occupations and as such, the artistic women have no status or lower status. Hence, the above stated hypothesis is not proved and rejected.

Chapter. VII

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

7.1. Introduction:

It is highlighted that approximately two hundred years ago, Indian products especially skills and art based works attracted the British merchants of East India Company. In this regard, it is emphasized that artistic works and handicrafts are considered a key factor in economic development as it provides self-employment to millions of people including women. Women empowerment is emphasized by the governments. Women’s economic empowerment is made by self-employment given by artistic works and handicrafts. The presence of small entrepreneurs, handicrafts and artistic works producers is believed to contribute to economic development, along with other factors such as capital, human resource and natural resources. 'An increase in the number of artistic workers and people engaged in crafts leads to an increase in economic growth. Each of these occupations is contributing to the national income in small scale. Full employment is also characteristic among the families engaged in these occupations.

On the other hand, due to competition from globalization and establishment of large scale industries, these occupations are under threat. As the people engaged in these occupations are middle class or poor class, they find it difficult to survive in the competition with large scale industries. The governments should look into the contributions made by these artistic occupations and handicrafts and
encourage these occupations by way of organizing training, financial assistance, easier availability of loans, subsidy on loans, etc.

Indian Constitution emphasized for gender equality and governments are constantly formulating many social welfare schemes for the empowerment of rural women. But still, women even though participating in the artistic works and handicrafts, their contributions are not recognized and due to the competition from large scale industries, lower demand for the products, lower prices, etc., these women are not getting recognized in the society. Hence, it is essential on the part of the government and society to develop these occupations, so that women actively involve in these occupations and their families should also survive. For this purpose, the present study was made to look into the socio-economic problems of the women artisans and women engaged in handicrafts and the findings from the study are divided into three categories. That is findings from the respondents living in urban areas such as cities and towns and findings from the respondents living in rural areas such as villages. The overall findings or major findings from the study by accumulating the responses of both the urban and rural respondents are categorized into major findings. These findings are discussed as under.

7.2. Findings:

Findings from Urban Respondents:

As discussed already, the findings from the responses of the urban respondents are summarized as under.

1. Total 200 respondents living in six towns namely, Afzalpur, Aland, Chincholi, Chittapur, Jewargi and Sedam and Gulbarga city are surveyed. The respondents here are the women engaged in artistic works and handicrafts.
2. The age-group of the respondents revealed that, 26.0% of the respondents are in the age group of 41 to 50 years followed by, 22.5% are in the age group of 51 to 60 years, 20.0% of the respondents are in the age group of 26 to 40 years, 19.0% are of more than 60 years, 10.5% are in the age group of 18 to 25 years and 2.0% are of below 18 years respectively.

3. Education shows that, 61.0% have completed only primary or secondary education (up to 10th Standard) followed by, 24.0% are under graduates or completed Pre-University level, 8.5% have completed graduation and 6.5% of the urban respondents are illiterates respectively.

4. Religion of urban respondents revealed that, 77.5% are Hindus followed by, 17.5% are Muslims, only 3.0% are Christians and 2.0% are from Buddhist and Jain religions.

5. Caste of the urban respondents shows that, 21.5% are belongs to scheduled castes, only 6.0% are belongs to scheduled tribes, majority that is, 60.5% are of other backward classes and 12.0% are from other castes or forward castes.

6. The particular occupations of the artistic women living in urban areas revealed that, 11.0% are engaged in weaving, 19.0% are engaged in pottery, 5.0% are engaged in black smithy, 7.0% are engaged in matt or rope or rope making, 2.0% are sculptors, 12.5% are engaged in knitting, stitching or embroidery, 6.0% are engaged in carpentry, 20.5% are cobblers or leather workers, 5.5% are traditional jewelry makers, 3.0% are painters, dramatists, folk artists, etc and 8.5% are engaged in other occupations.

7. Marital status of the respondents shows that, 3.0% of the respondents are unmarried and living single, majority, that is 84.0% are married and living with their husbands, 10.5% are widows and 2.5% of the respondents include divorcees or separated women.

8. It is highlighted that only 44.0% of the urban respondents are living in joint family, whereas majority, that is 56.0% are living in nuclear or single families.
9. Information collected on the number of children of the respondents depicted that, 67.0% of the respondents have 1-2 children followed by, 21.0% have 3 to 4 children, only 2.5% have 05 or more children, 6.5% have no children and it is not applicable to 3.0% respondents as they are unmarried.

10. The family background of the urban respondents depicted that, 51.0% are from rural areas or villages, 25.5% are from urban areas or Gulbarga city and 23.5% are from suburban places or towns respectively.

11. Residential status of urban respondents made it clear that, 55.0% are living in their own building, 19.0% are living in rented house and the remaining 26.0% are living in temporary house or Kachcha House respectively.

12. On the equality of women with men, 10.5% of the urban respondents have stated that they are equal to men in all aspects, 6.5% have expressed that they are equal in economic and religious aspects, surprisingly 3.0% of the respondents have remarked that they are superior to men in all aspects and an overwhelming majority, that is 80.0% have opined that they are subordinate to men in all aspects.

13. On the equality in marital relations, only 4.0% of the urban respondents have remarked that wife is superior to husband, 36.5% have agreed that wife is equal to husband and 59.5% have expressed that wife is inferior to husband.

14. The relationship of the urban respondents with their husbands shows that, 26.5% have stated that their relationship with their husband is best, 24.5% have expressed that their relationship with their husbands is cordial, 27.0% have remarked that the relationship with their husband is satisfactory, 6.0% have opined that their relationship with their husbands is not satisfactory and for the remaining 16.0% of the respondents, it is not applicable as they includes unmarried, widows or divorced respondents.

15. On the future of girls as thought out by the urban respondents, 4.5% have expressed that the future of girls depends on economic status including
their family occupations such as crafts, 17.0% have remarked that higher education is influencing factor in determining the future of girls, 46.0% have expressed that employment in organized sector plays significant in future of girls, 26.5% have stated that the lifestyle of husband plays pivot role in future of the girls and 6.0% have given other factors on which future of girls depends.

16. Frequencies of quarrels, conflicts and differences of opinions in the families of the urban respondents shows that, 7.0% have remarked that there are regular conflicts and quarrels in family, 42.0% have stated that there are occasional conflicts and quarrels in family, 29.0% have agreed that there are rare conflicts and quarrels in family and 22.0% have stated that there are no quarrels or conflicts in their families.

17. Reasons for quarrels and conflicts revealed that, 33.5% of the respondents have stated that there are economic aspects such as inadequate family income, 15.5% have stated that there is domestic violence due to drunkard husband, 27.0% have opined that there is feeling of superiority among each of their family members, 2.0% have given other reasons and for the remaining 22.0% of the respondents it is not applicable as there are no conflicts and quarrels in their families.

18. It is emphasized that many of the respondents have expressed more than one adverse effect due to outside work. Among the urban respondents, 51.0% have expressed that there is lack of care to children, 16.0% have stated that there is lack of care to elders, 28.5% have remarked that there are poor health conditions, 19.0% have opined that their peace of mind is disturbed and 7.0% have also given other types of adverse effects.

19. On decision making authorities in the family, it is noted that in the families of 22.5% of the urban respondents, their parents or parents-in-law are making the decisions, that of 26.5% of the respondents only husbands are making the decisions, in the families of 13.5%, the respondents are making the decisions on their own, in the families of 35.0% of the respondents,
both the husbands and wives are making the decisions and in the families of 2.5% of the respondents other persons like sons, daughters, etc are making the decisions.

20. On the extent of social life satisfaction, 41.0% of the urban respondents are fully satisfied followed by, 38.5% are satisfied to a greater extent and 20.5% are not satisfied respectively.

21. Mothers’ education of urban respondents revealed that, mothers of 14.0% of the respondents are illiterates, that of 51.5% of the respondents are completed up to 10th standard, mothers of 33.0% of the respondents are under-graduates and that of only 1.5% of the respondents are graduates respectively.

22. Education of father of the urban respondents shown that, the father’s education of 9.5% of the respondents is illiterates, that of 55.0% of the respondents have completed only up to 10th standard, fathers’ of 29.0% of the respondents have completed only under-graduation and fathers’ of 6.5% have completed graduation.

23. Education level of husbands of 4.5% of the urban respondents are illiterates, that of 54.0% of the urban respondents have completed education only up to 10th standard, that of 31.0% have completed under-graduation and husbands of 10.5% have completed graduation.

24. On children’s education, the children of 53.0% of the respondents are going to schools and colleges to get education, that of 12.5% are not going to schools or colleges and drop outs from education and unemployed, children of 14.0% of the respondents that educated and supporting to family crafts and artistic works, the children of 11.0% of the respondents are educated and got job in organized sector and it is not applicable to 9.5% of the respondents, as they are unmarried or not having children.

25. On the gains for their children’s education, 19.0% of the urban respondents have gained reservations in admissions for their children, 42.0% have gained scholarships or fellowships for their children’s education, 47.5%
have got free books, free uniforms, mid-day meals, etc for their children, 9.0% have gained financial assistance from NGOs or Municipalities, 10.5% have not availed any of the benefits from these schemes and it is not applicable to 22.0% of the respondents as they do not have children or their children are not educated.

26. The career ambitions that are thought for the future of their children revealed that, 31.0% of the urban respondents aimed for any government job for their children followed by, 27.0% have planned for teacher or lecturer jobs for their children, 13.0% have planned family occupation for their children, 11.0% have planned for Administrative Officers job for their children, for 9.5% of the respondents, it is not applicable as they do not have children, 6.5% have planned Doctor or Engineer occupation for their children and only 2.0% have planned for Chartered Accountants or Managerial Executives for their children respectively.

27. Purposes of girls’ education as expressed by urban respondents revealed that, 60.5% have stated that girls’ education is aimed towards to gain outside employment, 12.5% have expressed that the girls’ education is aimed to gain knowledge, 17.0% have remarked that girls’ education is aimed to know reading and writing, 8.0% have opined that girls’ education is aimed to change and improve their lifestyle and only 2.0% have stated that girls’ education is aimed to gain expertise in artistic works and handicrafts.

