

A study on the problems faced by the workers in Regional Cinema with special reference to Goregaon Film Studio, Mumbai

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Abstract: Indian cinema especially regional cinema play very important role in society in terms of providing information and knowledge through entertainment, sensitizing people about urgent social issues. The employment in Regional Cinema is increasing in the country. An official from the Media and Entertainment Skills Council (MESC) says that the trend is changing. It is also observed that the employment is increasing in the film industry in the country and number of technical skill is under sizing, it can be because of two reasons. One is that film making industry is huge in India with somewhere between 1500-2000 films produced every year in 20 different languages. This sector is expected to grow. The second can be that majority of the workforce in the sector has been trained on the job or self-trained. The film sector also faces shortages of specialised institutions which impart training and formal education in film technologies, higher skills and creative thinking. However, a proper study or survey on the problems of workers in Film Making Industry would be the best way to come to a conclusion, thus the researcher decide to study on the topic.

Introduction:

A worker is a person who does a specified type of work or who works in a specified way. The film industry comprises the technological and commercial institution of filmmaking. The film making industry plays an important role in the industrial and economic development of the country. It creates social and economic status of the people by offering tremendous employment opportunities, especially to the editors, directors, writers, producers, showrunners, agents, casting directors, art directors, publicists, artists, the list goes on. There are many requirements for human resources and that are advertised through word of mouth. To get job in film industry it is very

difficult as this industry requires lot of creativity and talents. It can be dark if you do not know the right people or right source to enter in this industry. So education is needed in this area.

The film industry today is still a strange paradox as despite these positives, it is still not looked at as a mainstream profession and remains a mysterious albeit glamorous world. And this non-mainstream industry plays host to unconventional jobs that, believe it or not, can offer what most vanilla jobs can: money, excitement, challenge, creative fulfilment, growth, and stability.

Objective of the study:

- To understand the nature of work of the respondents involve in film making industry specially in regional cinema.
- To identify the reasons for doing the present job by the respondents.
- To analyse the problems faced by the respondents.
- To provide suggestions based on the finding of the study.

Methodology of the study:

Primary data and secondary data are used for the study. The primary data are collected from the workers in Goregaon Film Studio, Mumbai, Simple random sampling technique was used to select the sample respondents. It was decided to have a sample size of 30 respondents. The secondary data are collected from various books, magazines, and Internet.

Analysis and Interpretation of Data

Problem faced by the workers in Film Making Industry:

a) Nature of work of the respondents :

The nature of work of the respondents do determine their status. Following table show the type of work done by the respondents.

Table 1: Nature of work of the respondents

Sr.No.	Nature of Work	No. of Respondents	Percentages
1	Spot Boys	6	20
2	Set crafts	3	10
3	Hair & Makeup	5	17
4	Costume	4	13
5	Lighting	7	23
6	Camera & sound	5	17
		30	100

Source : Primary Data

Table 1 shows that 20 percentage of the respondents are spot boys. 10 percentage of the respondents work as set crafts. 17 percentage of respondents are hair stylist and makeup person. 13 percentage of the respondents look after the costume of the artists. 23percentage of the respondents are involve in light setting work. And 17 percentage of respondents are in the camera and sound handling and operating work.

b) **Reasons for doing the present job by the respondents :** Reasons given by the respondents for doing the present job are presented in Table No. 2

Table 2: Reasons for doing the present job by the respondents

Sr.No.	Nature of Work	No. of Respondents	Percentages
1	Poverty	06	20
2	Self will	21	70
3	Parent's will	02	07
4	Others	01	03
		30	100

Source: Primary Data

Table 2 reveals that 30 percentage of the respondent do the work due to poverty. 70 percentage of respondents are doing this job out of self interest. 7 percentage of the respondents who do this work as their parents like them to do this kind of job.

c) Problems Faced by the Sample Respondents

Table 3: Magnitude of Problems in various components

Problems	Mild		Moderate		Severe		Total	
	No. of Respondent	%	No. of Respondent	%	No. of Respondent	%	No. of Respondent	%
Freelance workers	10	33	12	40	8	27	30	100
No fixed wages	2	7	8	27	20	67	30	100
No fixed working hours	5	17	9	30	16	53	30	100
No fixed location	14	47	12	40	4	13	30	100
Low level of job security	3	10	6	20	21	70	30	100
Safety issue	13	43	8	27	9	30	30	100
Competition	2	7	7	23	22	73	31	103
Health	2	7	10	33	18	60	30	100
Technology advancement	2	7	8	27	20	67	30	100

Source: Primary data

Table 3 reveals that one of the problem is the majority of filmmaking jobs are filled by freelance workers, so it's important to make a name for themselves. 40 percentage of the respondents are feeling freelance work nature is moderate problem followed by mild problem (33 percentage) and severe (27 percentage). Problem related no fixed wages includes severe (67 percentage) followed by moderate (27 percentage) and mild (7 percentage). Problem related no fixed working hours includes severe (53 percentage) followed by moderate (30 percentage) and mild (17 percentage). Problem related no fixed location includes mild (47 percentage) followed by moderate (40 percentage) and severe(13 percentage). The next problem related to low level of job security - as worker usually be hired on a film by film basis. This problem includes severe (70 percentage) followed by moderate (20 percentage) and

mild (10 percentage). Safety issue includes mild (43 percentage) followed by severe (30 percentage) and moderate (27 percentage). Problem related competition includes severe (73 percentage) followed by moderate (23 percentage) and mild (7 percentage). Problem related health includes severe (60 percentage) followed by moderate (33 percentage) and mild (7 percentage). Problem related Technology advancement includes severe (67 percentage) followed by moderate (27.5 percentage) and mild (6.5 percentage).

Overall working in film making industry is stressful job as people have to remember that there are many careers and a lot of money on the line every time if the camera rolls.

Findings:

- No fix wages, working hours, and location depending on size of production and funding behind it.
- Risky job because there are many natural hazards on a film set. Crew members can trip over cables, fall off platforms, have equipment tumble on them, burn and cut themselves, slip on stairs and slippery surfaces etc. breathing atmosphere smoke for long periods, accidents involving insert cars or process trailers, accidents from stunts and special effects and noise hazards such as loud explosions and gunfire.
- There are many reason for lack of technical skill involved in this sector e.g. This sector is still far behind the global scenario in terms of innovation, Lack of adoption of forefront technologies, Blending Eastern talent with eastern technology and experience , Need to upgrading the skillset of local technicians.

Suggestion:

Following suggestion provided by the researcher based on the findings of the study

- The statutory minimum wage should be provided to the workers.
- Pension scheme should be introduced.
- Healthy, hygienic and safety environment should be provided
- Government should promote technical education.
- The government should focus on vocational training impart training and formal education in film technologies, higher skills and creative thinking.
- All crew members should be aware of the safety issues working on any set. There should be safety supervisor.

Conclusion:

It is very important to note that a huge portion of the current labour, employed in film making industry. They are facing various problems. India can become a leading film tourism destinations globally. The analysis leads us to look into the matter for current trends in regional cinema. The Indian labour of film making industry is technically unfit for employment in global scenario as the expectation of performance level is different from each other. If appropriate training and skills could be provided to them, it is possibly feasible to offer better forms of employment to them globally.

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A Practical Guide To Making Your First Short Film by Sophie Monks Kaufman

Filmmakers Offer Essential First-Hand Advice For How To Bring Your Creative Vision To Life.