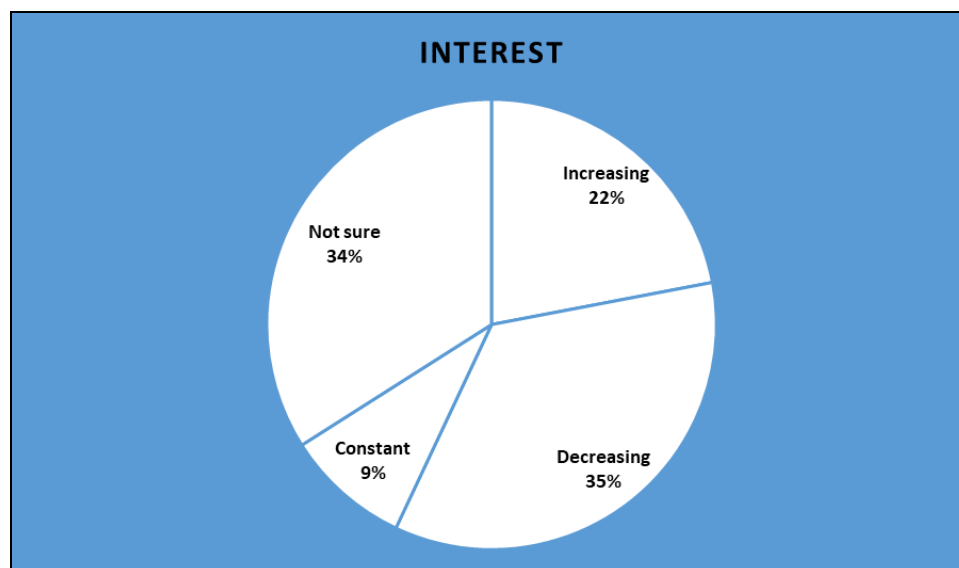


Chart 13

Inference: 22% of the respondents have been increased interests on traditional handlooms now. 35% of the respondents have been decreased on traditional handlooms

now. 9% of the respondents have been constant interests on traditional handlooms now. 34% of the respondents have been not sure on traditional handlooms now.

Table 17: Would training in design/marketing help improve your income?

Training in Marketing	Percentage
Yes	26%
No	35%
May be	39%

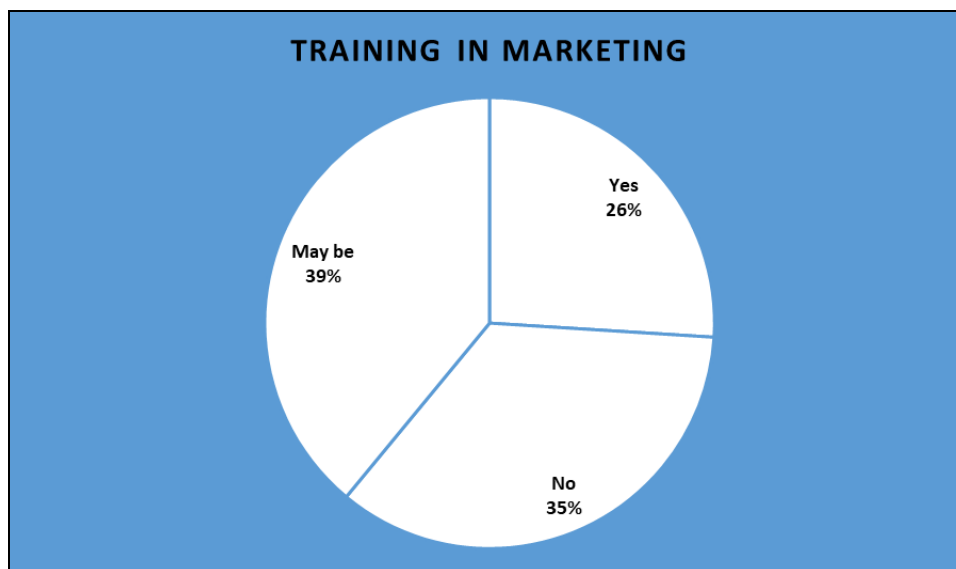


Chart 14

Inference: The pie chart shows that the majority of respondents are uncertain about their need for marketing training, with 39% answering "Maybe." Meanwhile, 35% responded "No," indicating they do not require training, and only 26% said "Yes," showing interest in training. This implies that most participants are either undecided or currently do not see the necessity for marketing training, while a smaller group has a definite interest in it.

