

Apparel industry in contemporary India

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Research Area: India
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Keywords: Apparel, Textiles , North India, Labor, Products

Background and objectives of this research

The apparel and textile industry of India is the second largest economic activity in the country in terms of provider of employment after agriculture. It is also one of the major sources of export earnings for the country. The export basket consists of wide range of items containing cotton yarn and fabrics, man-made yarn and fabrics, wool and silk fabrics, made-ups and variety of garments. In 2009-10, it contributed about 14 percent to industrial production, 4 percent to the GDP, and 17 percent to the country's export earnings. It provides direct employment to over 35 million people, which includes a substantial number of SC/ ST and women.

The growth and all round development of this industry has a direct bearing on the improvement of the economy of the nation and also the quota-free regime after 2005. Since the time of independence, the small-scale sector in India has been a huge contributor to apparel and textile industry under the government supports. This traditional sector plays still major part in this industry especially in North India such as Delhi. Men are employed predominantly in finishing units in Delhi, compared with the South India. Worker characteristics are connected with the kind of products they produce.

This study looks at the relation between labor and products from the basic parameters of the industry such as number of units, employment, output, value add, number/kinds of machines .I hope that this study will be helpful in better understanding how and why apparel and textile industry in India could been grown facing the current global economic environment.

Pictures



[Baka pygmie at Dja Researve]



[Bororo family at Andom]



[Ready made garment shop in Yaoundé]



[Ladies in Foumban]