Socio - Economic Profile and Social Well being of Handloom Industry Weavers of Gangarampur Block in Dakshin Dinajpur District of West Bengal, India

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Abstract: *The Handloom industry being a part of the Indian culture and tradition, it is one of the oldest cottage industries in India diffused widely through the country. Handloom Industry of Gangarampur of West Bengal enjoys a prominent place in the handloom map of rural India. This study is aimed to address these reasons by investigating the present socio-economic conditions and spatial pattern of variation in social well-being (by using two indicators of development like Household Quality of Living Index and Standard of Living Index) and problems of the handloom industry that are affecting badly (by using Principal Component Analysis). It is found that the industry is dominated by the male workers with very low level of educational level. The weavers are facing a number of challenges like financial constraint, inability to purchase up-to-date machineries, poor working condition, drop off in wages, increased price of yarn, the absence of government support, lack of domestic market and demand and so on. Schemes are not executed properly and all of the money and the facilities not reached to the grass root people. So that planning execution is essential by which local people could get those facilities properly.*

Keywords: *Handloom weavers, Level of Income, Educational Attainment, Family Size, HQLI and SLI.*

Abbreviations: *AI: Asset index, BAI: Basic amenity index, DI: Dimension index, HQLI: Household Quality of Living Index, HH S: Household size, MFI: Monthly family income, MGBBY: Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana, PCA: Principal Component Analysis, QHI: Quality of housing index, SE: Standard of education, SH: Standard of health, SLI: Standard of Living Index, SPSS: Statistical Package for Social Sciences, SSS: Social security scheme*

1. INTRODUCTION

Handloom industry in India is an ancient cottage industry (Venkateswaran, 2014; Sreenivas & Suman, 2016). The handloom industry is largely household-based industry and carried out with labour contributed by the entire family. The handloom sector which plays central role in the country's economy (Prathap & Naidu, 2015). It is second largest employer after agriculture sector in Indian economy (Venkateswaran, 2014; Das, 2015; Prathap & Naidu, 2015 & Chaudhary, et al., 2015). It is dispersed, spread across thousands of villages and towns in the country. About 10 million people directly depend on this industry to take out their livelihood, while many more millions of people depend upon subsidiary occupations connected with the handloom industry (Emmanil, 2012 & Bortamuly, et al., 2012). The lower adoption of technology forced the industry to confide heavily on human labours to carry out works either at home, the typical cottage industry, or at small and medium size enterprises (Bhavani, 2002). Among the various handloom industries the name of Gangarampur Handloom Industry of Dakshin Dinajpur district of West Bengal is one of most renowned one. The place has lent its name to the *Tant* (handloom) saree it produces. It is mainly famous for its cotton weaved sari. The saree are particularly liked for their slightly thicker weave and colourful borders which housewives find very comfortable to wear while doing domestic chores and at the time of occasions. *Tant Benaroshi* is the famous sari which is produce in Gangarampur handloom cluster. But recently it has been losing its importance due to various reasons and where as the weavers are facing the usual problems of low output, technological stagnation and subsistence level of income etc.

1.1. Objectives

The objectives of this study are:

➢ To analyze socio-economic condition of weavers.

➢ To find out Standard of Living (SL) and Household Quality of Living (HQL) of weavers.

➢ To find out the problems associated with handloom industries.

1.2. Data Base & Methodology

Only primary data have been used in this study. Primary data of 290 weavers' perception have been collected from160 household from seventeen major handloom concentrated mouzas and one municipality in Gangarampur block through structured interview schedule. The study has been done by purposive sampling technique. To represent the data some simple cartographic technique like bar diagram, pie diagram and scatter diagram etc. has been used. Map has been created by using GIS software to showing the distribution. Data analysis is done with support of statistical software's such as Statistical Package for Social Sciences (SPSS). HQLI and SLI are calculated by using dimension index and Simple Average Method (SAM). Dimension index of different indicators of HQLI and SLI are calculated by the following formula

$$\text{Dimension Index (DI)} = \frac{\text{Actual value} - \text{Minimum value}}{\text{Maximum value} - \text{Minimum value}}$$

At the present time, handloom industry is facing numerous problems. To find out the major problems that are affecting declining production **Principal Component Analysis** (**PCA**) has been used. This analysis has been prepared by 150 weaver's perception through a questionnaire based on **Bland theory** of research method. Each question was a statement followed by a five-point **Likert scale**. **Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin** (**KMO)** and **Bartlett's** test has been used to measure sample accuracy level.

1.3. Area of Study

This study was confined to handloom weavers' concentred mouzas and municipal area of Gangarampur block in Dakshin Dinajpur district of West Bengal in India. Gangarampur community development block is located at 25°20′ N to 25°32′ and 88°24′30′′ E to88°40′ E with an area of 315.60 km^2. This region is located in Tropical wet-and-dry climate, with summer monsoons and average rain fall of. The maximum temperatures can often exceed 38 °C (100 °F) during May–June. Winter tends to last from December to early-February, with the lowest temperatures hovering in the 4 °C (40 °F) to 8 °C (47 °F) range during December and January (Weather base, 2014).

## 2. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

2.1. Socioeconomic Status

Handloom is the oldest cottage industry in India, which is unorganized in nature. In India, nearly 27.83 lakh handloom households are engaged in weaving and allied activities, out of which 87 per cent are located in rural areas and remaining 13 per cent in urban areas (Handloom Census of India, 2009-10). In West Bengal in particular, a large number of rural populations are directly involved in weaving. Handloom weavers belong to a very low socioeconomic group compared to others in terms of education, health training and skill etc. On the other hand, variables like sex and family size are assumed to have negligible influence on a weaver while taking decision to shift towards the occupation of ownership and others business.

