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A STUDY OF EMPLOYMENT GENERATION DURING THE WARI PERIOD IN PANDHARPUR

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Abstract:The Lord Vitthala at Pandharpur is a favourite deity of the Maharashtra's working classes Pandharpur town is regarded as the 'Heaven on Earth' by the Vitthala's devotees across Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Goa etc. these devotees undertake regular pilgrimage to Pandharpur throughout the year. In colloquial Marathi, this particular pilgrimage is known as Wari.

Keyword:economic , commodities , Temporary , Shopkeepers.

INTRODUCTION:

The Wari occurs on every 11th day in the Hindu months it's called Ekadashi, there are 12 shuddha Ekadashis in a year it means there are 12 Waries in a year. Out of the 12 Waries there are 4 big Waries, according to Hindu Calendar months, are called Ashadhi, Kartiki, Maghi and Chaitri. Out of these four Waries ' Ashadi ' Wari is the biggest one, because the 10-12 lack Warkaries came to Pandharpur in this Wari. The Ashadi Wari indeed promotes the economic development of Pandharpur town by generating incomes and employment opportunities for the local people. So the subject " Impact of Wari on generation of employment in Pandharpur " is very important for study.

OBJECTIVES OF RESEARCH ARTICLE :

- 1)Try to study of economic aspect of Wari.
- 2)To quantify the generation of employment during the Wari period.
- 3)To put a meaningful suggestions for increasing the employment in the Pandharpur region.

METHODOLOGY :

This research Article is depending upon the research done on the Ashadhi Wari in the Pandharpur. The primary and secondary data used for the study.

1) Primary Data :

- a.Required primary data was collected by conducting a field survey and observations.
- b.5% samples taken from out of total sellers of Wari commodities, producers, rental houses, mathas, hotels and others.
- 2)Secondary data was collected from published sources for exam. Govt. Gazettes boos and municipal records.
- 3)Period of survery 2010-2012 only Ashadhi Wari.

EMPLOYMENT GENERATION DURING THE WARI PERIOD :

The Ashadhi Wari indeed promotes the economic

development of Pandharpur town by generation income and employment opportunities for the local population. For understanding the impact of the Ashadhi Wari on employment generation, these have been divided into two parts, namely temporary employment and permanent employment. The sum of these two would give an idea of the total employment generation, as shown in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1.
Employment Generation (Temporary and Permanent) during Ashadhi Wari period.

Sr.No.	Source of Employment	Total Number	Average Employment	Total Permanent	Total Temporary	Total Employment (5+6)
1	Commodity producers	324	4.58	1487	-	1487(4.98)
2	Shopkeepers					
	a) Permant	950	3.05	2906	-	
	b) Temporary	3550	3.05	-	10827	13733(46.02)
3	Lodging Services					
	a) Mathas	500	4.00	2000		2500
	b) Rental Houses	500	1.00	-	500	(8.38)
4	Boarding Services					
	a) Permanent Hotles	300	8.00	2400		
	b) Big Temp. Hotels	300	8.00		2400	
5	Temporary Services				0	
	a) Boating on the River	150	1		150	
	b) River Pooja Articles	70	1		70	
	c) Light Snacks Stalls	150	1		150	
	d) Pan & Tobacco Stalls	200	1		200	
	e) Gandh (Tilak)	200	1		200	
	f) Engravers	300	1		300	

g) Kerosene, Milk Sellers	200	1		200	
h) Fruits & Vegetables	300	1		300	
i) Haberdashery Vending	1000	1		1000	
j) Flowers and Garlands	150	1		150	
k) Barbar Shop	150	1		150	
l) Temp. Municipal Workers	450	1		450	
Total			8793 (29.46)	21047 (70.54)	29840 (100)

Note:

- i) Figures in brackets are percentages.
ii) Samples are taken 5% out of Total Numbers of source of Employment.

The table shows the entire picture of the temporary and permanent employment generation during the Ashadhi Wari period. An employment source wise analysis shows that :

1) Wari commodity producers:

It is seen that the 324 Wari commodity producers on an average employ 4.58 persons and thereby create a percent employment for 1,487 persons throughout the year.

2) Shopkeepers:

Permanent 950 shopkeepers provide employment to 906 persons throughout the year on the other hand nearly 3550 temporary shops of Wari commodities employ 10827 persons on temporary basis. Thus, both the permanent and temporary shops provide employment to 13,723 persons.

3) Lodgings services :

These services provided by mathas and private rental houses. The number of the mathas registered with the local municipality is 500. The work or maintenance up keep and management of the mathas goes on throughout the year. These mathas offer lodging services to the Warkaries and devotees coming to Pandharpur. Each Matha, on average employ 4 persons throughout the year, thus provides percent employment to 2000 persons.

During the Ashadhi Wari period 500 residential house owners convert their homes into rental houses for providing lodging service to the Warkaries. Thus the house owners also are gainfully employed. The lodging services thus generate an employment for 2500 persons.

4) Boarding Services:

Provisions of tea, coffee, snacks and to some extent, meals to the Warkaries are included in the boarding services. These are provided by permanent hotels and temporary hotels. The 300 permanent hotels, on an average, employ 8 persons each, that is 2400 persons collectively. In Wari period nearly 300 large and 1000 small temporary hotels come up the 300 large hotels, employing, on an average 8 persons each and provide total employment to 2400 persons. While 1000 small hotels employing, on an average 4 persons each and provide employment to 4000 persons. In other wards boarding services provide up to 8800 employment

opportunities.

5) Other temporary services :

As shown in the table, temporary employment for 3,320 persons is generated through the provision of temporary services.

Thus it is seen that these five sources of temporary employment provide gainful employment to a total of 29840 persons during the Wari period.

CONCLUSIONS :

1) During the Ashadhi Wari period, Total 29,840 persons are gainfully Employed out of these 8,793 Persons are in permanent employment, While 21,047 persons are in temporary Employment thus, the temporary Employment is Three and half times more than the Permanent employment. This is also shown with the help of graph 1.1

2) Factor-wise share of employment generation during Ashadhi Wari shows that the selling services sector generates largest employments of 46.02% followed by boarding services 29.50% temporary services sector 11.12% lodging services 8.83% and lastly production sector generating 4.98% employment. This makes it clear that the employment generation is much less than the other sector. It is shown in following graph 1.2

3) It is noteworthy that the production sector does not generate any temporary employment, because the work of producing Wari commodities goes on throughout the year. But remaining sectors namely, lodging, boarding services and temporary services, all generate significant temporary employment.

4) Out of the five Wari related employment generating sectors only the production sector requires skilled workers. There already is an acute shortage of such workers. The remaining sectors provide gainful employment to unskilled workers on a large scale.

5) Lodging services do not become available to all the warkaries as well as many of the Wari commodities have to be imported from outside. It also means that there is an ample scope for expansion in these two sectors, which will create further employment opportunities.

SUGGESTIONS:

- (1) Govt. to put small MIDC for producing Wari commodities.
- (2) To arrange training camp for unskilled labours.
- (3) To provide the sufficient capital for small scale industries and sellers and service producers.

The Ashadhi Wari provides gainful employment to thousands of people (29,840), which increase their income that is spent on consumption. The Wari also changes the people's standard of living. The Wari thus boosts the economic development of Phandharpur town. Today still there is a scope for increase in both the permanent and temporary employment opportunities.

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