28. The type of training gained by the respondents on their occupations shows that, 86.5% have not went for any training in any kind of art or crafts based works, only 11.5% have attended short term courses from specialized institutions and 2.0% have attended general courses in management of small business.

29. Of course the in majority of the cases, the main occupations of the respondents are similar to the present occupation. But, it is also noted that few of the families of the respondents have been engaged in agriculture
earlier. In particular, main occupation of 13.0% of the urban respondents is agriculture, that of 8.5% of the respondents is weaving, family occupation of 16.0% of the respondents is pottery, family occupation of 5.0% of the respondents is black smithy, family occupation of 5.5% of the urban respondents is matt/ rope/ basket making, that of 2.0% of the respondents is sculpture, that of 6.5% of the urban respondents is knitting, stitching and embroidery, that of 6.0% of the urban respondents is carpentry or agricultural implements making, family occupation of 20.5% of the respondents is leather works, family occupation of 5.5% of the respondents is traditional jewelry making, that of 3.0% is playing drama, painting, etc and family occupation of 17 (8.5%) of the urban respondents other than above.

30. The husbands’ occupations of urban respondents revealed that, husbands of 5.5% of the respondents are engaged in agriculture or animal husbandry, that of 7.5% are engaged in business or industry, occupations of husbands of 8.5% of the rural respondents revealed that they are employed in organized sector, husbands of 4.0% of respondents are engaged in seasonal or unorganized sector employment, surprisingly, the occupation of husbands of majority, that is 58.5% crafts based family occupation and it is not applicable to 16.0% of the respondents as they are single, unmarried, widows, divorced or separated from their husbands.

31. On the capital investment into their occupations, surprisingly, 53.5% of the urban respondents have not disclosed the worth of capital investment and they stated it as hereditary occupation, 6.0% of the disclosed the worth of capital investment in their business is below Rs. 25000, about 29.0% of the urban respondents revealed that their capital investment is between Rs. 25001 to Rs. 50000 and the capital investment of 11.5% of the urban respondents is between Rs. 50001 to Rs. 1 lakh.

32. On the manpower in artistic works, 9.0% of the respondents are working as single artistic women worker, 10.5% are working in association in crafts
and arts works, 3.5% are working in cooperative society on salary basis and remaining 77.0% of the respondents are members in crafts or artistic families.

33. On the demand for and supply of products produced by the women artisans, 11.0% of the urban respondents expressed that their products are regularly produced, but their demand is only seasonal, 3.0% of the urban respondents have stated that their products are regularly demanded in market, but are produced in particular season in a year and majority of the respondents, that is 86.0% of the respondents have remarked that their products are regularly demanded, produced and supplied throughout the year in all seasons.

34. On the level of demand for the artistic products, 70.5% of the respondents have stated that their products are locally demanded only, 26.5% have expressed that their products are demanded at the district or regional level and the products of only 3.0% of the urban respondents are having demand at the State or National level respectively.

35. Alternative employment of the respondents during the off seasons revealed that, 9.5% are engaged in animal husbandry or working as agriculture labourers, 26.0% are engaged in petty business or self-employment or entrepreneurship, 15.0% are engaged in trading of vegetables or selling grocery, 6.0% are engaged in other types of business and 43.5% are not engaged in any of the alternative employment and concentrated only on their family occupation.

36. On the reasons for choice of occupations, few of the respondents have chosen more than one reason. Among the urban respondents, 83.0% have chosen the occupation as it is their caste based or family business followed by, 21.5% have chosen the occupation as it is indispensable for their livelihood, 6.0% have chosen the occupation as they have special expertise in crafts and arts and 2.0% have chosen the occupation as they have got special training in crafts and arts respectively.
37. Monthly income of the respondents from their artistic occupations shows that, 60.5% of the urban respondents from artistic works is below Rs. 3000 followed by, that of 36.0% of the urban respondents is between Rs. 3001 to Rs. 6000 and monthly income from arts and crafts of 3.5% of the respondents is between Rs. 6001 to Rs. 12000 respectively.

38. Monthly income of husbands of urban respondents revealed that, husbands of 11.5% having monthly income of below Rs. 3000, that of 9.0% have income between Rs. 3001 to Rs. 6000, husbands of 5.0% have monthly income between Rs. 6001 to Rs. 12000 and it is not applicable to 74.5% of the respondents as they are involved in family based occupation or few of these respondents are living single, widows, separated or divorcees.

39. Annual household income of urban respondents shows that, 31.0% of the respondents have annual household income is below Rs. 24000, about 45.5% of the respondents have annual household income between Rs. 24001 to Rs. 36000 and 14.0% have annual household income between Rs. 36001 to Rs. 48000, about 5.0% of the respondents have annual household income between Rs. 48001 to Rs. 72000 and 4.5% of the respondents have annual income of more than 72000 respectively.

40. It is noted that, 97.0% of the respondents work in all days in a year, whereas the work of 3.0% are working for only 200 to 300 days in a year.

41. The daily working hours of 8.0% of the urban respondents revealed that they work for less than 06 hours, that of 53.5% of the urban respondents shows that they work for 06 to 08 hours daily, 36.0% of the respondents work for 08 to 12 hours in a day and only 2.5% are working for more than 12 hours daily.

42. On the impact of modern technology and globalization on artistic works, 63.5% of the urban respondents have stated that there is decrease in demand for artistic works or handicrafts, 11.0% have remarked that there is increase in demand for artistic works and handicrafts, 19.0% of the respondents have opined that there is no change in demand or supply for artistic works
or handicrafts due to globalization and 6.5% have stated that the globalization and modern technology made the handicrafts and artistic works to get modernized.

43. On whether they are getting adequate profits from their occupations, it is noted that 55.5% of the urban respondents are getting adequate profits or rewards from the artistic occupations, whereas remaining 44.5% of the respondents are not getting artistic works.

44. The reasons for getting inadequate profits, 26.0% of the urban respondents have expressed that there is more competition, 12.0% have stated that there is lower price for their products, 4.5% have opined that there is lesser demand for their products, 2.0% have given other reasons for getting inadequate profits and it is not applicable to 55.5% of the respondents, as they are getting adequate profits.

45. On whether their income sufficient to meet their family expenses, 41.5% of the urban respondents expressed that their income is sufficient to meet regular expenses, 18.5% have stated that their income is sufficient to meet their regular as well as extraordinary expenses, 30.5% have opined that their income is not enough to meet their family expenses and 9.5% of the urban respondents have stated that their income is meager.

46. As stated by urban respondents, on their status in society, only 7.5% of the urban respondents have higher status in society, 18.5% have economic status as working woman and a great majority, that is, 74.0% of the urban respondents do not have any status as the occupation has lower status in society.

47. Many of the respondents have owned more than one type of properties. On the type of properties owned by the urban respondents in their name, only 6.5% have owned residential land or building, 24.0% have owned bank deposits or cash, 10.5% have owned shops or motor vehicles, 58.0% have owned gold, 16.0% have owned other type of properties and 34.0% have not owned any type of properties.
48. On the worth of properties owned by respondents, 8.0% have owned properties worth below Rs. 50000, about 22.5% have owned properties worth between Rs. 50001 to Rs. 1 lakh, 15.5% have owned have owned properties worth between Rs. 1 to Rs. 2 lakhs, 13.5% have owned properties worth between Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs, 6.5% have owned properties worth more than Rs. 5 lakhs and 34.0% of the urban respondents have not owned any properties and as such, it is not applicable to them.

49. The worth of properties owned by family of the urban respondents revealed that, 29.0% have stated that their family owned properties worth below Rs. 2 lakhs, 20.5% have expressed that their family owned properties worth between Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs, 13.0% have remarked that their family have owned properties worth between Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs, 26.0% have stated that their family owned properties worth between Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 25 lakhs and 11.5% have expressed that their family have not owned any properties.

50. The personal loans borrowed by the urban respondents revealed that, 28.0% have personal loans up to Rs. 10000, about 18.5% have personal loans between Rs. 10000 to Rs. 50000, 14.5% of the respondents have personal loans between Rs. 50001 to Rs. 1 lakh and only 39.0% have no any personal loans.

51. On their family borrowings as stated by urban respondents, it is noted that the families of 41.0% have borrowed loans up to Rs. 10000, that of 22.0% families have borrowed loans between Rs. 10000 to Rs. 50000, the families of 11.5% have borrowed loans between Rs. 50001 to Rs. 1 lakh, the families of 5.5% of the respondents have borrowed loans worth more than Rs. 1 lakh and only the families of 20.0% of the urban respondents have not borrowed any loans.

52. It is observed that many of the respondents have borrowed loans from more than one source. Among the urban respondents, 25.5% have borrowed loans from private money lenders and landlords, 21.5% have borrowed
loans from banks and financial institutions, 17.5% have borrowed loans from cooperative credit societies, 34.0% have borrowed loans from self-help groups, 36.0% have borrowed loans from relatives and friends, 5.5% have borrowed loans from other sources also and for 20.0% of the respondents it is not applicable as they or their family members were not borrowed any loans.

53. It is highlighted that many of the respondents have given more than one use of the Self-Help Groups as a means for women’s empowerment. Particularly, among urban respondents, 32.5% have stated that Self-Help Groups are useful in generating small savings, 16.0% have expressed that Self-Help Groups have proved a kind of unity among crafts or artistic women, 35.0% have remarked that Self-Help Groups are providing good financial assistance for income generating activities, 12.5% have expressed that Self-Help Groups are useful to get knowledge about women’s association and 36.5% have not given their opinions as they are not members to Self-Help Groups.

54. Sources of expertise of the respondents in artistic occupations shows that, 94.5% of the respondents have stated that their family occupation is similar to crafts or artistic works, 3.0% have taken training from NGOs or voluntary organizations to start the artistic works or crafts and about 2.5% have took knowledge from vocational education.

