CHAPTER – VII

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS, SUGGESTIONS AND CONCLUSION

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7.1 General

Small scale industries like beedi industries are the major influencing part of the overall economical development of a country. It contributes to be the major part of livelihood of the total working population of the country. Beedi industries are the largest segment of giving employment opportunities not only for the educated but also for the uneducated women workers. Though the beedi industries may cause several health hazards, people of the Tirunelveli district may hugely depend upon the beedi industries, because they provide a lot of work load to the needy as well as employment seeking people.

The efforts taken by the central and state Governments may try to lift them not only in their economical set up but also in their total family set up. Most of the beedi industries may try to provide several perquisites like free education, scholarships, bonus schemes, short-term loans etc. The researcher identifies several problems like misuse of monetary benefits, liquor consumption of the family members, school drop outs of the children, poor administration of funds by the managerial persons of the beedi companies etc.

For the present study, the researcher has selected Melapalayam, Mukoodal, Pettai, Tirunelveli Town, Ambasamudram and Alangulam for data

collection. In these areas, most of the people do beedi rolling, labelling and beedi bundling. From these six areas, 542 women beedi workers were randomly selected and made a personal interview with them at their convenient time by the researcher. The investigator personally recorded their responses in the questionnaire appended in the appendix part of the research report. The present study is entitled "Status of Women Beedi Workers in Tirunelveli District".

7.2 Findings

Socio-Demographic Status of Women Beedi Workers

1. The study reveals that, out of 542 women beedi workers, 108 workers were below 30 years of age, 317 workers belong to 31 to 40 years of age and 117 workers belong to above 40 years of age.
2. The average per capita income of 31 to 40 years of age group of women beedi workers was ₹8,476.97. This was higher than the per capita income of those workers belong to above 40 years and below 30 years of age. The difference in per capita income was significant at 5 per cent level. So, the researcher has concluded that the age of the women beedi workers is a significant factor in the determination of the income of the family.
3. Chi-square analysis was employed to test the hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between the age of the women beedi workers and their level of income. The calculated value is higher than the table value. Therefore, the hypothesis is rejected and the researcher has concluded that

there is a significant relationship between the age of the women beedi workers and the level of income.

4. The study reveals that, out of 542 women beedi workers selected, 473 workers were Hindus and 69 workers belong to other religions. The average per capita income of the women beedi workers, in which, the religion of the women beedi workers who belong to other religion was ₹8,262.25. This was higher than the per capita income of those workers belonging to Hinduism. The difference in per capita income was not significant at 5 per cent level.
5. Chi-square analysis was employed to test the hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between the religion of the women beedi workers and their level of income. The calculated value is lower than the table value. Therefore, the hypothesis is accepted and the researcher has concluded that there is no significant relationship between the religion of the women beedi workers and the level of income.
6. The study shows that, out of 542 women beedi workers selected, 163 workers belong to SC-ST communities, 337 belong to BC-MBC category and the remaining 42 workers belong to other communities. The average per capita income of the women beedi workers, in which, the social status of the women beedi workers who belong to SC-ST communities was ₹8,626.85. This was higher than the per capita income of those workers belonging to BC-MBC and other communities.

7. Chi-square analysis was employed to test the hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between the social status of the women beedi workers and their level of income. The calculated value is lower than the table value. Therefore, the hypothesis is accepted and the researcher has concluded that there is no significant relationship between the social status of the women beedi workers and their level of income.
8. Out of 542 women beedi workers selected, 497 workers were literates, six were dropouts, 16 were vocationally trained and the remaining 23 workers belong to other categories. The average per capita income of the women beedi workers in which the education status of the women beedi workers who belong to dropout categories was ₹8,233.33. This was higher than the per capita income of those workers belonging to other education categories.
9. Chi-square analysis was employed to test the hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between the education status of the women beedi workers and their level of income. The calculated value is lower than the table value. Therefore, the hypothesis is accepted and the researcher has concluded that there is no significant relationship between the education status of the women beedi workers and the level of income.
10. The study discloses that, out of 542 women beedi workers selected, 514 workers were married, nine were unmarried and the remaining 19 workers were independent. The average per capita income of the women beedi

workers in which the marital status of the married women beedi workers was ₹8,451.65. This was higher than the per capita income of the workers other two categories.

