

Imprint and Status of Household Footwear Industry in Agra City of Uttar Pradesh: A General Review

Mohd Faheem¹, Prof. Ateeque Ahmad²

¹Junior Research Fellow, ²Professor,

^{1,2}Department of Geography, Faculty of Science, Aligarh Muslim University, Aligarh. India

ABSTRACT

The study has done in Agra City where the lack of environmental awareness among the people and workers of the footwear industry creates major health issues and restrict the proper development of this industry. To know the present status of the footwear industry the present study has done and collected the secondary sources of data from the District Industries Centre Agra, some photo taken by author to clear the purpose of the study. In this study we found that the footwear industry in Agra city provided huge employment to the economically weaker section of the city but this industry is major cause for health problems among the worker and people of the city. Footwear industry has a huge potential for further employment after the proper development of this industry. The middle man or supplier make huge profits from this industry and the household footwear industry worker depend on low wages. The finding has the implications, that there is a need to government has the responsibility to prohibit the all those things which is the cause for restriction in the growth of footwear industry in this regard and provide transparency to the workers for their every bit of works as well as their payment.

KEYWORDS: *Employment generation, Environment, Health issues, Household footwear industry, Workers*

INTRODUCTION

In rural areas, a household industry is classified as a member of the house or several members of the family conducting business at home in village or in city, just within the confines of the house where the family resides. Members of the family make up the majority of jobs in the household industry. The manufacturing does not operate on the same scale as a factory that qualifies for or is required to be registered under the Indian Factories Act. The term "household industry" refers to the manufacturing, processing, servicing, repairing, or making of products, as well as the sale (but not solely selling) of those goods. Pleaders, doctors, musicians, dancers, astrologers, dhobis, barbers, and other occupations are not included or simply a trade, even if such trades or services are carried out by family members at home. [1] Between 1961 and 1991, factory employment increased from 15.3% to 28.6%, unofficial factory employment increased from 24.6% to 47.7%, and household industry employment decreased from 60.2% to 23.7%. [2] with a significant raw material availability, access to a broad labour pool, and

management, the Indian leather footwear Industry has witnessed extraordinary transformations over the previous three decades. The footwear industry has achieved significant progress in terms of producing and exporting shoe uppers and whole footwear's. The government's, business and industrial policies, institutional backing, and growing entrepreneurship have all contributed to the increase of demand for export and domestic demand. Since time immemorial, Agra, the Divisional Commissioner and SISI headquarters, as well as a huge territory next to it, It has been one of the most important hubs of trade and industry, with a huge territory close to it.. Agra also served as the country's capital for a long period. Leather Shoes and Goods, Wire brushes, Carpets, Cast Iron Pipe Fittings, Metric Weights and Measurements, Motor and Tractor parts, Machinery for Glass and Diesel Engines, Textile companies, pumping sets, Agriculture Implements, Generating Sets, & Iron foundries are all products made in Agra. A specialty of the city is the tasty Namkeen Dalmonth and Dessert known as "Petha." But on the basis of

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employment and demand we consider only footwear household industry. Agra's Leather footwear is renowned for its superior craftsmanship around the world. Handmade shoes are a cut above the rest. class apart. Agra does more trade-related activities in a day than any other city on the earth. Production of a Whooping 60 million per year is also cost effective.[4]Footwear industry has a significant detrimental impact on health, which cannot be overlooked.[5]

STUDY AREA

Agra is a city in India's Uttar Pradesh state, located on the banks of the Yamuna River. It's 206 km (128 mi) south of the city of New Delhi, India's capital. Agra is the 4thmost populated city in Uttar Pradesh and 24th most populous city in India. Agra is one of the western cities of Uttar Pradesh. The latitudinal and longitudinal extension of city lies between the 27.0554° north to 27.1430° north latitude and 77.5240° east to 78.0449° east longitude. The study

area like Agra is economically forward where the level of development is as good as compare to the other city of the western up. Agra is a popular tourist city because to its several Mughal period structures, including the Taj Mahal, Agra Fort and Fatehpur Sikri, which are all UNESCO World Heritage Sites. Agra is one of the three cities that make up the Golden Triangle tourism circuit, which also includes Delhi and Jaipur, as well as the Heritage Arc of Uttar Pradesh, which includes Varanasi and Lucknow. The Braj cultural region includes Agra. The city has huge number of footwear household industries to provide the livelihood condition. Therefore, the large number of nearby village people is migrating to city to earn the good amount of money and sustain the livelihood. As a result of this, the encouragement of household industries in Agra city is some extent to provide the employment for the city and rural people to sustain their livelihood.[3]