55. Government is supporting the women artisans and crafts in many ways as expressed by many respondents. Particularly, as expressed by 12.5% of the urban respondents, Government is providing financial assistance, as per the 38.0% the banks are providing loans, 7.0% have stated that the government is promoting associations and groups of artisan women, 16.0% have expressed that the government is organizing training for women artisans, 2.0% have stated that the government is supporting in other aspects and 26.0% have remarked that the government is not supporting their artistic occupations.
56. There are many of the challenges and problems are faced by many of the women artisans covered under the study. Particularly the problems faced by the urban respondents revealed that, 56.0% are facing the competition from large scale industries, 7.0% are facing problems of scarcity of raw materials, 21.5% are facing problem of inadequate finance, 17.5% are facing the problems of decreasing demand for their products and 8.0% are facing other types of problems.

57. When compared to other occupations, 27.5% of the urban respondents have stated that other occupations are better and more profitable, 13.0% have expressed that their occupation is better compared to others, surprisingly 41.5% of the urban respondents have remarked that all the artistic occupations have no future and 18.0% have stated that they do not know about other occupations, but it is inevitable for them to continue in their own occupation.

58. On whether the respondents should continue their occupation through their children, 13.0% have expressed that their children continue as artisans as it is better occupation, 19.0% have stated that their children should continue their occupation as it is inevitable for their present generation, 26.5% have remarked that their children’s future depends on education rather than their occupation and 41.5% have opined that their children needs government jobs as they are better compared to their occupations.

59. Visiting of the urban respondents to holy places revealed that, 6.0% are visiting to holy places daily, 57.5% are visiting to holy places weekly, 32.5% are visiting to holy places only on festival days or occasionally and 4.0% are not visiting to holy places.

60. On non-visit to holy places among the urban respondents, 1.5% of the respondents do not believe in god, 2.5% do not find time to visit holy places and it is not applicable to 96.0% of the respondents as they are visiting holy places regularly.
61. The participation in socio-cultural and public functions, among the urban respondents, 26.5% are participating in these functions actively, 50.5% are occasionally participating in these functions as they do not find the time and 23.0% are not participating in these functions as they are facing social inequality.

62. It is highlighted that many of the voters are participating in politics and even become panchayat members and members to political parties. Hence, many of the respondents have answered all the three options mentioned in the interview schedule. On the extent of political participation, only 12.5% of the urban respondents are members to political parties, 89.5% are voters and 10.5% are not voters and they have no interest in politics.

63. The membership of the urban respondents to different political parties revealed that, 5.0% of the respondents are members to Congress (I), 6.0% are members to Bharatiya Janata Party, 1.5% are members to Janata Dal (S) and 87.5% are not members to any political parties.

64. On the regularity of voting in elections, it is noted that only 57.0% of the urban respondents vote and elect their political representatives regularly, 27.0% vote and elect their representatives subject to availability of time and 16.0% of the urban respondents have not voted in the elections so far.

65. On whether they are members of any groups or founders of any associations of artisans, many of the respondents are members to more than one type of groups and associations. Among the urban respondents, 16.5% have formed or become members to women artisan’s associations, 14.0% are members to cooperative society, 30.5% are members to general women’s associations or organizations, 63.5% are members to Self-Help Groups and 26.5% are not members to any groups.

66. On the actions of government towards development of artistic people including women, 11.5% of the urban respondents have stated that government has formed welfare schemes and such schemes are beneficial, 19.0% have expressed that the government has formed schemes, but they
have not availed benefits from such schemes, 31.0% have stated that the government formulated schemes, but they are not beneficial and 38.5% have remarked that the government has not formulated any welfare schemes.

67. It is highlighted that many of the respondents have emphasized for more than one type of expectations from the Government. On the expectations from the government to upgrade status of artisan women, 23.0% of the rural respondents have stated that it is essential to modernize the artistic works, 34.0% have expressed that there is need to control the large scale industries by the Government, 11.5% have remarked that there is need to establish marketing potentials for artistic works and handicrafts, 44.0% have opined that the government has to provide financial assistance and raw materials and 6.0% have emphasized that there is need to provide regular training.

68. The future of the women artisans and artistic works/ handicrafts, among the urban respondents, 17.0% have stated that there is bright future for these works, 41.0% have stated that these works are under threat due to competition from big industries, 22.5% have expressed that there is decrease in demand and as such, there is end of these works in future, 15.0% have thought that there are problems of scarcity of raw materials, finance, market potentials, etc and 4.5% have given other options for the future of these works.

**Findings from Rural Respondents:**

As discussed already, the findings from the responses of the rural respondents are summarized as under.

1. Total 200 respondents living in rural areas that are coming under six talukas namely, Afzalpur, Aland, Chincholi, Chittapur, Jewargi and Sedam and Gulbarga city are surveyed. The respondents here are the women engaged in artistic works and handicrafts.
2. Age group of the rural respondents shows that, 25.5% are in the age group of 26 to 40 years followed by, 21.5% are in the age group of 41 to 50 years, 19.5% are in the age group of 51 to 60 years, 15.5% are of more than 60 years, 12.5% are in the age group of 18 to 25 years and 5.5% are of below 18 years respectively.

3. On the education it is noted that, 22.0% of the respondents living in rural areas are illiterates, 65.0% have completed their primary or secondary education (up to 10\textsuperscript{th} Standard) only, 10.5% are under graduates or completed their pre-university course and 2.5% have completed their graduation.

4. The religion of rural respondents disclosed that, 83.0% are Hindus followed by, 13.5% are Muslims, 2.5% are Christians and 1.0% are Buddhists or Jains.

5. Caste of the rural respondents shows that, 17.5% are belongs to scheduled castes, 3.5% are belongs to scheduled tribes, 72.5% are from other backward castes and only 7.5% of the respondents are from forward castes or others.

6. The particular occupations of rural artistic women revealed that, 8.5% are engaged in weaving, 15.5% are engaged in pottery, 7.0% are engaged in black smithy, 11.0% of the respondents are engaged in matt or rope or basket making, 3.5% of the respondents are sculptors, 10.5% are engaged in knitting, stitching or embroidery, 8.0% are engaged in carpentry, 19.0% are cobbler or leather workers, 8.5% of the respondents are engaged in traditional jewelry makers, 5.5% of the respondents are engaged in painters, dramatists, folk artists, etc and 3.0% of the respondents are engaged in other types of artistic works.

7. The marital status of rural respondents shows that, 6.0% are unmarried or single, 76.5% of the respondents are married and living with their husbands, 14.0% are widows and 3.5% are divorcees or separated from their husbands.
8. It is noted that 71.5% of the rural respondents are living in joint families, whereas 28.5% are living in nuclear families.

9. Number of children of the rural respondents revealed that, 59.5% of the respondents have 1-2 children followed by, 23.0% have 3-4 children, 7.0% have 5 or more children, 4.5% have no children and it is not applicable to 6.0% of the respondents as they are not married.

10. All the 200 (100%) respondents are from villages and rural areas.

11. Residential status of the rural respondents shows that, 71.5% of the respondents are living in their own building or house followed by, 15.0% are living in temporary house or Kachcha house and 13.5% are living in rented house.

12. On the equality of women with men, only 4.0% of the rural respondents have opined that they are equal to men in all aspects, 5.0% have stated that they are equal only in economic and religious aspects and a great majority, that is 91.0% of the respondents have stated that they are subordinate to men in all aspects.

13. On equality in marital relations, only 1.0% of the respondents have stated that wife is superior to husband, 15.5% have stated that wife is equal to husband and 83.5% have remarked that wife is inferior to husband. It is highlighted that even though unmarried, a few respondents have expressed their opinions on equality in marital relations based on social culture in their family.

14. On the relationship with the husband, 30.5% of the rural respondents have remarked that their relationship with their husband is best, 26.0% of the respondents have expressed that their marital relationship with their husband is cordial, 18.0% have stated that their marital relationship with their husband is satisfactory, 2.0% have opined that their marital relationship with their husband is not satisfactory and for the remaining 23.5% of the respondents, it is not applicable as they are living single, unmarried, widows or separated or even divorced.
15. On the future of girls, 7.0% of the rural respondents have felt that future of girls depends on their economic status including their expertise in crafts or family based occupation, 21.5% have stated that future of girls depends on higher education of girls, 33.0% have expressed that the future of girls depends on employment in organized sector, 36.0% have remarked that the future of girls depends on life style of their husbands and the remaining 2.5% have opined on their own regarding the future of girls.

16. Frequencies of quarrels, conflicts and differences of opinions in the families of the rural respondents shows that, 4.0% of the respondents have expressed that there are regular conflicts and quarrels, 92 (46.0%) have stated that there are occasional conflicts and quarrels, 34.5% have stated that there are rare quarrels or conflicts and the remaining 15.5% have stated that there are no conflicts or quarrels in their families.

17. On the reasons for quarrels and conflicts in their families, 41.0% of the rural respondents have economic aspects such as inadequate income for quarrels and conflicts, 19.0% have domestic violence as main reasons for quarrels and conflicts, 21.0% have feeling of superiority among each of their family members, 3.5% have given other reasons and 15.5% have stated that there are no conflicts and quarrels in their families and as such, there are no conflicts and quarrels in their families.

18. It is emphasized that many of the respondents have expressed more than one adverse effect due to outside work. Particularly, of the rural respondents, 43.5% of the respondents have stated that there is lack of care to their children, 26.5% of the respondents have expressed that there is lack of care to elders, 23.0% of the rural respondents have opined that there are poor health conditions, 22.0% have remarked that their peace of mind is disturbed and 11.5% have given other types of adverse effects due to outside work. It is noted that lack of care to their children is the main adverse effects as expressed by nearly half of the respondents.
19. On decision making authorities in the family, 30.5% of the respondents have expressed that their parents or parents-in-law are making the decisions, 28.0% have stated that their husbands only are making the family decisions, 12.5% have expressed that they are making their family decisions, 25.5% have remarked that their husbands along with the respondents are making the family decisions together and 3.5% have opined that other persons like their children are making the decisions.