11. Chi-square analysis was employed to test the hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between the marital status of the women beedi workers and their level of income. The calculated value is lower than the table value. Therefore, the hypothesis is accepted and the researcher has concluded that there is no significant relationship between the marital status of the women beedi workers and the level of income.
12. The study reveals that, out of 542 women beedi workers selected, 497 workers belong to nuclear families, 45 belong to joint families.
13. Chi-square analysis was employed to test the hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between the family type of the women beedi workers and their level of income. The calculated value is lower than the table value. Therefore, the hypothesis is accepted and the researcher hasconcluded that there is no significant relationship between the family type of the women beedi workers and the level of income.
14. The study reveals that, out of 542 women beedi workers selected, 522 workers belong to family size is upto 5 and the remaining 20 workers belong to above 5 category.
15. Chi-square analysis was employed to test the hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between the family size of the women beedi

workers and their level of income. The calculated value is higher than the table value. Therefore, the hypothesis is rejected and the researcher has concluded that there is significant relationship between the family size of the women beedi workers and the level of income.

Economic Status of Women Beedi Workers

16. It is observed from the study that, 54.96 per cent, 56.41 per cent and 55.70 per cent of the total annual gross income have been derived from beedi rolling in low income, high income and both the groups respectively. Next to this, wages gives a considerable amount of income to the beedi workers households in three groups. 25.73 per cent, 25.85 per cent and 25.79 per cent of the gross income were received from wages in low income, high income and all respondents groups respectively.
17. Average mean annual income of the respondents of this study is ₹33,135.52. The income of the respondents deviates from the mean income by ₹11,178.57 as seen from the calculated standard deviation. The minimum income of the respondents is ₹25,800 and the maximum is ₹1,10,600 per year.
18. It is observed from the study that the greater proportion of households is 35.61 per cent, out of the 193 households. Low income beedi worker group is formed in the income range between ₹50,000 and ₹75,000. In the case of high income beedi worker group, the greater proportion i.e. 29.78 per cent is found in the income range of ₹25,000 to ₹50,000.

19. In the case of the low income women beedi workers the most striking point was the distance between the top and bottom of the distribution. At the bottom out of 270 samples surveyed 37.78 per cent of the women beedi workers (102 women beedi workers) earned less than ₹12,000 per capita income. At the top 62.22 per cent of the sample women beedi workers (168 women beedi workers) earned more than ₹12,000 per capita income in the study area. Nearly 62 per cent of the women beedi workers earned per capita income more than ₹12,000. Such a heavy concentration of women beedi workers in the upper end of per capita income range has disclosed the fact that the per capita income distribution was negatively skewed.
20. The histogram revealed the fact that the model per capita income was around ₹12,000. The calculated value of mean ₹12,347 was less than the median value of ₹12,549, which was less than the modal value of ₹12,723. The consolidated per capita income distribution was skewed to the left. Further, the calculated value of coefficient of skewness -0.49 has strengthened the fact that the given distribution was negatively skewed for the low income group women beedi workers. The mean in the distribution of per capita income, extreme variations were towards the lower values of the variable.
21. In the case of high income women beedi workers, the distance between the top and the bottom of the given distribution was great. At the bottom out of

272 women beedi workers surveyed, 64.34 per cent of the women beedi workers (175 women beedi workers) earned less than ₹12,000 per capita income, while the remaining 35.66 per cent (97 women beedi workers) earned more than ₹12,000 of per capita income. About 64.34 per cent of the women beedi workers earned per capita income ranged between ₹6,000 and ₹12,000. Such a heavy clustering of women beedi workers in the lower end of per capita income has disclosed the fact that the given distribution was positively skewed.