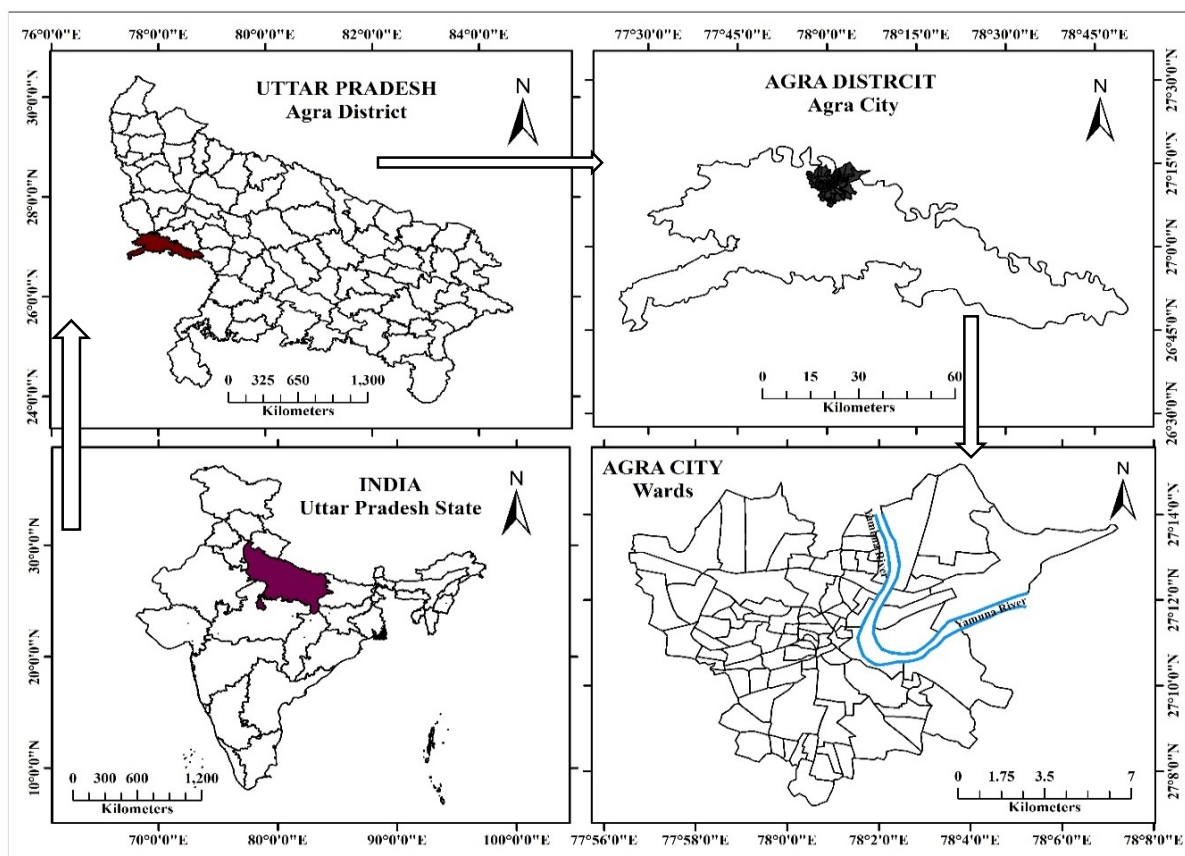


Fig. 1 Study Area Map drawn with the help of GIS Arc View 10.2.3

OBJECTIVES

The study set out the imprints and status of the Household Footwear Industries in the city with the objectives of to find out the present status and health issue of Household Footwear industry worker in the city; examine the nature of household Footwear industry development pattern in the city; and analyses the level of product production in the city.

METHOD OF DATA COLLECTION

This paper primarily based on the secondary source of data which is collected by government organizations like, Agra Development Authority (ADA), Agra Municipal Corporation, DIC-Agra, Ministry of SSI Report and online Published journals etc.

A. Processing

After completion of data collection, the individual slip was processed and data were converted into the tabular form for categorization of data and preparing thematic maps.

B. Analysis

Processed data were statistically presented for logical analysis. Both quantitative and qualitative methods were used in the present study. M.S. Office and other computer-based techniques were used for mapping, analyses. The finding was obtained on the basis of analysis.

C. Problems Face During Data Collection

It is very difficult task to collect the data from government organizations. They always said this data has no access to third party. After many visits, they provide data.

THE INDIAN LEATHER INDUSTRY

Because of its significant export earnings, jobs generation, and growth, the leather sector plays a significant role in the Indian economy. There has been a growing focus on its planned production, with the goal of making the best use of available raw materials in order to maximise returns, especially from export. India is the world's largest livestock producer, large animals account for 21% of the total, while small animals account for 11%.