20. On the extent of social life satisfaction, 51.0% of the rural respondents are fully satisfied in their social life followed by, 34.5% are satisfied to a greater extent and 14.5% are not satisfied in their social life respectively.

21. Of the mothers of rural respondents, 55.0% have completed only up to 10th Standard followed by, 30.0% have not went to school and are illiterates and mothers of 15.0% of the rural respondents are under-graduates respectively.

22. On the Education of father, 21.0% have expressed that their fathers are illiterates, 58.0% have stated that their fathers have completed just up to 10th standard, 18.5% have remarked that their fathers have completed under-graduation and 2.5% have stated that their fathers have completed graduation.

23. Husbands’ education of the rural respondents revealed that, husbands of 15.5% of the respondents are illiterates, 57.0% have completed only up to 10th standard, that of 21.5% of the respondents have completed under-graduation and husbands of only 6.0% have completed graduation.

24. The children’s education of the respondents shows that, children of 37.5% of the respondents are going to schools or colleges, that of 20.5% are not going schools or colleges and are drop outs from their schools or colleges and unemployed, that of 23.5% are educated and supporting to family crafts work, the children of 8.0% of the rural respondents are educated and got job in organized sector and it is not applicable to 10.5% of the rural respondents as they do not have children.
25. The children’s education of the rural respondents disclosed that, children of 22.5% of the respondents have gained reservations in admissions, that of 33.0% have got scholarships and fellowships, children of 62.0% have got free uniforms, free textbooks, mid-day meals, etc, children of 16.5% have got financial assistance from NGOs or Municipalities or Panchayats, the children of 14.0% of the rural respondents have not got any benefits from these schemes and it is not applicable to 31.0% of the respondents as they do not have children or their children have not got education.

26. Career future of the children of the respondents shows that, only 5.0% of the respondents have planned for Doctor or Engineer occupations for their children, 10.0% have planned for Administrative Officers jobs for their children, 36.0% have planned for Teachers or Lecturers’ jobs for their children, 17.0% have planned for any government job for their children, 21.5% have planned that their children too have to continue their family occupation and it is not applicable to 10.5% of the respondents as they do not have children.

27. On the purpose of girls’ education, among the rural respondents, 51.0% have expressed that girls’ education is aimed to gain outside employment, 3.0% have stated the purpose of girls’ education to gain knowledge, 31.5% have remarked the purpose of girls’ education to know reading and writing, only 1.0% have stated that education is needed for girls to change their lifestyle and 13.5% have stated that education is essential for girls to gain expertise in artistic works and handicrafts.

28. Regarding the training gained by the rural respondents in their occupations, majority, that is 66.5% have not participated in any type of training, 27.0% have participated in short term courses from specialized institutions, 2.5% have attended for general courses in management of small business and 4.0% of the rural respondents have worked as trainee in crafts based institutions.
29. Family occupation of the rural respondents revealed that, family occupation of 7.0% of the respondents is agriculture, that of 8.0% is weaving, family occupation of 13.0% of the respondents is pottery, family occupation of 7.0% of the rural respondents is black smithy, that of 11.0% of the respondents is matt or rope or basket making, family occupation of 3.5% of the rural respondents is sculpture, that of 8.5% of the respondents is knitting, stitching, embroidery, family occupation of 8.0% of the rural respondents is carpentry or agricultural implements making, that of 16.5% of the respondents is cobbling or leather works, family occupation of 7.5% of the rural respondents is traditional jewelry making, family occupation of 7.0% of the respondents is painting, drama playing, folk arts, etc and the family occupation of 7.0% the respondents is other than above.

30. The husbands’ occupations of the rural respondents disclosed that, husbands of 7.0% of the respondents are engaged in agriculture or animal husbandry, that of 9.0% of the respondents are engaged in business or industry, husbands of 6.0% of the respondents are employed in organized sector, husbands of 6.5% are engaged in seasonal employment or in unorganized sector, husbands of 48.0% of the respondents are engaged in crafts based artistic occupation run by family and it is not applicable to 23.5% of the respondents as they include unmarried, single, widows, divorcees and separated from their husbands.

31. On the capital investment into their occupations, 65.0% of the rural respondents have not disclosed about the worth of capital investment and they stated that it is hereditary occupation, 10.0% have given their capital investment as below Rs. 25000, about 18.0% have stated that their capital investment is between Rs. 25001 to Rs. 50000 and capital investment of 7.0% of the respondents is between Rs. 50001 to Rs. 1 lakh.

32. On the number of manpower engaged in artistic occupations, 83.0% of the rural respondents are working as member in crafts or artistic families followed by, 12.0% are working as single artistic woman, 2.5% are
working as member in association or cooperative societies and 2.5% are working on salary basis in cooperative society respectively.

33. The demand for and supply of artistic products produced by the respondents, 84.0% of the respondents have expressed that their products are produced, supplied and demanded through all seasons followed by, 8.5% have stated that their products are regularly produced and supplied, but they have only seasonal demand and only 7.5% have expressed that the products produced by them have regular demand, but seasonal production and supply respectively.

34. Among the rural respondents on the level of demand for their products, 80.0% have remarked that their products are demanded locally, 19.0% have stated that their products are demanded at district or regional level and 1.0% of the respondents have expressed that their products are demanded at State or national level respectively.

35. Alternative employment of the respondents during the off seasons shows that, 16.5% are engaged in animal husbandry or working as agricultural labourers, 10.5% are engaged in petty business or self-employment or entrepreneurship, 8.5% are engaged in trading of vegetables or selling of grocery, 7.5% are working in other types of occupations and majority that is, 57.0% are concentrated only on their main occupation.

36. On the reasons for choice of occupations, few of the respondents have chosen more than one reason. Among the rural respondents, 86.0% have chosen the occupation as it is caste based or family business followed by, 36.0% have chosen the occupation as it is indispensable for their livelihood, 11.5% have chosen the occupation as they have special expertise in crafts and arts and 2.5% have chosen the occupation as they have got special training in crafts and arts respectively.

37. Monthly income of a great majority that is 84.0% of the rural respondents is less than Rs. 3000, whereas the monthly income of 16.0% of the rural
respondents is between Rs. 3001 to Rs. 6000 from their artistic works or handicrafts.

38. Among the rural respondents covered under the study, husbands of 16.0% have monthly income of below Rs. 3000, that of 10.0% have monthly income between Rs. 3001 to Rs. 6000, husbands of 2.5% of the respondents have monthly income between Rs. 6001 to 12000 and it is not applicable to 71.5% of the respondents as their husbands are engaged in family occupations or they are living single.

39. Among the rural respondents, the annual household income of 40.5% is below Rs. 24000 followed by, the annual income of 44.5% is between Rs. 24001 to Rs. 36000, the annual income of 13.0% is between Rs. 36001 to Rs. 48000 and only income of 2.0% of the respondents is between Rs. 48001 to Rs. 72000 respectively.

40. The work of 92.5% of the rural respondents is on all days in a year, whereas that of 7.5% of the respondents is only for 200 to 300 days in a year.

41. Of the rural respondents, majority, that is 48.5% are working for 08 to 12 hours daily followed by, 44.0% are working for 06 to 08 hours, 4.0% are working for more than 12 hours and 3.5% are working for less than 06 hours daily.

42. On the impact of modern technology and globalization on artistic works, of the rural respondents, 74.0% have remarked that there is decrease in demand for artistic works and handicrafts due to globalization and handicrafts, 8.0% have opined that there is increase in demand for artistic works and handicrafts, 13.0% have expressed that there is no change in demand and supply for handicrafts or artistic works and 5.0% have stated that handicrafts and artistic works have become modernized due to globalization and modern technology.

43. On whether they are getting adequate profits from their occupations, only 52.0% of the rural respondents have agreed that they are getting adequate
profits and rewards for their work, whereas 48.0% of the respondents are not getting adequate rewards or profits for their works.

44. The reasons for getting inadequate profits from their occupations among the rural respondents, 30.5% have stated that there is more competition in their occupation, 12.5% have expressed that there is lower price for their products, 2.0% have remarked that there is lesser demand for their products, 3.0% have given other reasons and it is not applicable to 52.0% of the respondents as they are getting adequate profits.

45. On whether their income sufficient to meet their family expenses, 51.0% have expressed that their expenses are sufficient to meet the regular family expenses, 23.0% have stated that their income is sufficient for regular and extraordinary expenses, 17.5% have stated that their income is not enough to meet family expenses and 8.5% have expressed dissatisfaction as their income is meager.

46. As stated by rural respondents, on their status in society, only 11.5% have higher status in society, 26.0% have only economic status as working woman and 62.5% have no status or lower status as their occupation has lower status.

47. Many of the respondents have owned more than one type of properties. Only 4.0% of the rural respondents have owned agricultural land, 7.5% have owned residential land/ building, 13.5% have owned bank deposits or cash, 14.0% have owned shops or motor vehicles, 35.5% have owned gold, 7.5% have owned other types of properties and surprisingly 51.0% of the respondents have owned any type of properties.

48. On the worth of properties owned by respondents in their own names, 10.5% have owned worth of properties below Rs. 50000, 5.5% have owned properties worth between Rs. 50001 to Rs. 1 lakh, 13.0% have owned properties worth between Rs. 1 to Rs. 2 lakhs, 7.5% have owned properties worth between Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs, 12.5% have owned properties
worth of more than Rs. 5 lakhs and it is not applicable to 51.0% of the respondents, as they have not owned any properties.

49. On the worth of properties owned by their families, of the rural respondents, 32.5% have expressed that their family owned properties worth below Rs. 2 lakhs, 26.5% stated that their family have owned properties worth Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs, 10.5% of the rural respondents have remarked that their family have owned properties worth between Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs, 11.0% have opined that their family has owned properties worth between Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 25 lakhs and 19.5% have stated that their families have not owned any properties.