22. The histogram has depicted clearly the concentration of frequencies at the lower end of the distribution. The most popular frequency was around ₹12,000. The computed value of mean ₹12,471 was greater than the value of median ₹12,387, which was greater than the modal value of ₹12,268 in the study area. It further has strengthened the observation that the given distribution was positively skewed. The calculated value of coefficient of skewness 0.94 would confirm and consolidate that the per capita income distribution was a positively skewed one for the high income women beedi workers. It has the mean that the per capita income distribution would have greater variations towards the higher values of the variable.

23. The study reveals that, both the groups the histogram has depicted clearly the concentration of frequencies at the lower end of the distribution. The most popular frequency was around ₹12,000. The computed v**alu**e of mean ₹12,887 was greater than the value of median ₹12,566, which was greater

than the modal value of ₹12,424 in the study area. It further has strengthened the observation that the given distribution was positively skewed. The calculated value of coefficient of skewness 0.84 would confirm and consolidate that the per capita income distribution was a positively skewed one for the all women beedi workers. It has the mean that the per capita income distribution would have greater variations towards the higher values of the variable..

24. The study reveals that the average income in the case of the low income women beedi workers increased gradually and marginally as one moved from the bottom to the top decile. The percentage share of income between the first and tenth decile ranged from 5.48 to 14.77. It indicated that the presence of inequality among the low income women beedi workers in the distribution of income was not so great. It meant that there existed a slight disparity among the low income women beedi workers in the distribution of income in the study area.

25. It was evident from the study that the average income of the high income women beedi workers increased steadily from first decile to eighth decile but there was the sudden increase in the income in the ninth and tenth decile. It indicated that the presence of variation excited in the top decile was higher than the bottom decile group. Further the study has revealed that the bottom decile group accounted 5.23 per cent of average while the top decile accounted 15.50 per cent of the average income earned by the

high income women beedi workers. It implied that there existed a disparity among the high income women beedi workers in the study area.

26. The study reveals that, by comparing the percentage share of income for the first decile group with the tenth decile group one could understand that the extent of inequality was higher in the case of the high income women beedi workers and all women beedi workers than in the study area.

27. The study reveals that, the estimated value of Gini ratio was 0.158 for low income women beedi workers, 0.168 for the high income women beedi workers and 0.171 for the all women beedi workers. It clearly indicated that the numerical value in the case of all women beedi workers was higher than the low income women beedi workers and high income women beedi workers. This shows that the inequality in the distribution of income was higher in all women beedi workers than in the low income women beedi workers and high income women beedi workers.

28. The variance of logarithms for the low income women beedi workers and high income women beedi workers were found to be 0.05478 (σ_1^2) and 0.06124 ((σ_2^2) respectively. The calculated value of F test value was 1.24 which was less than the table value of $F_{0.05}$ which was 1.96 at (8,534) degrees of freedom. It showed that there was no significant difference between the degrees of inequality existed between the low income women beedi workers and high income women beedi workers in the study area.

29. The variance of logarithms for the low income women beedi workers and all income women beedi workers were found to be 0.05478 (σ_1^2) and 0.07401 ((σ_2^2) respectively. The calculated value of F test value was 1.48 which was less than the table value of $F_{0.05}$ which was 1.96 at (8,534) degrees of freedom.

30. The calculated value of F test value for the high income women beedi workers and all income women beedi workers was 1.87 which was less than the table value of $F_{0.05}$ which was 1.96 at (8,534) degrees of freedom. It showed that there was no significant difference between the degrees of inequality existed between the low income women beedi workers and high income women beedi workers, low income women beedi workers and all income women beedi workers and high income women beedi workers and all income women beedi workers in the study area.

31. The study reveals that the ratios between the per capita income of mean income of the bottom 10 per cent and the top 10 per cent of low income women beedi workers, high income women beedi workers and all income women beedi workers were 1:1.62, 1:1.74 and 1:1.88 respectively. This disparity ratio indicated that there was a higher disparity in the case of the all the women beedi workers than in the low income women beedi workers and high income women beedi workers. Hence, the extent of inequality was greater in the all income women beedi workers than in the low income women beedi workers and high income women beedi workers.

32. Centile ratios were calculated to study the extent of inequality between the low income women beedi workers, high income women beedi workers and all income women beedi workers. centile ratios one could infer that the inequality in the distribution of per capita income in the case of low income women beedi workers was greater in the lower end and lower in the upper end and for the high income women beedi workers and all income women beedi workers the disparity was greater in the upper end than in the lower end in the study area.