Table1. *Age-Wise Distribution of Handloom Workers*

Age group	Percentage of distribution		
	Rural	**Urban**	**Total**
Below 18 years	15.34	14.03	14.82
18-40 years	32.95	29.82	31.73
40-60 years	41.48	44.74	42.75
Above 60 years	10.23	11.40	10.69
Total	**100**	**100**	**100**

**Source:** *Based on Primary household survey, 2016*
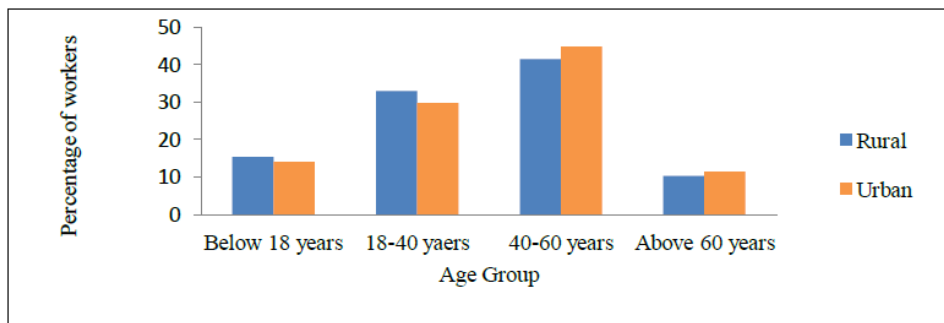
Figure1. *Distribution of handloom workers by age group*

The table 1 and diagram (figure 1) shows that most of the weavers are belong in 40-60 years age groups with 42.75 percent. The middle age group (18-40 years) handloom worker is only 31.73 % that is low proportion in compare to 40-60 years age group. Because most of the middle age group workers are migrated for better job opportunity. A vast proportion of child labour engaged in handloom activities near about 15 percent.

Table2. *Sex-Wise distributions of Adult handloom workers*

Gender	Percentage of distribution		
	Rural	**Urban**	**Total**
Male	45.64	64.30	53.04
Female	54.40	35.71	46.96
Total	100	100	100

**Source:** *Based on Primary household survey, 2016*
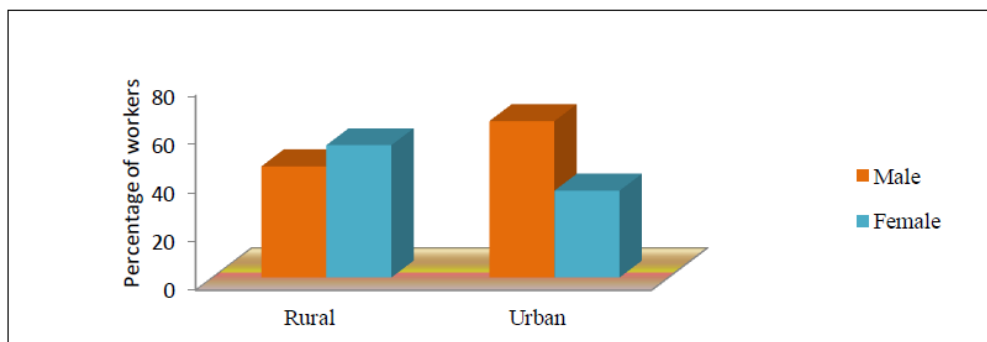
Figure2. *Adult handloom workers (18 and above) by Gender*

Table 2 and diagram (figure 2) revealed that there is gender in rural and urban areas. The rural-urban differences, with higher proportion of female workers found in rural areas (45.64% male and 54.40% female) and comparatively a higher proportion of male workers is observed in urban areas (64.30% male and 35.71% female). The gender gaps in rural and urban areas are 8.76% and 28.6% respectively.

2.1.1. Educational Level of Weaver

Most of the adult handloom workers have very low levels of educational attainment, and a large proportion of this group reported that they never attended school.
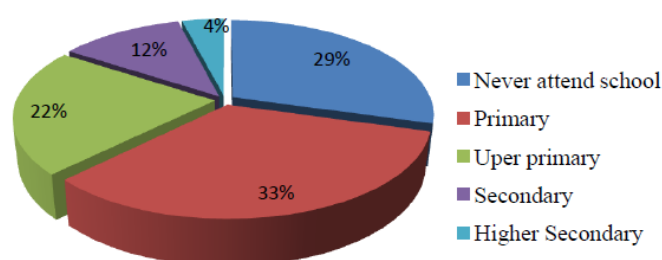
Figure3. *Distribution of handloom workers by level of Education*

A distribution of handloom adult workers by their level of educational attainment reveals (figure 3) that: about 29.4 per cent of workers engaged in handloom activities have never attended school. However, 22 percent workers have completed at least upper primary education and only 4 percent workers have completed higher secondary education. So that's why we can say that the level of education is very poor that affect their socio-cultural life of weavers.

2.1.2. Income Level of Weaver

Income plays an important role in ascertaining the standard of living of the people (Prathap & Naidu, 2015) which comes from selling handloom products and other sources such as land, property, investment and the like. They perform multi-occupation especially as the agricultural labour in the rural areas. During the lean agricultural season, males are engaged in handloom activities on part-time basis to increase their non-farm earnings (De & Das, 2010). In this study the concept of income consists of income from marketing of handloom products.