50. The loans borrowed by them personally as stated by rural respondents, 31.0% have borrowed loans up to Rs. 10000, 24.0% have borrowed loans between Rs. 10000 to Rs. 50000, 9.0% have borrowed loans between Rs. 50001 to Rs. 1 lakh, 5.0% have borrowed loans of more than Rs. 1 lakh and 31.0% have not borrowed any personal loans.

51. On their family borrowings, it is noted that the families of 56.5% of the rural respondents have borrowed loans up to Rs. 10000, the families of 15.5% of the respondents have borrowed loans between Rs. 10000 to Rs. 50000, that of 7.5% have borrowed loans between Rs. 50000 to Rs. 1 lakh, families of 7.0% have borrowed loans worth more than Rs. 1 lakh and the families of only 13.5% have not borrowed any loans.

52. It is highlighted that many of the respondents have borrowed loans from more than one source. On the source of borrowings of rural respondents, 39.0% have borrowed loans from private money lenders or landlords, 16.0% have borrowed loans from banks or financial institutions, 21.0% have borrowed loans from cooperative credit societies, 40.5% have borrowed loans from self-help groups, 15.5% have borrowed loans from relatives and friends, 9.0% have borrowed loans from other sources and for 13.5% of the respondents, it is not applicable as they or their family members have not borrowed any loans.
53. It is observed that many of the respondents have given more than one use of the Self-Help Groups as a means for women’s empowerment. Among the rural respondents, 51.0% have expressed that by generating small savings, the Self-Help Groups have become useful for women’s empowerment, 21.5% have remarked that there is feeling of unity among crafts or artistic women due to Self-Help Groups, 41.0% have stated that the financial assistance of Self-Help Groups is useful for income generating activities, 15.5% have remarked that Self-Help Groups are useful to get knowledge about women’s association and about 23.5% have not expressed their opinions as they are not members to Self-Help Groups.

54. Sources of expertise in artistic occupations of the rural respondents shows that, 98.0% of the respondents have stated that their family occupation is the arts and crafts, whereas 2.0% have took training from NGOs or voluntary organizations.

55. Among the rural respondents, as expressed by 24.0% of the respondents government is providing financial assistance to women artisans, 31.5% have stated that banks are providing loans, 9.0% have remarked that the government is promoting associations and groups of women artisans, 22.0% have opined that government is organizing training to women artisans, 2.5% have remarked that the government is providing supporting in other ways and 30.5% have stated that government is not providing any kinds of supports to their occupations.

56. There are many of the challenges and problems are faced by many of the women artisans covered under the study. Particularly, 48.5% are facing competition from large scale industries, 5.0% are facing problem of scarcity of raw materials, 30.5% are facing problems of inadequate finance, 23.5% are facing problems of decreasing demand for their products in market and 11.5% are facing other kinds of problems.

57. When compared to other occupations, 16.0% of the rural respondents have expressed that other occupations are better and more profitable, 9.0% have
stated that their occupations are compared to others, 34.0% have remarked that there is no future for all the artistic occupations and 41.0% have stated that they are not aware about other occupations, but their occupations are indispensable.

58. Among the rural respondents, on whether the respondents should continue their occupation through their children, 9.0% have expressed that their children should continue their occupations as it is having bright future, 21.5% have felt that it is inevitable to continue their occupation for their children, 18.5% have stated that the future of their children is depends on their education and 51.0% have expressed that the children needs government jobs as their occupations have no future.

59. Visiting of rural respondents to holy places shows that, 49.5% are visiting holy places weekly followed by, 41.5% are visiting to holy places only on festival days or occasionally and 9.0% are visiting to holy places daily.

60. The participation in socio-cultural and public functions, among the rural respondents, only 42.0% are participating in socio-cultural and public functions actively, 24.5% are occasionally participating in these functions as they don’t find the time to participate regularly and surprisingly, 33.5% are not participating in these functions as they are facing social inequality in these functions.

61. It is noted that many of the voters are participating in politics and even become panchayat members and members to political parties. Hence, many of the respondents have answered all the three options mentioned in the interview schedule. Among the rural respondents, 7.0% are members of panchayats and political parties, 21.0% are members to political parties, 91.5% are just voters and 8.5% are not voters and they are not interested in politics.

62. The membership of the rural respondents to different political parties disclosed that, 9.0% of the rural respondents are members to Congress (I), 7.0% are members to Bharatiya Janata Party, 2.5% are members to Janata
Dal (S), 1.0% are members to BSR Congress, 1.5% are members to other parties and 79.0% are not members to any political parties.

63. It is noted that only 72.0% of the rural respondents are voting and electing their political representatives regularly, 15.5% are voting and electing their representatives occasionally as they have no time to vote and 12.5% of the rural respondents are not voting and electing their political representatives.

64. On whether they are members of any groups or founders of any associations of artisans, many of the respondents are members to more than one type of groups and associations. It is noted that 29.0% are members to women artisan’s associations, 31.0% are members to cooperative society, 21.5% are members to general women’s association or organization, 76.5% are members to Self-Help Groups and 16.0% are not members to any associations or groups.

65. Among the rural respondents, 27.0% have stated that the government has formulated welfare schemes and they are beneficial, 20.5% have expressed that the government has formulated schemes but they have not availed the benefits from such schemes, 17.5% have remarked that the government has formulated welfare schemes but they are not beneficial and 35.0% have opined that the government has not formulated any welfare schemes for them.

66. It is highlighted that many of the respondents have emphasized for more than one type of expectations from the Government. Among the rural respondents, on their expectations from the government, 26.5% have remarked that the government has to take the actions to modernize the artistic works, 35.5% have opined that the government has to control the large scale industries, 17.0% have responded that there is need to establish marketing potentials for artistic works and handicrafts, 67.5% have suggested that the government has to provide financial assistance and raw materials and 2.5% have expressed that the government has to provide regular training.
Regarding the future of their works among the rural respondents, 12.5% have expressed that there is bright future for these works, 33.0% have stated that these works are under threat due to competition from big industries, 35.5% have remarked that there is decrease in demand and in future there is end for these occupations, 16.0% have opined that there are problems of scarcity of raw materials, finance, marketing potentials, etc and 3.0% have stated other choices on the future of their works.

**Major Findings:**

The information provided by both urban and rural respondents are summed up and discussed as under.

1. Total 200 urban respondents and 200 respondents living in rural areas or villages are surveyed to collect the primary data. The respondents are women artisans or women engaged in handicrafts in Gulbarga district.

2. Age of all the respondents revealed that, 3.7% are of below 18 years, 11.5% are between 18 to 25 years, 22.7% of all the respondents are between 26 to 40 years, 23.7% are between 41 to 50 years, 21.0% are between 51 to 60 years and the remaining 17.2% of the respondents are of more than 60 years. It is generalized from the information collected on the age group of the respondents that few of the women artisans are minors and working in their family occupation and considerable number of respondents even though reached more than 60 years, still they are working in their occupations.

3. Education of majority of all the respondents, that is 63.0% have completed primary or secondary education (up to 10th Standard) followed by, 17.2% have completed under graduation or pre-university level, 14.2% are illiterates and 5.5% of all the respondents have completed graduation respectively. It is surprising to note that none of the respondents have completed their post-graduation. Further, considerable numbers of
respondents are illiterates. Compared to urban respondents, there are more illiterate respondents in rural areas.

4. Religion of all the respondents depicted that, 80.2% are Hindus followed, 15.5% are Muslims, 2.7% are Christians and 1.5% of the respondents are Buddhists or Jains respectively. It is noted that the occupations of majority of castes in Hindus are caste based and hence, a large majority of the Hindus are engaged in artistic works.

5. The castes of all the respondents shows that, 66.0% are from Other Backward Classes followed by, 19.5% are from scheduled castes, 9.7% are from others or forward castes and 4.7% are from scheduled tribes respectively. It is highlighted that majority of the other backward classes are traditional occupation based and as such, majority of the respondents in the present study belongs to other backward classes.

6. The particular occupation-wise distribution of all the respondents shows that, 9.7% are engaged in weaving, 17.2% of the respondents are engaged in pottery, 6.0% are engaged in black smithy, 9.0% of the respondents are engaged in matt, rope or basket making, 2.7% are working as sculptors, 11.5% are engaged in knitting, stitching and embroidery, 7.0% are working as carpentry, 19.7% of the respondents are working as cobblers or leather workers, 7.0% of the respondents are engaged in traditional jewelry makers, 4.2% are working as painters, dramatists, folk artists, etc. and 5.7% are engaged in other types of works.

7. The marital status of total respondents revealed that, 80.2% of the respondents are married and living with their husbands followed by, 12.2% are widows, 4.5% are unmarried and living single and 3.0% of the respondents includes divorcees or separated women respectively.

8. On the nature of family in which all the respondents are living, 57.7% of the respondents are living in joint families, whereas 42.2% are living in nuclear families. Surprisingly, it is emphasized that majority of the rural families (71.5%) are living in joint families and majority of urban families
are living in nuclear families. It shows that urbanization has divided the Indian Joint family system. It shows that even though there is increase in nuclear families in urban areas, due to family occupation or caste based occupation or artistic works, still there are joint families prevailed in artistic families.

9. Information collected on the number of children of the respondents disclosed that, 5.5% have no children, majority, that is, 63.2% of the respondents have 1 to 2 children, 22.0% have 3 to 4 children, 4.7% have 5 or more children and it is not applicable to 4.5% of the respondents as they are not married.

10. It is emphasized that, large majority that is, 75.5% are from rural areas or villages followed by, 12.7% are from urban areas or cities and 11.7% are from Suburban areas or towns respectively. It is highlighted that large majority of the respondents are from rural areas or villages and few are from suburban areas or towns.

11. The residential status of all the respondents, majority that is, 63.2% are living in their own building or house, followed by 20.5% are living in temporary house or kachcha house and the remaining 16.2% are living in rented house respectively. It is noted that considerable numbers of respondents do not have their own house.