33. The study, an attempt has been made to analyse the factors which determine the per capita income of the households multiple regression was employed. . The result reveals that the per capita income of the women beedi workers households could be improved by increasing the number of earners in the family, type of work and level of employment. The measures to reduce the family size among the women beedi workers households would also enhance the per capita household income significantly in the study area. Therefore the first hypothesis is that, 'per capita income of the women beedi workers could be improved by incurring the number of earners in the family, level of employment and type of work" is proved. But the other factors like size of family, average wage rate and dependency ratio are not determined the per capita income of the women beedi workers in the study area.

34. The study shows that, on an average every women beedi workers family spends ₹48,756 on household expenses. The average amount spent on food is more which is ₹29,541 (67.93%), followed by the expenditures on clothing, which is 9.92 per cent of the total expenditure. They spend more on functions and festivals, which comes to 1.38 per cent of their income. The expenditure on education (1.40%) and health care (3.85%) is very much less. This indicates the poor standard of living of the people.
35. The study shows that, Marginal Propensity to Save (MPS) indicates the capacity of the household / person to save with a given level of income. As indicated in the study, the Marginal Propensity to Save could be derived from Marginal Propensity to Consume by the relationship MPS = (1–MPC). Using this relationship, the MPS in the women beedi worker household was derived and it was (1–0.81 0.19, which implied that with every increase in income by one rupee, the household might have the capacity to save ₹0.19. From the analysis, it was evident that most of the per capita income earned was spent on the consumption and little to the tune of ₹0.19 was available for saving. This indicated that persons in the households were living in intense poverty and they spent more on consumption. Therefore the second hypothesis that, 'the Marginal Propensity to Consume (MPC) is comparatively high for the women beedi workers in the study area' is proved.

36. Out of 542 women beedi workers selected, 192 workers saved their money in banks, 163 were saved by purchasing of gold jewels and the remaining 187 workers were saved by purchasing of lands. Chi-square analysis was employed to test the hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between the type of savings of the women beedi workers and their level of income. The calculated value is lower than the table value. Therefore, the hypothesis is accepted and the researcher concluded that there is no significant relationship between the type of savings of the women beedi workers and the level of income.
37. The study reveals that, 45.57 per cent of the women beedi workers have borrowed from self help group. 9.59 per cent from money lenders. 34.87 per cent from commercial banks, 5.54 per cent from land lords and 4.43 per cent from friends and relatives.
38. The study further reveals that, the average per capita income of the commercial bank debtors of women beedi workers was ₹8,621.13. This was higher than the per capita income of workers of other source of debtors. The Self Help Group debtors per capita income was `8,345.22, money lenders debtors was ₹7,578.49, landlord debtors was ₹7,478.65 and friends and relatives debtors was ₹7,632.78. The difference in per capita income was not significant at 5 per cent level. So, the researcher concluded that the source of debt of women beedi workers is not a significant factor in the determination of the income of the family.

39. Chi-square analysis was employed to test the hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between the source of debt by the women beedi workers and their level of income. The calculated value 24.332 is higher than the table value (9.49). Therefore, the hypothesis is rejected and the researcher concluded that there is significant relationship between the source of debt by the women beedi workers and the level of income.

Work Status and Health Status of Women Beedi Workers

40. The study reveals that, out of 542 women beedi workers selected, 361 workers were in poor working status and 181 workers were in good working status. The poor work status of women beedi workers average per capita income was ₹8,054.20.

41. Chi-square analysis was employed to test the hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between the work status of the women beedi workers and their level of income. The calculated value is higher than the table value. Therefore, the hypothesis is accepted and the researcher concluded that there is no significant relationship between the work status of the women beedi workers and the level of income.

42. The study reveals that the difference in the average per capita income of poor and good health status groups. Out of 542 women beedi workers selected, 475 workers were in poor health status and 67 workers were in good health status.