From Rs.28 crore in 1956-1957 to Rs.3056 crore in 1991-1992 to Rs.9624 crore in 2003-2004, the export of leather and leather products has steadily increased. In terms of foreign exchange earnings, the industry currently positions eighth in the India's export trade. The composition of India's leather exports has changed dramatically over the last three decades, shifting from a raw material exporter in the 1960s to a value-added product exporter in the 1990s. Value-added goods now account for about 80% of the industry's overall exports, up from 7% in 1956-1957. The leather export from 1999-2000 to 2019-2020 is continuously increasing.

The primary production centres for leather and leather-based products include Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal, New Delhi, Punjab, Mumbai and Haryana. Every year, India's production 2 billion square feet of leather. Leather industry is divided into five categories: Tanning & Finishing, Leather garments, Leather Goods Footwear & Components, Saddlery and Harness Articles.

Table 1 India exports of leather and leather goods during 1999-2000 to 2019-2020 are given below (value in Million US\$)

Category	April-March		
	1999-2000	2009-2010	2019-2020
Finished Leather	239.82	625.54	524.15
Leather Footwear	377.39	1254.37	2081.84
Non-Leather Footwear	215.09	44.01	281.97
Footwear Components	347.28	209.13	261.64
Leather Garments	278.72	428.52	429.11
Leather Goods	34.11	756.02	1340.56
Saddlery and Harness	97.80	83.39	151.44
Leather Gloves	14.12	-	-
Total	1604.35	3400.97	5070.55

Source- CLE

DEVELOPMENT OF AGRA FOOTWEAR INDUSTRY

The first phase of growth in the Agra footwear industry began in the 1970s, with a shift in production organisation, marketing, and the development of new technology for manufacturing and raw material use.

With the aim of assisting household artisans, small-scale and cottage units with shoe marketing and providing economical and mechanical assistance to the Central Footwear Training Institute (CFTI), Uttar Pradesh Leather Development Corporation (LAMCO), SISI, Bhartiya Charm Udyog Sangh, Bharat Leather Corporation (BLC), KVIC have played an important role in the promoting the growth of this industry through technical help and sales their goods through their network in the country. However, LAMCO and BLC have been out of business for the past 5 to 7 years due to administrative reasons. The artisans were then once again reliant on commission agents to sell their wares.

Table.2 The following table depicts the progression of the footwear industry's modernization.

S.N	Year	No. of Mechanized Units	No. of Semi Mechanized Units	Informal Footwear Industry
1	1970	10	50	3000
2	1980	15	85	7000
3	1990	25	120	13000
4	2000	40	180	18000
5	2010	60	3000	24000
6	2020	150	5000	30000

Source- DIC Agra, <https://agra.nic.in/economy/>

The emergence of a footwear cluster in Agra dates back to the Mughal era. Bata India, Carona, and other companies aided the Agra shoe industry develop smoothly due to changes in technology and the availability of skilled labor. It has now progressed to the point where it not only supplies footwear to the domestic market but also has a global presence also. Because of the size and form of various shoe manufacturing in the area, Agra comes to mind when talking about shoes. The shoe industry thrived in Agra due to the following factors: skilled labor, traditional industry, craftspeople, and raw material availability. It is common knowledge that if skilled labor and raw materials are available in a given location, the industry will expand by leaps and bounds.

GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION TO DEVELOP FOOTWEAR INDUSTRY

Central Footwear Training Institute (CFTI) Agra

The Central Footwear Training Institute is a non-profit organization dedicated to educating the oldest institute is in Agra, which was founded in 1963 and was earlier known as the Central Footwear Training Centre. It has been an autonomous entity within the Ministry of Small-Scale Industry since January 1, 1996.

In cooperation with the Textile Institute in the United Kingdom, this institute provides two-year diploma and one-year certificate programs in footwear design and leather product development. CFTI also offers a variety of short-term certificate courses and possibilities for skill development. The Footwear Industry will also benefit from this institute's computerized pattern grading and mould making services.[6]

Council for Leather Exports (CLE)

The Council for Leather Exports (CLE), a government of India export promotion agency, is the highest body of professionals in the Indian leather industry, with offices in Chennai, Mumbai, New Delhi, Kanpur, Kolkata, and an additional office in Agra. CLE has played a key part in the complete growth of the leather industry, Infrastructure development, marketing strategy and export promotion, and market analysis are only a few examples. The CLE provide service as a conduit between foreign buyers and Indian exporters. [7]

Work Force (Employments)

The majority of the footwear workers in Agra are Jatavs., with a small percentage of the Muslim community also working in the industry. Around 3.5 lakh skilled workforces are active in around 30000 mostly home base units, producing about 2 lakh pairs of footwear per day, according to estimates.

In short, production workers in small household and workshops are mostly Jatavs, with a few Muslims thrown in for good measure. Only a few Jatavs work in non-productive occupations like quality control, packing, and administration in bigger workshops and modern small-scale factories. In bigger and more modern factories, there is a tendency toward fewer Jatavs working in production. Non-Jatav men and women are preferred by many entrepreneurs. Approximately 60% of Agra's total population is employed in this sector, either directly or indirectly.