12. On the equal status to women compared to men, an overwhelming majority, that is 85.5% of all the respondents have stated that they are subordinate to men in all aspects followed by, 7.2% have stated that they are equal to men in all aspects, 5.7% have expressed that they are equal only in economic and religious aspects and 1.5% have stated that they are superior to men in all aspects.

13. On the equality in marital relations, only 2.5% of the total respondents have expressed that wife is superior to husband, 26.0% have stated that wife is equal to husband and a large majority, that is 71.5% have remarked that wife is inferior to husband. It shows that even though women are equally
participating in their family based occupation, still majority of them feels that they are not equal to their husbands, but have subordinate position in marital relations.

14. Among all the respondents on their marital relations, 28.5% have stated that their marital relations with their husbands is best, 25.2% have expressed that their marital relations with their husbands is cordial, 22.5% have expressed that their marital relations with their husbands is satisfactory, 4.0% have remarked that their relationship with their husbands is not satisfactory and for the remaining 19.7% of the respondents it is not applicable as they include single, unmarried, widows, divorced or separated from their husbands.

15. On the future of girls, of all the respondents, 5.7% have remarked that the future of girls is depends on economic status including crafts work or family based occupation, 19.2% have expressed that future of girls depends on higher education of girls, 39.5% have stated that future of girls depends on the employment in organized sector, 31.2% have stated that future of girls depends on the life style of their husbands and the remaining 4.2% have given other areas on which the future of girls depends. It is highlighted that there are different opinions on future of girls, but it is noted that considerable majority of the respondents emphasized on employment in organized sector for future of girls. It shows that they do not believe on the caste based occupation or family occupation.

16. Frequencies of quarrels, conflicts and differences of opinions of all the respondents in their families shows that, 5.5% of the respondents have regular conflicts and quarrels in their families, 176 (46.5%) have occasional conflicts and quarrels in the families, 31.7% have rare conflicts and quarrels in their families and 18.7% have no any conflicts and quarrels and conflicts in the families.

17. On the reasons for quarrels and conflicts among all the respondents, 37.2% of the respondents have economic aspects as the main reason for quarrels
and conflicts in their families, 17.2% have domestic violence as the main cause for quarrels and conflicts, 24.0% have feeling of superiority among the family members, 2.7% have other reasons for conflicts and quarrels in their families and there are no conflicts and quarrels in the families of 18.7% of the respondents. It is observed that the families of the women artisans are suffering from poverty and as such, there are conflicts and quarrels due to economic reasons.

18. It is emphasized that many of the respondents have expressed more than one adverse effect due to outside work. Particularly, 47.2% of all the respondents have stated that there is lack of care to their children followed by, 25.7% have remarked that poor health conditions, 21.2% have stated that there is lack of care to elders, 20.5% have opined that their peace of mind is disturbed due to outside work and 9.2% of the respondents have given other adverse effects due to outside work respectively. Lack of care to children and elders, disturbance in peace of mind and poor health conditions are the major adverse effects as stated by majority of the respondents covered under the study.

19. On decision making authorities in the family, 30.2% of the total respondents have expressed that they are making the decisions along with their husbands followed by, 27.2% have stated that their husbands are making the family decisions, 26.5% have expressed that their parents or parents-in-law are making the decisions, 13.0% have remarked that they are making their family decisions on their own and the remaining 3.0% have opined that other persons like their sons and daughters are making the family decisions respectively. It is highlighted that to a greater extent, there is male and elderly domination in making family decisions and in many of the respondents’ families, there is decision making with the female participation.

20. On the social life satisfaction of all the respondents, 46.0% are fully satisfied, 36.5% are satisfied to a greater extent and 17.5% are not satisfied
in their social life. It is surprising to note that many of the respondents that is 17.5% of the respondents, even though working outside and having economic status, still not satisfied. Hence, there is need to explore the reasons for non-satisfaction in their social life.

21. On the mothers’ education of all the respondents, mothers of 53.2% respondents have completed only up to 10\textsuperscript{th} Standard followed by, that of 24.0% have completed education only up to under-graduation, that of 22.0% of the respondents have not went to any schools and are illiterates and mothers of only 0.7% of the respondents have completed graduation. It shows that the respondents have no sound educational background from their mothers as the mothers of majority of the respondents are illiterates or completed their education up to 10\textsuperscript{th} standard.

22. Fathers’ education of the respondents shows that, fathers’ of 15.2% are illiterates, that of 56.5% of the respondents have completed just up to 10\textsuperscript{th} standard, that of 23.7% of the respondents have completed under-graduation and fathers of 4.5% of the respondents have completed graduation. It shows that the education background of the respondents is poor as fathers of majority that is fathers of about 71.2% have completed only up to 10\textsuperscript{th} standard or few of them are illiterates.

23. Education of husbands of 10.0% of all the respondents are illiterates, that of 55.5% have completed up to 10\textsuperscript{th} standard, husbands of 26.2% have completed under graduation and husbands of 8.2% of all the respondents have completed graduation.

24. The children’s education of all the respondents revealed that, the children of 45.2% of the respondents are going to schools and colleges, that of 16.5% are not going to schools or colleges and drop outs from schools and colleges and unemployed, children of 18.7% of the respondents are educated and supporting to family crafts work, that of 9.5% of the total respondents are educated and got job in organized sector and it is not applicable to 10.0% of all the respondents, as they do not have children. It
is highlighted that children of more than one third of the respondents are deprived from education and even though educated, a few of them are engaged in artistic and crafts work of the family.

25. Children’s education of all the respondents disclosed that, children of 54.7% have gained free books, free uniforms, mid-day meals, etc followed by, that of 37.5% have got scholarships or fellowships, children of 20.7% have gained reservations in admissions, children of 12.7% have gained financial assistance from NGOs or Municipalities, surprisingly children of 12.2% of the respondents have not gained any benefits from schemes and it is not applicable to 26.5% of the respondents as they do not have children or their children are not educated.

26. Future career plans of the respondents towards their children shows that, 5.7% have planned for Doctor or Engineers jobs for their children, 1.0% have planned for Chartered Accountants or Managerial Executives’ jobs for their children, 10.5% have planned for Administrative Officers jobs such as IAS, KAS, etc for their children, 31.5% have planned for teachers’ or lecturers’ jobs for their children, 24.0% have planned any government job for their children, 17.2% of the respondents wish that their children should continue their family occupation and it is not applicable to 10.0% of the respondents as they do not have children. It is highlighted that only few of the respondents have planned for their children to continue in their family occupation. On the other hand, a great majority of the respondents have planned for jobs preferably in government departments and institutions, which shows that handicrafts or artistic works have no future. Due to these reasons, the respondents dreamt for other jobs or occupations for their children.

27. On the girls’ education, majority, that is 55.7% have emphasized that education is needed for girls to gain outside employment, 7.7% have remarked that education of girls is needed to gain knowledge, 24.2% have opined that education is needed for girls to know reading and writing, 4.5%
have stated that education is needed for girls to change their lifestyles and only 7.7% have expressed that education is needed for girls to gain expertise in Artistic Works and handicrafts. Generally it is assumed by majority of the respondents that the purpose of education is limited to outside employment or to know reading and writing. Apart from these purposes, the respondents should know other purposes such as gaining knowledge, change in lifestyle, knowledge about occupations, etc.

28. It is noted on the training and expertise gained by the respondents on their artistic works and handicrafts’ occupations, 76.5% of all the respondents have not attended any of the courses or workshops, followed by 19.2% have attended short term courses from specialized institutions, 2.2% have attended only general courses in management of small business and 2.0% of all the respondents have worked as trainee in crafts based institutions respectively. It shows that the occupations of the respondents are caste based and family based rather than training based.

29. Family occupation of 10.0% of all the respondents is agriculture, that of 8.2% of the respondents is weaving, family occupation of 14.5% of the respondents is pottery, that of 6.0% of the respondents is black smithy, family occupation of 8.2% of the respondents is matt or rope or basket making, that of 2.7% of the respondents is sculpture, family occupation of 7.5% of the respondents is stitching, knitting and embroidery, that of 7.0% is carpentry or agricultural implements making, family occupation of 18.5% of the respondents is cobbling or leather works, that of 6.5% of the respondents is traditional jewelry making, family occupations of 5.0% of all the respondents is painting, playing drama, folk art, etc and that of 5.7% of all the respondents other than above. It is observed that the family occupations of almost all the respondents are similar to their caste based occupation. Further, it is noted that few of the respondents have owned land and as such, they are engaged in agriculture and in off-seasons, they are engaged in their family occupation or caste based occupations.
30. Occupations of the husbands revealed that, husbands of 53.2% of all the respondents are doing the crafts based artistic family occupation followed by, it is not applicable to 19.7% of the respondents as they are unmarried, widows, separated or divorcees, husbands of 8.2% of the respondents are engaged in business or industry, husbands of 7.2% of the respondents are employed in organized sector, that of 6.2% of the respondents are engaged in agriculture or animal husbandry and husbands of 5.2% of the respondents are engaged in seasonal employment or unorganized sector employment. It shows that majority of the respondents with their husbands are engaged in family based artistic occupation or handicrafts. Husband’s occupation and income has higher impact on family income and also economic status of the family. But, as observed, majority of the husbands of the respondents are engaged in the same artistic occupation, which have no extra income. Hence, it can be concluded that the economic status and income of the artistic women is lower.

31. It is highlighted on the capital investment by all the respondents that, 59.2% have no knowledge about capital investment of the business as it is hereditary, only 8.0% have disclosed capital investment as below Rs. 25000, as stated by 23.5% of the respondents, the capital investment is between Rs. 25001 to Rs. 50000 and the capital investment of 9.2% of the respondents is between Rs. 50001 to Rs. 1 lakh. It is highlighted from the collected data that the main occupation of majority of the respondents it artistic based handicrafts or occupation. As such, it was carried by the elders in the families and as such a great majority of the respondents are not aware about the initial investment made by their elders for the occupation and it is also noted that none of the respondents have invested more than Rs. 1 lakh capital investment.