Table3. *Distribution of Income level of Weavers*

Monthly income (Rs.)	Rural area (%)	Urban area (%)
Below 2000	42.24	27.34
2000-4000	27.7	25.61
4000-6000	21.22	31.17
Above 6000	8.84	15.88

Source: *Based on Primary household survey, 2016*

Since the weavers are working under this co-operative a fixed income level structure is found. In rural and urban area, weavers enjoy wages b below Rs. 2000 under Gangarampur block near about 42% and 27% weavers respectively. While only about 8.84% weavers in rural and 15.88% in urban weavers have income above Rs 6000 which signifies overall poor standard of living of the weaving community as well as sluggish growth of this industry.

2.1.3. Schemes for Weavers

The Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY) was launched in 2004-05 and provides life insurance to the weavers is another popular scheme (Prathap & Naidu, 2015). The following schemes are given below

Table4. *Distribution of Schemes for benefited weavers*

Name of the schemes for the weavers	Percentage of benefitted weavers to total weavers
Old Age Pension for the retired weavers	07
Health Insurance Scheme (ICICI Loombard)	39
M.G.B.B.Y	44
Weavers' Credit Card	58

Source: *Based on Primary household survey, 2016*

The Mahatma Gandhi Bunkar Bima Yojana (MGBBY) was launched in 2004-05 and provides life insurance to the weavers is another popular scheme (Prathap & Naidu, 2015). From the Table 5 it is found that under a number of schemes have been undertaken for the weavers. 58% of weavers have been covered under Weaver Credit Card, 44% under M.G.B.B.Y, 39% under health insurance scheme (ICICI Loombard) and 07% under Old age pension for the retired weavers.

2.1.4. Family Size

Nature of the family is one of the most important demographic indicators of the change in population of any region. It determines the standard of living of the people as well as better living (Prathap & Naidu, 2015). Family size and system are important characteristics that contributed to the family income (Yousuf, et al., 2013). If a family which has too many members with less amount of income, surely the family will have to face poverty. So, the family size must be small enough for the batter living of its members.

Table5. *The size of the family of Handloom Weavers*

Family Size(persons)	No. of household	percentage
Small family (Below 4)	21	13.125
Medium family (4-6)	62	38.75
Large family (Above 6)	77	48.125
Total	160	100

Source: *Based on Primary household survey, 2016*

According to the size of the family 38.75 percent weavers reported that they have medium size of family with 4-6 members. 13 percent respondents have reported that their family has below 4 members. Most of the families belong above 6 members near about 48 percent. This shows that, most of the handloom weavers are willing to live in a joint family system.

2.2. Social Well Being

2.2.1. Household Quality of Living Index (HQLI) of Weavers

To assess the household quality of living only for study areas, a Household Quality of living Index (HQLI) is constructed on the basis of 20 variables. HQLI is made up of three distinctive indices such as quality of housing index (QHI), basic amenity index (BAI) and asset index (AI). The selected 20 variables fall under these three indices. The variable details are given below-

Table6. *List of selected indicators of HQLI*

HOUSEHOLD QUALITY OF LIVING INDEX (HQLI)	**Quality of Housing Index (QHI)**
	HHs by good condition of residential census houses
	HHs living in permanent houses
	Married couples do not have exclusive room
	HHs with own houses
	HHs having at least two dwelling rooms
	Basic Amenity Index (BAI)
	Drinking water with in premises
	Electricity
	Latrine within premises
	Bath room
	Closed drainage system for waste water outlet
	Separate kitchen inside the house
	LPG/PNG for cooking
	Banking service
	Asset Index (AI)
	Radio/Transistor
	Television
	Telephone facilities (mobile, landline or both)
	Bicycle
	Scooter/Motorcycle/Moped
	Computer/Laptop (with or without internet)

Here, HHs refers to only non-institutional HHs. All variables are measured in percentage and all are linearly related to each other except 'married couples do not have exclusive room to live' under QHI. For the study purpose, it has been inversed to make the variable unidirectional. Household Quality of Living Index is computed on the basis of the following formula:

HQLI= QHI + BAI + AI

Table7. *Household Quality of Living Index (HQLI) of weavers in Gangarampur block*

Study Area	QHI	BAI	AI	HQLI	Study Area	QHI	BAI	AI	HQLI
Gangarampur municipality	0.47	0.60	0.83	**1.90**	**Durgapur**	0.47	0.35	0.38	**1.20**
Maharajpur	0.64	0.68	0.47	**1.80**	Boaldah	0.31	0.39	0.46	**1.16**
kadighat	0.46	0.51	0.66	**1.63**	Belbari	0.40	0.35	0.36	**1.11**
Thengapara	0.38	0.52	0.72	**1.62**	Burinagar	0.40	0.33	0.29	**1.01**
Nandanpur	0.69	0.31	0.50	**1.50**	Keshabpur	0.48	0.21	0.29	**0.99**
Bhaktipur	0.56	0.27	0.60	**1.43**	Narayanpur	0.44	0.23	0.28	**0.96**
Jalalpur	0.51	0.38	0.52	**1.41**	Paton	0.33	0.31	0.29	**0.94**
Karial	0.46	0.39	0.47	**1.31**	Tilna	0.21	0.26	0.31	**0.78**
Jaypur	0.51	0.40	0.35	**1.26**	Sukhdevpur	0.17	0.22	0.14	**0.53**