Table 3 Estimates of Workers in Footwear Sector in Agra 2020

S.N.	Types of Production Units	No. of Units	Employment(Direct)
1.	Household units	30000	350000
2.	Household workshop	1250	10,001
3.	Non-household workshop	510	10,005
4.	Semi-mechanized workshop	220	20,010
5.	Mechanized factories	55	15,002
6.	Workers in ancillary units	-	18,003
7.	Women job workers	-	10,012
8.	Factory workers(women)	-	2,025
	Total	32035	435058

Source- DIC-Agra, <https://agra.nic.in/economy/>

Production of Footwear

Agra produces 4 crore pairs of shoes each year, including 2.2 crore pairs of chappals and sandals, with an estimated 32035 units employing roughly 4.35 lakh people (including the surrounding areas). Agra's shoe industry also manufactured a significant amount of shoe uppers for export. Agra's home-based units (artisans) also make substandard shoe uppers from shoe waist / cut pieces and sell them on the Haat (open market in chakkipet). Cobblers (artisans) from Uttar Pradesh and nearby states such as Haryana Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, and Punjab, buy these uppers and use them to make low-quality footwear in their shops. The mechanized sector's extremely labor-intensive processes are frequently subcontracted to home-based women employees. The close connection between the structured and decentralized sectors can be seen in these traditional labor production operations in Agra.



Photo Plate-01 Haat (open market in chakkipet)

Solid Waste Generation by Footwear Industry

Mantola, Kajipara, Dholikhar, Azamganj, Khattipara, , pankisarai, Gobarchowki, shakuntla Nagar, Naikimandi, khaitana road, Raj Nagar, Nandpura, gopalpura, Mohan pura, Devi road, , Budhvihar, TilaNandRam, , and further locations account for a considerable portion of the leather and rubber trimming from the footwear industry. Huge waste of leather and rubber by footwear industry is visible along the drain and job work done by people for in big numbers, which is mostly complete at home, does not recycle and instead throws waste in open areas and drains. When waste is left unattended for several days at an open dump or in dustbins, it is burned to minimise volume. At the secondary collection point, the total amount of leather and rubber waste is estimated to be around 60 MT per day.[10]



Photo Plate 02- Leather waste near Kuns gate along the drain



Photo Plate 03- Leather and rubber waste near Bijli Ghar

Health Issue

Producing shoes necessitates a huge amount of equipment and chemicals during the manufacturing stage. A huge amount of fossil fuels is required to operate these machines, and when these fuels are burned, they emit greenhouse gases. Coal is most important source of energy used to power these footwear industries because it is relatively inexpensive compared to fossil oil or other sources of energy. Coal combustion emits CO₂, which ultimately enters our atmosphere and contributes to the greenhouse effect, which is harmful to the environment. Each shoe produces 30 pounds of carbon dioxide on average, and more than 6.2 crore footwear are manufactured each year in Agra City. Tribromphenol, Chlorinated phenols, dimethyl fumarate, chlorinated paraffins, and other chemicals used to preserve leather in shoes are examples of these substances. Workers in the manufacturing process suffer from a variety of health issues related to their skins, respiratory systems, and eyes as a result of their exposure to these chemicals. These chemicals are readily released into the environment and water as a result of factory discharge. These chemicals can damage wild animals that drink infected water or eat infected plants. To summarize, the manufacturing of shoes poses numerous environmental risks because large quantities of carbon dioxide are generated and numerous chemicals are used in the process.[5]

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Since these units are made up of family persons, to make a living, they rely exclusively on the ability of family persons. They produce footwear and offer them at a lower price. However, these units prepared skilled labor for the footwear industries, which in turn catered to the needs of large mechanized factories and export companies in the later stages. They produce substandard work that caters to the needs of the lower

middle class.

(1) To enhance Agra's footwear cluster, it is proposed that all of the units be brought under one roof. As a result, a plan to create "Juta Nagri," or plots, should be made accessible to entrepreneurs as needed, along with the necessary infrastructure. (2) Proper management of footwear solid waste because in present the waste dump in the drains cause for various health issues. (3) Environmental awareness in workers is also important because workers and family members of the household footwear industry suffer from diseases. (4) Training, marketing, a test facility, and theraw materials and components are readily available, among other things, should all be available so that they don't waste time and have access to all of the resources in one place. (5) This will improve their spirit, and the layer will undoubtedly visit them because they will be in a united form. As a result, as government agencies / Concordia are interested in this cluster, this 'Juta-Nagri' can be produced. Thus, all the suggestion has been demarcating the future orientation of the research that will be done the other researchers by going through this literature work. And government has intended to take their interest with their best regards for the complete implementation of the scheme, whatever, left out in the former implementation pattern.

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