32. On the number of members 80.0% are working as member in crafts or artistic families, followed by 10.5% are working as single artistic woman, 6.5% are working as member in association of women in crafts and artistic
works and 3.0% are working on salary basis in cooperative society. It is emphasized that the family occupation of majority of the respondents is artistic or crafts based and only few of are members of cooperative societies or even working on salary basis.

33. Demand for and supply of artistic works produced by the artistic women shows that, 85.0% of the respondents remarked that their products are regularly demanded, produced and supplied throughout the year in all seasons, followed by 9.7% of the respondents stated that their products are regularly produced and supplied, but their demand is in particular seasons and 5.2% of all the respondents have expressed that their products are regularly demanded in market, but they have seasonal production and supply respectively. It is highlighted that only few of the artistic works have seasonal production, supply and demand.

34. On the level of demand for their products among all the respondents, 75.2% have stated that their products are demanded locally, followed by 22.7% have expressed that their products are demanded at district or regional level and the products of 2.0% of the respondents are demanded state or national level.

35. Among all the respondents the alternative employment shows that, 50.2% are depending only on their main occupation based on artistic or handicrafts, followed by 18.2% are engaged in petty business or self-employment or entrepreneurship, 13.0% are engaged in animal husbandry or agricultural labour, 11.7% are engaged in trading of vegetables and selling of grocery and 6.7% are engaged in other types of business or occupations respectively.

36. On the reasons for choice of occupations, few of the respondents have chosen more than one reason. It is highlighted that, 84.5% have chosen the occupation as it is caste based and family business followed by, 8.7% have chosen the business as it was indispensable for their livelihood, 8.7% have chosen the occupation as they have special expertise in crafts and arts and
2.2% have chosen the occupation as they have got special training in crafts and arts respectively.

37. Monthly income of all the respondents disclosed that, 72.2% of the respondents have monthly income of less than Rs. 3000, that of 26.0% of the respondents is between Rs. 3001 to Rs. 6000 and monthly income of 1.7% of the respondents is between Rs. 6001 to Rs. 12000 respectively. It shows that none of the respondents are getting monthly income of more than Rs. 12000 and as such, majority of the respondents are living below poverty line.

38. Of all the respondents, the husbands of 13.7% have monthly income below Rs. 3000, that of 9.5% of the respondents is between Rs. 3001 to Rs. 6000, husbands of 3.7% of the respondents is between Rs. 6001 to Rs. 12000 and it is not applicable to 73.0% of the respondents as their husbands are also engaged in artistic works or crafts with their family members or few of them are also living single, unmarried, widows, separated or divorced from their husbands.

39. Annual household income of 35.7% of all the respondents is below Rs. 24000, that of 45.0% of the respondents is between Rs. 24001 to Rs. 36000, annual household income of 13.5% of the respondents is between Rs. 36001 to 48000, annual household income of 3.5% of all the respondents is between Rs. 48001 to Rs. 72000 and that of 2.2% of the respondents is more than Rs. 72000 respectively. It is highlighted that almost all the respondents are living below poverty line as they have expressed that all of their annual income is below Rs. 36000.

40. It is noted that the work of 5.2% of all the respondents is seasonal that is for 200 to 300 days, whereas work of almost, 94.7% of the respondents is throughout the year. It shows that the work of almost all the respondents is throughout the year, whereas the work of only few of the respondents is seasonal.
41. Of all the respondents, 48.7% are working for 06 to 08 hours followed by, 42.2% are working for 08 to 12 hours, 5.7% are working for less than 06 hours and 3.2% are working for more than 12 hours respectively. It is highlighted that on an average majority of the respondents are working for up to 12 hours daily.

42. On the impact of modern technology and globalization on artistic works, of all the respondents, 68.7% have felt that there is decrease in demand for artistic works and handicrafts due to globalization and modern technology followed by, 16.0% have agreed that there is no change in demand and supply due to globalization, 9.5% have remarked that there is increase in demand for artistic works and handicrafts and 5.7% have opined that there is modernization of handicrafts and artistic works. To conclude, there is more decrease in demand for handicrafts and artistic works due to globalization and modern technology and it is applicable to majority of the artistic works, however, a few of the handicrafts and artistic works have benefitted due to such modern technology.

43. On whether they are getting adequate profits from their occupations, only 53.7% of all the respondents are getting adequate profits or rewards, whereas 46.2% are not getting adequate profits or rewards. As nearly half of the respondents are not getting adequate profits, there is need to provide self-employment to these families in other occupations, so that they can earn for their livelihood.

44. As expressed by all the respondents on the reasons for getting inadequate profits and rewards, 28.2% are getting more competition, 12.2% are getting lower prices for their products, 3.2% are producing the artistic works that have lesser demand, 2.5% are given other reasons for inadequate profits and it is not applicable to 53.7% of the respondents as they are getting adequate profits.

45. On whether their income sufficient to meet their family expenses, 46.2% have stated that their income is sufficient to meet their regular expenses,
20.7% have expressed that their income is sufficient for regular and extraordinary expenses, 24.0% have stated that their income is not enough to meet their family expenses and 9.0% have stated that their income is meager.

46. As remarked by all the respondents, 9.5% of them have higher status in society, 22.2% have economic status as working woman and 68.2% have no status, as their occupation have lower status. It is emphasized that no occupation is lower or higher, but still there is caste based and occupation based rigidities in Indian society. Due to such conventional ideas, women artisans are not getting adequate status and respect.

47. Many of the respondents have owned more than one type of properties. Particularly, 2.0% have owned agricultural land, 7.0% have owned residential land or buildings, 18.7% have owned bank deposits or cash, 12.2% have owned shops or motor vehicles, 49.2% have owned gold, 11.7% have owned other types of properties and 42.5% have not owned any type of properties.

48. On the worth of properties owned by all the respondents in their own name, it is revealed that 9.2% have owned properties worth less than Rs. 50000, 14.0% have owned properties worth between Rs. 50001 to Rs. 1 lakh, 14.2% have owned properties worth between Rs. 1 to Rs. 2 lakhs, 10.5% have owned properties worth between Rs. 2 to Rs. 5 lakhs, 9.5% have owned properties worth more than Rs. 5 lakhs and it is not applicable to 42.5% of the respondents as they do not have owned any properties.

49. On the worth of properties owned by family, 30.7% have stated that their families have owned properties worth below Rs. 2 lakhs, 23.5% have expressed that their families have owned properties worth between Rs. 2 lakhs to Rs. 5 lakhs, 11.7% have remarked that their families have owned properties worth between Rs. 5 lakhs to Rs. 10 lakhs, 18.5% have opined that their families owned properties worth between Rs. 10 lakhs to Rs. 25
lakhs and 15.5% have stated that their families have not owned any properties.

50. Of all the respondents, 35.0% have not borrowed any personal loans, 29.5% have borrowed loans up to Rs. 10000, about 21.2% have borrowed loans between Rs. 10000 to Rs. 50000, 11.7% have borrowed loans between Rs. 50000 to Rs. 1 lakh and 2.5% have borrowed loans of more than Rs. 1 lakh respectively.

51. On their family borrowings, 48.7% of the total respondents have stated that their families have borrowed loans up to Rs. 10000 followed by, 18.7% have expressed that their family members have borrowed loans between Rs. 10000 to Rs. 50000, about 16.7% have expressed that their families have not borrowed any loans, 9.5% have stated that their families have borrowed loans between Rs. 50001 to Rs. 1 lakh and 6.2% have remarked that their families have borrowed loans worth more than Rs. 1 lakh respectively.

52. It is observed that many of the respondents have borrowed loans from more than one source. Sources of borrowings of all the respondents revealed that, 32.2% have borrowed loans from private money lenders or landlords, 18.7% have borrowed loans from banks and financial institutions, 19.2% have borrowed loans from cooperative credit societies, 37.2% have borrowed loans from self-help groups, 25.7% have borrowed loans from relatives and friends, 7.2% have borrowed loans from other sources and for the remaining 7.2% of the respondents, it is not applicable as they or their family members have not borrowed any loans. It is analyzed that Self-Help Groups are playing significant role in getting loans for the respondents and private money lenders also good source of loans for the women artisans and their family members.

53. It is emphasized that many of the respondents have given more than one use of the Self-Help Groups as a means for women’s empowerment. Particularly, 41.7% of all the respondents have stated that generation of small savings through Self-Help Groups is useful, Self-Help Groups are
playing important role in unity among crafts/ artistic women as stated by 18.7% of all the respondents, 38.0% have remarked that Self-Help Groups are playing significant role in financial assistance for income generating activities, 14.0% have expressed that Self-Help Groups are useful to get knowledge about women’s association and 30.0% of all the respondents have not expressed their opinions as they are not members to Self-Help Groups. It is highlighted that Self-Help Groups are playing multidimensional functions in women’s socio-economic empowerment.

54. The sources of skills and expertise in artistic occupations of all the respondents, 96.2% have stated that their family occupation is crafts or arts based work, 2.5% have stated that they have learnt the crafts and artistic occupation from the training given by NGOs or voluntary organizations and 1.2% have expressed that they have got occupational training from vocational education.

55. On the support by the government to artistic women, 18.2% have stated that government is providing financial assistance to women artisans, 34.7% have expressed that the banks are providing loans, 8.0% have stated that the government is promoting associations or groups of artisan women, 19.0% have remarked that the government is organized training to women artisans, 2.2% have given other areas in which women artisans are getting support from the government and 28.2% have stated that the government is not supporting their artistic and crafts based occupations.

56. There are many of the challenges and problems are faced by many of the women artisans covered under the study. Particularly of all the respondents, 52.2% are facing competition from large scale industries, 6.0% are facing problem of scarcity of raw materials, 26.0% are facing problems of inadequate finance, 20.5% are facing the problems of decreasing demand for their products and 9.7% are facing other types of problems. It is highlighted that the establishment of large scale industries has become threat to the occupations of women artisans, as large number of respondents
are facing competition and there is shortage of finance for women artisans to develop and modernize their occupations.