Source: *Based on Author's calculation with the help of household survey data, 2016*

Following the above mentioned methods three sets of indices are generated (Table 6). HQLI is the combined score of the three indices. For better analysis seventeen mouzas and one urban centre are divided into three (3) categories on the basis of "HQLI". Like-1. High Quality (>1.5), 2. Moderate Quality (1-1.5), 3. Low Quality (<1)

Overall, one urban centre, namely, Gangarampur Municipality (1.90) and four mouzas, namely, Maharajpur, Kadighat, Thengapara and Nandanpur (1.80, 1.63, 1.62, 1.50 respectively) have a good condition of household quality of living. Household quality mostly depend on family income and individual aspects, though in these study area the weavers' income more or less same, but the few areas which are belongs in quite high quality of household infrastructures. They not only depend on income that comes from selling handloom products, parallel they should engage in agricultural activities or others sources. The rest of Sukhdevpur (0.53), Tilna (0.78), Paton (0.94), Narayanpur (.96), and Keshabpur (0.99) have a low HQLI where the conditions of these villages are pathetic.
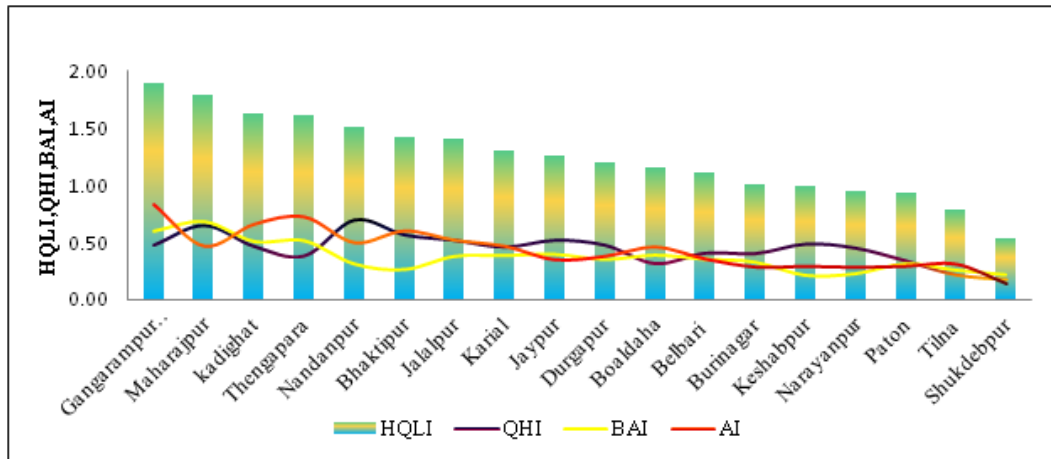

Figure4. *Household Quality of Living Index of Weavers in Gangarampur Block*

This diagram (Fig. 4) shows that in Gangarampur block mouza wise distribution of different indices are not equally distributed. In Korial, Belbari and Paton mouza there is a consistency of QHI, BAI & AI. But in case of Nandanpur, Keshabpur, Narayanpur mouza QHI is high compare to BAI and AI.
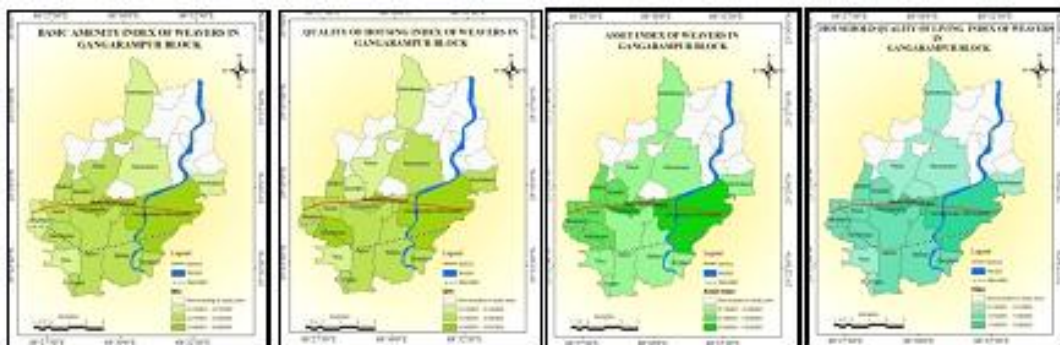

Figure5. *Different indicators of Household Quality of Living Index*

2.2.2. Standard of Living of Weavers

Standard of living' refers to the necessaries, comforts and luxuries which a person is accustomed to enjoy. In other words, standard of living of the people means the quantity and quality of their consumption (Das & Mistri, 2016). If a person indulges some wants in a special manner long enough, they recur and become acquired habits. Such things become his daily requirements and constitute what has been called his standard of living. They include his food, dress, habitation, entertainments, etc; as well as basic needs of a person. Standard of living is, in short, his mode of living (Das & Mistri, 2016). The standard of living of a person is not identified only by himself or according to his own fantasy and volitions. He has also to consider what society expects of him. It is thus a compromise between what he himself likes and what the society expects.

The construction of SL indices and measuring the degree of deficiency or "deprivation" (Das & Mistri, 2016) for each weaver concentred village in these domains requires a suitable methodology. This topic prepared on Simple Average Method (SAM) for measuring Standard of Living (SL). SLI is made up of five distinctive indices such as quantity of household size (HH S), standard of education (SE), standard of health (SH), social security scheme (SSS) and monthly family income (MFI).