43. Chi-square analysis was employed to test the hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between the health status of the women beedi workers and their level of income. The calculated value is lower than the table value. Therefore, the hypothesis is accepted and the researcher concluded that there is no significant relationship between the health status of the women beedi workers and the level of income.
44. The study reveals that, 153 respondents (28.23%) are affected by the general symptoms. About 22.69 per cent of the sample women beedi workers are affected urinary complaints. Similarly, musculoskeletal problems, respiratory problem, eye problems and dermatological problems are also affect the beedi rolling women and they constitutes 11.62 per cent, 9.41 per cent, 12.92 per cent and 15.13 per cent respectively.
45. The study shows that, out of 1,974 patients including women beedi workers and their husband, children and parents, 413 respondents are affected by the general symptoms. About 416 of the sample women beedi workers are affected musculoskeletal problems and 325 women beedi workers family members are affected by respiratory problem, 255 of them are affected by eye problems and only five members are affected by menstrual problem. Similarly, 346 and 214 members are also affected by the dermatological problems and urinary complaints respectively.
46. In order to assess the monetary burden of the illnesses the Cost of Illness (COI) approach has been adopted which is based on accounting of cost.

The per incident total economic cost of the health affects during the period under the study for all diseases resulted from the beedi rolling work is estimated to be ₹40,72,726. On comparing the economic cost of beedi rolling work of various diseases, respiratory problem accounted for a higher economic cost ₹13,75,013 being 51.49 per cent of the total cost. The economic cost of musculoskeletal problems is ₹9,11,872 as compared to respiratory problem are much lower being 22.39 per cent of the total cost. The economic cost of general symptoms ₹4,60,581 being 11.31 per cent of the total cost which is very insignificant as compared to other diseases.

47. The study reveals the components of direct cost which includes the cost of medicines and drugs, diagnosis, and medical expert fees and around two third amount of total direct cost incurred on purchase of medicines and drugs. The diagnosis cost involved hematology, radiology, cytology and pathology test. The total direct cost is ₹26,70,640, among them, ₹17,09,375 are medicine and drug cost and ₹9,61,265 are diagnostic expenditure including doctor fee, which is 64.01 per cnt and 35.99 per cent respectively.
48. The study shows the classification of indirect cost which includes cost incurred on traveling (during the visit), health care and diet cost and some other expenses. The maximum expenses have been incurred on health care

and diets cost was ₹4,79,752 followed by travel cost was ₹2,10,341 and other cost was ₹1,64,513.

49. The direct medical cost per patient is too high in menstrual problem as compared to respiratory problem and musculoskeletal problems. The per patient cost of menstrual problem amounts to ₹5,827 in respect to direct medical cost followed by respiratory problem which amounted to ₹4.709 as direct medical cost. The per patient non-medical cost was higher in uurinary complaints which amounted to ₹1,313 followed by dermatological problems which accounted to ₹993 Thus, the total direct cost of treatment of menstrual problem diseases appears to be more costly as compared to other diseases due to costly medicine and tests.

50. The indirect cost of illness includes the cost of productivity lost due to absence from work of the patient or their attendants. The indirect cost is higher in eye problems which amount to ₹245. The number of days lost during sickness is greater in respiratory problem (1,832 days) as compared to musculoskeletal problems (1,688 days) and general symptoms (1,481 days). This can also be reconciled with the fact that the patient of respiratory problem were bound to pay more visit for the purpose of treatment and also the treatment was carried for a longer period which resulted into higher cost of treatment. The occupational health hazards affect the working days and also the income of the families. Therefore, the tthird hypothesis namely, “the occupational health hazards of women beedi

workers which affect the income of the women beedi workers families" is valid.

51. Job Satisfaction is the one of deciding factor for improving the status of an employee in a particular job. Especially, the women beedi workers are found to be very low in their job satisfaction.
52. Chi-square analysis was revealed that the there is a significant relationship between the age of the women beedi workers and their job satisfaction.
53. The study reveals that there is no significant relationship between the religion of the women beedi workers and their job satisfaction.
54. Chi-square analysis was employed to test the hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between the social status of the women beedi workers and their level of job satisfaction. The calculated value is higher than the table value. Therefore, the hypothesis is rejected and the researcher concluded that the social status of the women beedi workers is significantly associated with the level of job satisfaction.
55. The study concluded that the education status of the women beedi workers is not a significant factor in the determination of the job satisfaction.
56. The study concluded that the marital status of the women beedi workers is not a significant factor in the determination of the job satisfaction.
57. The study shows that the family type of the women beedi workers is a significant factor in the determination of the job satisfaction.