Findings

- i). The majority of handloom workers in Tamil Nadu are women, predominantly from marginalized and rural backgrounds, facing socio-economic vulnerabilities.
- ii). Major handloom clusters are found in Erode, Karur, Kanchipuram, Kumbakonam, Chinnalapatti and Salem, with each region known for its unique weaving traditions and products.
- iii). The sector is marked by a decline in active weavers due to competition from power looms, poor remunerative returns, and migration of skilled youth to alternative employment.
- iv). Handloom products from Tamil Nadu face marketing challenges, particularly in expanding access beyond local markets and building a recognizable brand identity.
- v). Most weavers depend on cooperative societies for raw material supply and marketing, but benefit distribution is uneven and non-cooperative weavers are often left out.
- vi). Many handloom households lack access to institutional finance, depending instead on informal credit at high interest rates.
- vii). While several government schemes exist for raw material subsidy, free electricity, skill upgradation, and health insurance, awareness and effective delivery remain suboptimal for independent weavers.
- viii). Women earn less than men for similar work, and gender inequities persist in the handloom workforce.
- ix). Most weavers have not adapted new designs or fashion trends, limiting their relevance in competitive markets.
- x). Youth participation in the sector is decreasing, and younger generations prefer other forms of employment due to lack of motivation, social recognition, and economic security.
- xi). Most handlooms are operated with outdated technology, resulting in lower productivity and inability to meet

modern quality standards.

Suggestions

- i). Encourage modernization of looms and weaving techniques through subsidies and technology transfer, while preserving traditional patterns.
- ii). Strengthen cooperative societies to ensure more equitable benefit-sharing and extend support to non-cooperative and independent weavers.
- iii). Expand institutional credit and financial inclusion by connecting handloom workers with banks, self-help groups, and microfinance institutions.
- iv). Launch sustained marketing and branding initiatives, both physical and digital, for Tamil Nadu handloom products; promote Geographical Indication (GI) tags.
- v). Promote women entrepreneurship in handlooms with gender-sensitive policies aimed at reducing the gender wage gap and supporting women leaders.
- vi). Organize regular skill upgradation and design workshops in partnership with fashion and design institutes (NIFT, NID) to address evolving trends and consumer demands.
- vii). Provide youth-specific incentives (apprenticeships, recognition programs, start-up funds) to retain and attract younger generations to weaving.
- viii). Ensure effective outreach and timely provision of government welfare schemes through digital platforms, helplines, and field-level facilitators.
- ix). Strengthen research and continuous assessment of the sector with the help of academic and policy institutions to guide evidence-based interventions.
- x). Invest in handloom infrastructure such as design studios, common facility centers, and collaborative workspaces for innovation and productivity growth.

Conclusion

Handloom weavers continue to face significant socio-economic hardships due to low and irregular incomes, high production costs, inadequate access to modern technology, poor marketing infrastructure, and intensified competition from power looms and imported fabrics. Many weavers also report adverse working conditions and health hazards, compounded by weak organizational support and insufficient implementation of government schemes. Despite the cultural and artistic importance of the sector—especially in states like

Tamil Nadu—structural constraints, declining demand, and the migration of skilled labor to other industries have impeded progress and socio-economic mobility for weaving communities. Addressing these issues requires focused government interventions, market modernization, financial inclusion, health care accessibility, and training in new skills for sustainable development. Strengthening cooperatives, ensuring fair prices, and improving supply chains can play critical roles in safeguarding the sector and the welfare of its workforce.

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