Table8. *List of selected indicators of Standard of Living*

	Standard of Health (SH)	
	Availability of Bathroom (% of population with access)	
	Improved Water source (% of population with access)	
	Standard of Education (SE)	
	Net primary enrolment (%)	
	Reverse of Drop out Student (1/% of Drop out)	
Standard of Living		
	Social Security Scheme (SSS)	
	Availability of BPL card (% of weaver)	
	Availability of Weavers Credit Card (% of weaver)	
	Availability of Health Card ICICI Loombard (% of weaver)	
	Availability of M.G.B.B.Y for old age pension (% of weaver)	
	Availability of Bank account (% of weaver)	
	Household Size (HHS)	
	Number of members of a family **Income**	

Monthly family income

At first indices have been calculated for every indicator with the normalized score then score are merged and divided them with number of indicators giving the equal weight age of every indicators of that domain. After calculating the indices of a domain they all are merged and divided with the number of domain for getting the Standard of Living Index (SLI).

Table9. *Standard of Living Index of Handloom Weavers*

Study Area	HH S	SH	SE	SSS	MFI	SLI
	a	b	c	d	e	(a+b+c+d+e)/5
Narayanpur	0.65	0.41	0.5	0.39	0.48	**0.49**
Shukdebpur	0.22	0.81	0.68	0.33	0.52	**0.51**
Jalalpur	0.33	0.75	0.62	0.51	0.53	**0.55**
Boaldaha	0.65	0.49	0.48	0.45	0.51	**0.52**
Maharajpur	0.82	0.53	0.27	0.66	0.56	**0.57**
Thengapara	0.49	0.64	0.51	0.75	0.61	**0.60**
Karial	0.56	0.62	0.46	0.64	0.58	**0.57**
Nandanpur	0.13	0.94	0.86	0.19	0.53	**0.53**
Jaypur	0.19	0.81	0.71	0.35	0.52	**0.52**
Belbari	0.33	0.74	0.63	0.44	0.54	**0.54**
Keshabpur	0.81	0.31	0.31	0.14	0.36	**0.39**
Paton	0.27	0.79	0.64	0.42	0.51	**0.53**
Tilna	0.37	0.75	0.59	0.47	0.56	**0.55**
Burinagar	0.62	0.51	0.42	0.35	0.43	**0.47**
Bhaktipur	0.56	0.59	0.46	0.45	0.51	**0.51**
Durgapur	0.54	0.58	0.48	0.79	0.6	**0.60**
Kadighat	0.89	0.34	0.32	0.59	0.51	**0.53**
Gangarampur Municipality	0.12	0.98	0.98	0.79	0.74	**0.72**

Source. *Based on Author's calculation with the help of household survey data, 2016*

From the above table 10, we can understand that most of the villages has low stanadrd of living below 0.6 e.g Keshabpur, Narayanpur, Jay pur, Burinagar, Sukhdebpur. Beyond these Gangarampur, Maharajpur, Thengapara has quite high standard of living. Gangarampur occupied higher level of Standard of living the reason is that it is a municipality area and peoples are more concious about various types of government schemes, facilities and so on. Inspite gangarampur municipality; Maharajpur and Thengapara has been achievd high level of standard of living beacouse these mouszas are adjacent to urban couterparts and those peoples are always try to gain urban life style. On the other hand the villages which belongs low level of Standard of living, these villages are far away from the block headquarter. So, they could not aware about different government facilities and that affect their livelihood badly.

2.3. Relation of HQLI, SE and SH with Household Size

Household size or family size is one of the major factors that affect any society for their livelihood. Large household sizes always adversely affect quality of life and standard of living of a family. Here, we can find out the relation of HQLI, SE and SH with family size.

➢ The effect of family size on individual members of family is also equally more important.

➢ The numbers of children are less. Therefore, parents are able to pay more attention to them and their needs. Modern parents are comparatively more careful about their children regarding what they eat, what they wear, where they play and when they sleep, etc.

➢ The parents are more conscious of their children's health. Not only have they cared seriously about various preventive vaccines, but also their general health, weight, height etc.

➢ The education, particularly the higher education is very expensive and middle class parents can hardly afford it for their children. A good education is essential to assure a bright future of their children. It is possible only when the family size is small.
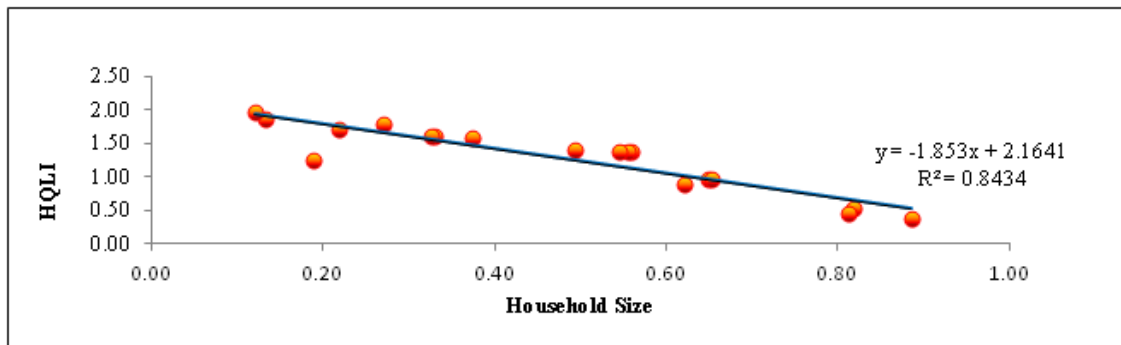

