CHAPTER II

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STATEMENT OF PROBLEM:

The basic problems confronting the handloom sub-sector are manifold and multiplying while there is great need for augmenting the tempo of production by modernizing the production in the light of competitive potential of the sub-sector such as flexibility of production, openness to innovation, low amount of capital investment and larger scope for new designs.

Most of the weavers co-operative societies are found less impressive. And most of them are unable to step up their production volumes as they are plagued by the problems such as non-availability of yarn at reasonable prices, shortage of raw materials, lack of efficient marketing network, lack of credit facilities, lack of organisational skill, absence of sufficient facilities for dyeing and processing, uneconomic size and absence of appropriate technology.
In view of inherent potentials, a new policy initiative of Handloom Co-operative sub-sector should be a new imperative rewarding in the context of increasing rural industrialisation in Manipur.

**OBJECTIVES :**

The objectives of the proposed study are:

1. To study the growth and development of the Weavers Co-operative Societies in Manipur.

2. To study the role of Weavers Co-operative Societies in generating the employment opportunities, income and production in the state.

3. To examine the productivity of society, loom and weaver.

4. To identify the operational constraints and problems.

5. To suggest the suitable measures for the better performance in the light of changing economic scenario.
HYPOTHESIS:

1. The Weavers Co-operative Societies are not playing a vital role in generating the employment opportunities and productions of various handloom products in the state.

2. The members of weavers co-operative societies are not fully aware of various schemes launched from time to time by the Central as well as State Government.

3. Insufficient raw - materials, non-availability of adequate financial assistance, lack of processing facilities and impecunious knowledge about the marketing network are the main hurdles in the development of Weavers Co-operative Societies in the state.

4. The weavers of the co-operative societies are not having upgraded skill and technology to increase quality and productivity.
METHODOLOGY:

The present study is based on both Primary and Secondary data. Primary Data are collected from respondents through questionnaires directly with instruments such as: personal interview with the help of specifically designed and pre-tested schedule and detailed discussion with the members and office bearers of the primary societies. The collection of primary data is conducted through sampling method. Two sample districts namely *Imphal East* and *Imphal West* are randomly selected. The sample size is 118 for Imphal East and 117 for Imphal West. Optimal sample size is estimated by employing precision formula.

Secondary data are collected from sources viz. Annual reports and publications of Co-operative Department, Industries Department, Reports of Handloom Census, Statistics Department, Annual reports of the Directorate of Information and Public Relations, Government of Manipur, Publications of the National Co-operative Union of India and Manipur State Co-operative Union, Manipur State Handloom Co-operative Society and other published literatures etc.
CRITICAL OBSERVATION ON THE WORKING CONDITION OF
IMA LEIMAREL SIDABI WEAVERS' CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD.
IMPHAL WEST DISTRICT

INTERACTION BETWEEN WEAVERS AND
THE RESEARCH SCHOLAR
AUTHOR'S VISIT
AT KONGBA MEIROMBI WEAVERS' CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD,
IMPHAL EAST DISTRICT.

EXISTING MACHINERY (LOOM) OF
THE KONGBA MEIROMBI WEAVERS' CO-OPERATIVE SOCIETY LTD.
The data collected from various sources are tabulated and analysed systematically with the help of appropriate accounting and statistical tools such as average mean, standard deviation, correlation, regression and test of variance ratio etc. to get the desired result. Essentially it is operational research and exploratory in character. The period covered by the survey is 1998-2000.

SIGNIFICANCE & SCOPE OF THE STUDY:

With the development of modern technology, the handloom weavers of Manipur have already made rigorous efforts to produce various items by using polyester and silk yarns. Moreover, the typical design of Manipur handloom products, i.e. Sarees, Bed Sheets, Dress Materials, Woolen shawls, Scarf etc. are very much in high demand in both domestic and global markets. One may hopefully look forward to the streams of returns from the handloom sub-sector. The prospect of raising of p.c. share of the value of production of the handloom societies in the State Domestic Product (SDP) of the economy of Manipur may be exciting. The exercise attempts to analyse production, generation of income and creation of employment at micro level.
AN INTERVIEW WITH A NON CO-OPERATIVE WEAVER.
With a view to analysing the problems and prospects of the primary weavers co-operative societies, which are at the grass root level of the handloom co-operative movement in Manipur, an empirical research study is conducted. The development of the weavers co-operatives in the state will promote the development of economy of Manipur State. The study may touch on the vital linkages between weaving sub-sector and other sectors of the economy to the extent necessary.

LIMITATIONS:

The study is not free from obvious limitations as the units at micro level are run and managed by illiterate weavers. Adequate information and greater details cannot be collected through questionnaires and discussions. Besides they suffer from the "memory factor". The second limitation is the reluctance on the part of government functionaries and bankers to have a free and frank discussion on the various perspectives of the issue. The third limitation is the nature of the problem itself in the sense that there are certain areas which need to be brought under discussion while these areas are mostly of socio-cultural nature. In other words, the quantification of socio-cultural variables proves a difficult task. To that extent the exercise may suffer.