57. When compared to other occupations, of all the respondents, 21.7% have expressed that the occupations are best and more profitable compared to others, 11.0% have stated that their own occupation is better compared to others, 37.7% have remarked that all the artistic occupations have no future and 29.5% have no knowledge about other occupations and think that the present occupations is better for them. Surprisingly, it is emphasized that considerable portion of the respondents have stated that there is no future for artistic occupations and handicrafts. It shows that there is need to provide self-employment training to them so that they can engage in other occupations.

58. On whether the respondents should continue their occupation through their children, of all the respondents, 11.0% have stated that their occupation have better future, 20.2% have expressed that the present occupation is inevitable for their children, 90 (22.5%) have remarked that their children’s future is depends on their education and 46.2% have opined that their children’s future is depends on needs on government jobs rather than their occupations. It shows that the artistic or handicrafts work have no future and as such, the respondents would like to educate their children and get the government jobs for their children.

59. The frequency of visit to holy places of all the respondents revealed that, 53.5% are visiting to holy places weekly followed by, 37.0% are visiting to holy places only on festival days or occasionally, 7.5% are visiting to holy places daily and 2.0% are not visiting to holy places. It is noted that majority of the respondents are visiting to holy places weekly or only on festival days. It shows that the majority of the respondents are religious and pious.

60. Reasons for not visiting to holy places revealed that, 0.7% of the total respondents do not believe in god, 1.2% of the respondents don’t find time
to visit to holy places and 98.0% of the total respondents are visiting to holy places and hence, it is not applicable to them.

61. The participation in socio-cultural and public functions, among all the respondents, 34.2% are participating in socio-cultural and public functions actively and regularly, 37.5% are occasionally participating in these functions as they don’t find time to participate regularly and 28.2% are not participating in these functions as they are facing social inequality. It is surprising to note that still these crafts women are facing social inequality and as such, considerable portion of these respondents are not participating in the socio-cultural and public functions.

62. It is observed that many of the voters are participating in politics and even become panchayat members and members to political parties. Hence, many of the respondents have answered all the three options mentioned in the interview schedule. Of all the respondents, 3.5% are members of panchayats and members of political parties, 16.7% are members to political parties, 9.5% are just voters and 9.5% are not voters and not interested in politics. It is highlighted that in urban areas, the political participation of women artisans is lower as only few of the respondents are members to political parties and even there are also more number of respondents, who are not interested in politics and even not voters.

63. The membership of the total respondents to different political parties revealed that, 7.0% are members to Congress (I), 6.5% are members to Bharatiya Janata Party, 2.0% are members to Janata Dal (S), 0.5% are members to BSR Congress, 0.7% are members to other political parties and 83.2% are not members to any political parties and as such it is not applicable to them.

64. On the regularity of voting in elections, it is noted that only 64.5% of all the respondents are voting and electing their political representatives regularly, 21.2% are voting and electing their political representatives subject to availability of time and 14.2% have never voted in the general elections so
far. It is surprising to note that compared to urban respondents, the rural respondents are more interested in elections and voting as majority of the respondents are participating in voting and electing their political representatives.

65. On whether they are members of any groups or founders of any associations of artisans, many of the respondents are members to more than one type of groups and associations. It is noted that, 70.0% are members to Self-Help Groups followed by, 26.0% are members to general women’s organizations or associations, 22.7% are members to women artisan’s associations, 22.5% are members to cooperative societies and 21.2% are not members to any of the associations or organizations.

66. Of all the respondents, 19.2% have expressed that the government has formulated the welfare schemes and such schemes are beneficial for them, 19.7% have stated that the government is formulated welfare schemes, but these respondents have not availed the benefits from these schemes, 24.2% have remarked that the government has formulated welfare schemes, but they are not beneficial and 36.7% have opined that the government has not formulated any of the welfare schemes.

67. It is highlighted that many of the respondents have emphasized for more than one type of expectations from the Government. On the expectations of the respondents from the government of all the respondents, 55.7% have stated that there is need to provide financial assistance and raw materials, 34.7% have stated that the government has to control the large scale industries, 24.7% have expressed that the government has to take actions to modernize the artistic works, 14.2% have opined that the government has to establish marketing potentials for artistic works and handicrafts and 4.2% have emphasized regular training to artisans and crafts women from the government.

68. On the future of the handicrafts and artistic works, among all the respondents, 14.7% have stated that there is bright future for these works,
37.0% have expressed that these works are under threat due to competition from large scale industries, 29.0% have opined that there is decrease in demand and in future there is end of these works, 15.5% have stated that there is problems of scarcity of raw materials, finance, etc to these works and 3.7% have stated other opinions towards the same. It is concluded that the handicrafts and artistic works have no future as expressed by an overwhelming majority of the respondents due to competition, shortage of raw materials, finance, etc. Hence, these occupations may entirely disappear in future.

7.3. Suggestions:

Following suggestions may be given from the present study.

1. The society must realize that female is not a weaker gender, but active in all the fields and as such equal status and respect along with authority in different issues like decision making, should be given to females.
2. The men should change their attitudes towards women and as such, they should treat women as equal in marital relations and family matters.
3. It is suggested to women artisans to learn new occupations such as Beauticians, Computer DTP, etc so that they can get self-employment in these occupations in future, as conventional occupations are disappearing.
4. The Government should provide financial assistance, loans, necessary training, incentives for purchase of artistic products, etc, so as to help the artistic women and encourage artistic works.
5. The Government also has to control large scale industries, as they are major threat to small artisans.
6. As the artistic occupations are disappearing slowly, there is need to give employment to the women artisans in other occupations, especially modern technology and self-employment based occupations and in this regard, the
Government should organize training along with financial assistance to the artistic women.

7. The banks should extend their credit facilities to the women artisans without strict formalities, so that the women artisans should get loans easily.

8. The artisan women should organize themselves into cooperative society, so that their interests should be protected and collectively they can produce and sell their products.

7.4. Conclusion:

India is popular for artistic works and handicrafts since ancient times. Many of the Indian artistic works were in demand in international market during the British period. The particular castes in India are involved in particular arts or crafts. Hence, to a greater extent, the artistic works and handicrafts are caste based occupations. These occupations were playing a significant role in the ancient period and even pre-globalized economy. Due to globalization and liberalization policies, the large scale industries were started producing many of the products in large scale as produced by artistic and crafts people in small scale. As such, globalization has become threat to small artisans and crafts people.

Government aimed to empower women by formulating different welfare schemes such as formation of Self-Help Groups, financial assistance to start income generating activities, political reservation at local level, etc. Women are playing important role in artistic works and handicrafts especially in towns and villages. As discussed above, globalization has become threat to the women artisans also. The women artisans are facing problems such as competition from large scale industries, inadequate working capital, lower price, decreasing demand for products, lesser market potentials, etc. Consequently, these women even though worked for 8-10 hours daily, still they are poor.
To study the socio-economic problems of the women artisans and women engaged in handicrafts the present study was made. Education is essential to empower these women, but in reality majority of the artisan women are low educated or illiterates. Probably, due to their nature of work, majority of the artisan women are living in joint family and most of the respondents even though living in towns and Gulbarga city, they are migrated from villages.

With regard to equal status with men in their family, it is highlighted that almost all women artisans are subordinates or subjugated to men in their family and with their husbands. But they are well aware of the importance of education in girls’ life and as they thought that girls’ status be improved if they are educated.

The occupations of the women artisans is caste based and family business. The capital invested by women artisans in their occupations is low, but they work for 06 to 12 hours, but, they are getting lower profits and rewards. The level of demand for the products of artisan women is local or district level only. It is highlighted that nearly half of the women artisans are also engaged in other occupations to support the family income. As discussed already, globalization has become threat to almost all the women artisans as the demand for their products is decreasing. Due to lower income, the women artisans are able to manage only regular and routine family expenses rather than extraordinary expenses such as health, higher education, marriage, etc.

The working women have higher status as proved by many of the studies. In case of women artisans, it is not so. Due to the lower occupations, the women artisans and handicrafts women have lower status. Even though working outside like men, still the women artisans not owned any properties in their own names. Considerable numbers of women artisans and their families have borrowed loans. Still, the landlords and private money lenders are playing significant role in providing loans to the women artisans. Cooperative societies, Banks and Self-
Help Groups have also become helpful to the women artisans in financial assistance. Of course, Government is playing important role in providing welfare facilities such as loans from banks, organizing training, promoting associations among artisans, etc, but still considerable portion of the women artisans have not availed benefits from these schemes.

Competition from large scale industries, decrease in demand for their products and inadequate finance are the biggest problems faced by the women artisans. Due to all these problems, it is surprising to note that majority of the women artisans have remarked that their occupations have no future and it is inevitable for their generation and family and due to this reason, they have continued their occupation.

In religious life, the women artisans are facing social inequality and as such, they can’t able to participate in socio-cultural and public functions. It is highlighted from the study that majority of the women artisans are formed their self-help group or members to the self-help groups. As stated by considerable number of artisan women, even though the government has formulated welfare schemes for artisan women, they are inadequate to fulfill the needs of the artistic occupations. As expected by the women artisans, the government has to provide more financial assistance, supply of raw materials, modernize the artistic occupations, organize training, control large scale industries, etc.

To sum up, the artistic women are facing the problems of lower education, lower status, inequality in their own families, poverty, etc. Economically, their occupations are under threat due to globalization and as a result, there is lower profit or rewards consequent to lower income leading to poverty. As these occupations are under threat and many of these works are disappearing due to competition from large scale industries. Hence, there is essential need to revive these occupations, so that women engaged in these occupations must be empowered. For this purpose, the government should initiate actions to provide
different facilities such as working capital, raw materials, subsidy on loans, incentives to use the artistic works, etc.