Figure6. *Relation between Household Size and HQLI of weavers in Gangarampur block*
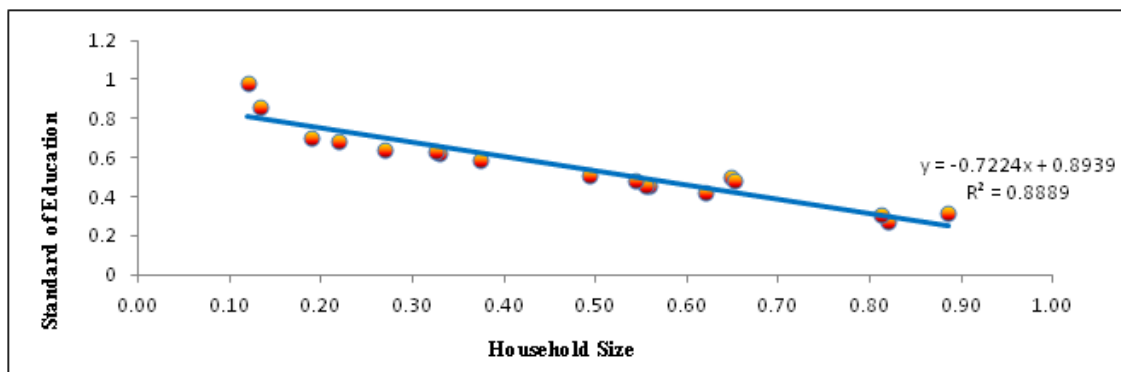
Figure7. *Relation between Household size and Standard of Education of weavers in Gangarampur block*
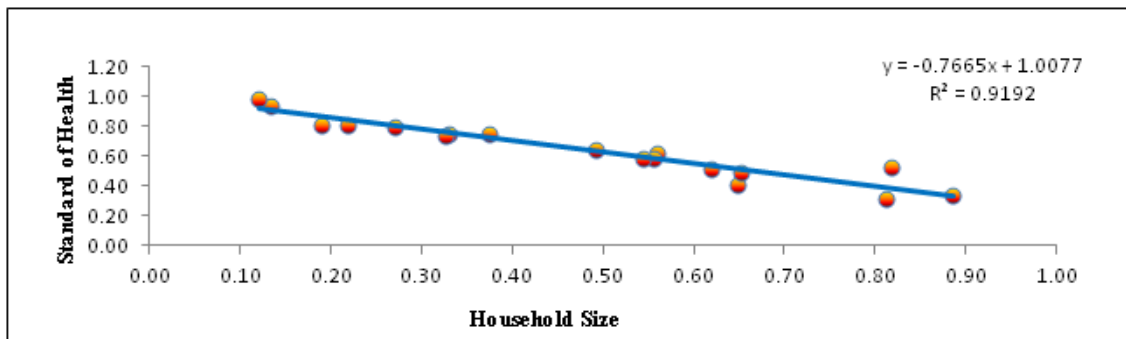
Figure8. *Relation between Household Size and Standard of Health of weavers in Gangarampur Block*

3. PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED HANDLOOM INDUSTRY

Today, in the country, handloom production is the second largest employment-generating activity after agriculture and it contributes nearly 14% share of the total production of textile industry. But at the present time, this industry is facing multifarious problems that some other industries did not face

(Chaudhary, et al., 2015). The sector is beset with various problems, such as obsolete technology, haphazard production system, low productivity, inadequate working capital, conventional product range, weak marketing links, overall stagnation of production and sales and above all, competition from power looms and mill sector. Here we can attemped statistical method **Principal Component Analysis** (**PCA**) to find out the problems that's adversly affect handloom industry.

4. HYPOTHESES DEVELOPMENT

H1: The declining productivity of handloom industry is caused by contemporaneous abuzz of internal and external factors

H1.1: Weaver's have lack of skill.

H1.2: Low level of wages.

H1.3: Low demand of handloom cloths.

H1.4: Traditional production & lack of diversification.

H1.5: Lack of modernisation of loom.

H1.6: Misuse brand name.

H1.7: High price of raw materials.

H1.8: Weavers don't get quality raw material.

H1.9: Weaver's faces scarcity of working capital.

H1.10: Power loom as a competitor.

H1.11: Government supports are not effective.

H1.12: Shifting 100 days work.

H1.13: Government supports are not sufficient.

H1.14: The industry faces competition with other products in market.

H1.15: Primitive technology.

H1.16: Political pollution.

4.1. Empirical findings

Here, we have used Factor Analysis to analyze hypotheses ranging from 1.1 to 1.16 under H1

Table10. *KMO and Bartlett's Test*

Kaiser-Meyer-Olkin Measure of Sampling Adequacy.		.716
Bartlett's Test of Sphericity	Approx. Chi-Square	1100.113
	Df	120
	Sig.	.000

From the above table 11, it is clear that our factor analysis is appropriate as **KMO** test result is greater than .50 and it is valid as **Bartlett's** test indicates .000 probability (.000) which is less than significant level (.05).

Table11. *Total Variance Explained*

Component	Initial Eigen values			Extraction Sums of Squared Loadings			Rotation Sums of Squared Loadings		
	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %	Total	% of Variance	Cumulative %
1	4.851	30.320	30.320	4.851	30.320	30.320	3.610	22.564	22.564
2	2.470	15.439	45.758	2.470	15.439	45.758	2.899	18.116	40.680
3	1.575	9.844	55.602	1.575	9.844	55.602	1.853	11.580	52.260
4	1.307	8.172	63.774	1.307	8.172	63.774	1.443	9.021	61.281
5	1.039	6.491	70.265	1.039	6.491	70.265	1.437	8.983	70.265

From the above table 12, 5 factors have been extracted as cumulative frequency is greater than 70% that indicates the adequacy of the analysis through the derived factors.

Table12. *Component Matrixa*

	Component				
	1	**2**	**3**	**4**	**5**
Weaver's have lack of skill	.604	-.322	.339	.068	-.079
Low level of wages	.198	.693	-.389	-.143	.105
Low demand of handloom cloths	-.469	.250	-.168	-.037	-.704
Traditional production & lack of diversification	-.661	.384	-.083	-.218	.311
Lack of modernisation of loom	-.870	.230	.103	-.055	.106
Primitive technology	-.639	.313	-.202	-.178	-.073
High price of raw materials	.342	.656	.223	-.096	-.256
Weavers don't get quality raw material	.533	.625	-.143	-.001	.106
Weaver's faces scarcity of working capital	-.005	.527	.629	-.076	.227
Power loom as a competitor	.845	.155	.157	-.053	.126
Government supports are not effective	.541	.408	.209	-.260	-.260
Shifting 100 days work	.250	.338	.052	.719	-.110
Government support are not sufficient	-.186	.292	-.410	.661	.059
The industry faces competition with other products in market	.496	.006	-.477	-.143	.666
Misuse brand name	.768	-.014	-.160	.111	-.011
Political pollution	-.532	.189	.513	.355	.227

Extraction Method: *Principal Component Analysis*

a. 5 components extracted

5factors has been extracted from the component matrix on the basis of factor loading to encounter our first hypothesis (H1) that is the declining productivity of handloom industry is caused by contemporaneous abuzz of internal and external forces.

4.2. Extracted Factors Under H1:

➤ Power loom as a competitor.

➤ Low level of wages and high price of raw materials.

➤ Weaver's faces scarcity of working capital.

➤ Shifting 100 days work.

➤ The industry faces competition with other products in market.

4.3. Analysis of factors under H1 and other core hypotheses through T-Test

Factor 1: Power loom as a competitor

The hypothesis is accepted, as probability (.000) is less than the significant level (.05). So, we can conclude that the power loom is the factor to burden handloom industry (Table: T1)

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 3					
				Mean Difference	**95% Confidence Interval of the Difference**	
	t	**df**	**Sig. (2-tailed)**		**Lower**	**Upper**
Power loom as a competitor	12.422	149	.000	1.04667	.8802	1.2132

Factor 2: Low level of wages

The hypothesis is accepted, as probability (.000) is less than the significant level (.05). So, we can conclude that the low level of wages of weavers affects handloom industry (Table: T2).

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 3					
				Mean Difference	**95% Confidence Interval of the Difference**	
	t	**df**	**Sig. (2-tailed)**		**Lower**	**Upper**
Low level of wages	5.736	149	.000	.61333	.4020	.8246

Factor 3: Weaver's faces scarcity of working capital

The hypothesis is accepted, as probability (.000) is less than the significant level (.05). So, we can conclude that the weavers face scarcity of working capital (Table: T3).

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 3					
	t	df	Sig. (2tailed)	Mean Difference	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
					Lower	Upper
Weaver's faces scarcity of working capital	4.882	149	.000	.42667	.2540	.5994

Factor 4: Shifting 100 days work

The hypothesis is accepted, as probability (.021) is less than the significant level (.05). So, we can conclude that the weavers shifted 100 days work (Table: T4).

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 3					
				Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Difference	Lower	Upper
Shifting 100 days work	-2.334	149	.021	-.19333	-.3570	-.0296

Factor 5: The industry faces competition with other products in market

The hypothesis is accepted, as probability (.000) is less than the significant level (.05). So, we can conclude that the industry faces competition with other products in market which is badly affects the industry (Table: T5).

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 3					
				Mean	95% Confidence Interval of the Difference	
	t	df	Sig. (2-tailed)	Difference	Lower	Upper
The industry faces competition with other products in market	28.470	149	.000	1.49333	1.3897	1.5970

We have extracted five factors from the Factor Analysis. Although, with these factors, there are also some significant factors that are also important to find out the reasons for which the handloom industry of the study area is now on the way of extinction. So, in the following, we will analyze these factors.

H2: Weaver's have lack of skill

H3: Low demand of handloom cloths

H4: Traditional production & lack of diversification

H5: Lack of modernisation of loom

H6: Primitive technology

H7: High price of raw materials

H8: Weavers don't get quality raw material

H9: Government supports are not sufficient and effective

H11: Misuse brand name

H12: Political pollution

4.4. Testing of Other Core Hypotheses

H2: Weaver's have Lack of Skill

The hypothesis is accepted, as probability (.000) is less than the significant level (.05). So, we can conclude that the weavers have skill deficiency (Table: T6).

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 3					
				Mean Difference	**95% Confidence Interval of the Difference**	
	t	**df**	**Sig. (2tailed)**		**Lower**	**Upper**
Weaver's have lack of skill	25.924	149	.000	1.44000	1.3302	1.5498

H3: Low Demand of Handloom Cloths

The hypothesis is accepted, as probability (.000) is less than the significant level (.05). So, we can conclude that the low demand of handloom cloth is one of the major causes to declining production (Table: T7).

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 3					
				Mean Difference	**95% Confidence Interval of the Difference**	
	t	**df**	**Sig. (2tailed)**		**Lower**	**Upper**
Low demand of handloom cloths	-12.209	149	.000	-1.01333	-1.1773	-.8493

H4: Traditional Production & Lack of Diversification

The hypothesis is accepted, as probability (.000) is less than the significant level (.05). So, we can conclude that the traditional production and lack of diversification of badly affect this industry (Table: T 8).

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 3					
				Mean Difference	**95% Confidence Interval of the Difference**	
	t	**df**	**Sig. (2tailed)**		**Lower**	**Upper**
Traditional production & lack of diversification	-3.923	149	.000	-.33333	-.5012	-.1654

H5: Lack of modernisation of loom

The hypothesis is accepted, as probability (.038) is less than the significant level (.05). So, we can conclude that the lack modernization of loom causes of declining handloom production (Table: T9).

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 3					
				Mean Difference	**95% Confidence Interval of the Difference**	
	t	**df**	**Sig. (2tailed)**		**Lower**	**Upper**
Lack of modernisation of loom	-2.098	149	.038	-.21333	-.4143	-.0124

H6: Primitive Technology

The hypothesis is not accepted, as probability (.666) is greater than the significant level (.05). So, we cannot conclude that the weavers are not faces in this problem (Table: T10).

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 3					
				Mean Difference	**95% Confidence Interval of the Difference**	
	t	**df**	**Sig. (2tailed)**		**Lower**	**Upper**
Primitive technology	.432	149	.666	.03333	-.1190	.1857

H7: High Price of Raw Materials

The hypothesis is accepted, as probability (.000) is less than the significant level (.05). So, we can conclude that the high price of raw materials affects declining production (Table: T11).

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 3					
				Mean Difference	**95% Confidence Interval of the Difference**	
	t	**df**	**Sig. (2tailed)**		**Lower**	**Upper**
High price of raw materials	19.197	149	.000	1.17333	1.0526	1.2941

H8: Weavers don't get Quality Raw Material

The hypothesis is accepted, as probability (.000) is less than the significant level (.05). So, we can conclude that the weavers do not get quality raw materials at right time and right price (Table: T12).

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 3					
				Mean Difference	**95% Confidence Interval of the Difference**	
	t	**df**	**Sig. (2tailed)**		**Lower**	**Upper**
Weavers don't get quality raw material	7.081	149	.000	.64000	.4614	.8186

H9: Government Supports are not Sufficient and Effective

The hypothesis is accepted, as probability (.000) is less than the significant level (.05). So, we can conclude that Government supports to handloom industry are not sufficient and effective (Table: T13 & T14).

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 3					
				Mean Difference	**95% Confidence Interval of the Difference**	
	t	**df**	**Sig. (2tailed)**		**Lower**	**Upper**
Government supports are not effective	33.614	149	.000	1.68667	1.5875	1.7858

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 3					
				Mean Difference	**95% Confidence Interval of the Difference**	
	t	**df**	**Sig. (2tailed)**		**Lower**	**Upper**
Government supports are not sufficient	-8.023	149	.000	-.60667	-.7561	-.4572

H11: Misuse Brand Name

The hypothesis is accepted, as probability (.000) is less than the significant level (.05). So, we can conclude that the misuse brand name causes declining production in this industry (Table: T15).

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 3					
				Mean Difference	**95% Confidence Interval of the Difference**	
	t	**df**	**Sig. (2tailed)**		**Lower**	**Upper**
Misuse brand name	5.090	149	.000	.53333	.3263	.7404

H12: Political Pollution

The hypothesis is accepted, as probability (.000) is less than the significant level (.05). So, we can conclude that the political pollution affects handloom weavers as well as industry (Table: T16).

One-Sample Test

	Test Value = 3					
				Mean Difference	**95% Confidence Interval of the Difference**	
	t	**df**	**Sig. (2tailed)**		**Lower**	**Upper**
Political pollution	-11.420	149	.000	-.92000	-1.0792	-.7608

5. MAJOR FINDINGS

➢ Low income of the weavers is a major problem here as most of the weavers still using traditional method/machine which gives low output and only those who have the ability to buy the jacquard loom have been benefitted but such percentage is very low.

➢ Majority are male weavers, female are only engaged in spinning the thread. So, excessive workloads. But in rural areas majority are female workers the reason behind this most of the male worker migrated or shifted others better jobbed.

➢ The adult handloom workers have very low levels of educational attainment. So they are not aware from various types of Govt. Schemes. As a result this affects their socio-cultural and economic life.

➢ Household Quality of Living Index (HQLI) Standard of Living Index (SLI) of Handloom Weavers in rural area is very low compare to urban area due to different types of urban facility.

6. CONCLUSION

The handloom weaving style unique to this region is famously known as *Tant Benarashi* Saree. But now a day's condition of handloom industry is very bad and fall under tragic situation. People, who live here mostly, are very poor. Middle aged people are unable to sustain a living in this area due to the lack of availability of job resources hence are compelled to migrate to other states in search of better jobs. Mostly old age people and females are engaged in weaving. Though once weaving was their primary occupation, it failed to earn reasonable money for them, so now people are not wholly dependent on weaving and many of them have turned to agriculture for a better living. Government inefficiencies are a major problem that the weavers face. Schemes are not executed properly and all of the money and the facilities not reached to the grass root people. They are totally deprived. So that planning execution is essential by which local people could get those facilities properly.

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