58. Chi-square analysis was employed to test the hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between the family size of the women beedi workers and their level of job satisfaction. The calculated value is higher than the table value. Therefore, the hypothesis is rejected and the researcher concluded that the family size of the women beedi workers is significantly associated with the job satisfaction.
59. The study concluded that there is no significant relationship between the work status of the women beedi workers and the level of job satisfaction.
60. Chi-square analysis was employed to test the hypothesis that there is no significant relationship between the health status of the women beedi workers and their level of job satisfaction. The calculated value is lower than the table value. Therefore, the hypothesis is accepted and the researcher concluded that there is no significant relationship between the health status of the women beedi workers and the level of job satisfaction.
61. The study reveals that, partiality problem was the main problem faced by the women beedi workers, which secured 65.47 per cent mean score. Then scarcity of raw-materials was the second most important problem and it secured 64.32 per cent. Lack of rest 58.47 mean score was the least important problem faced by the women beedi workers in the study area.
62. The study shows that, out of 542 respondents, 350 respondents have suggested Government should to increase the wage amount and it holds the first rank. The suggestion which holds the second rank is that the proper

work place, 304 respondents have opinion in favour of this factor. 284 respondents have asked for the employer for better raw materials and this holds the third position among the suggestions.

7.3 Suggestions

- The women beedi workers in the study area suffered from work related problems. As they were in constant touch with tobacco and the inhalation of the tobacco dust led to skin problems and to asthmatic troubles. Hence the local organizations may intervene in creating awareness among the women who are engaged in beedi rolling to wear gloves and mask in order to cover their nose and protect their hands from diseases. Periodical health check ups may be conducted by the Government or NGOs as the beedi workers are more prone to health hazards.
- The existing legislations meant for beedi workers could be enforced especially the mobile medical units have to be triggered to cater to the health needs of the women beedi workers.
- The mediclaim policy can be introduced for the women beedi workers in the study area. The mediclaim policy may provide the needy financial support for the medical expenses incurred by the women beedi workers. The companies and the state and central Governments may organize regional camps for the welfare of the women beedi workers.
- Lady Doctors should be appointed in sufficient number in all dispensaries in Tirunelveli district.

- The women beedi workers may provide credit facilities by the concerned beedi industries at a lower interest rate. This may ensure their appropriate income and they can escape from the local money lenders who charge heavy interest for their short term loans like 100 day scheme. In order to save from these money lenders, the companies and the local banks may organize special loan camps and offer attractive loan schemes for the women beedi workers. This may assist the women beedi workers in a remarkable manner. This also establish a good rapport between the women beedi workers and the bankers, which in turn, their savings pattern may also changed and at last, their future may also be saved.
- The prevailing wage rates are not sufficient for the women beedi workers to lead their day-today life in a standard manner. About 62.13 per cent of the women beedi workers statement. The companies should come forward to revise the existing wage slab for the women beedi workers considering their health and standard of living. Frequent revision of wage rates at a regular interval may help the women beedi workers to improve their standard of living.
- The Government should insist the beedi companies to motivate the beedi workers to save a part of their income through various sources like Postal Recurring Deposits, Savings Bank Schemes, etc.
- The beedi making workers are mostly women who are illiterate or not educated properly. So it is the responsibility of the Government or the

beedi industries to make aware of the beedi workers about the safety measures and possible diseases due to the particular kind of job and how to get rid of them.

- The researcher identifies several health problems in the study area like breathing problems, school dropouts, improper food habits, poor working conditions, poor health status etc. To eliminate these problems, the companies and the labour officers should arrange periodical health camps, awareness programmes and like.
- Pension schemes may be introduced for the welfare of the women beedi workers those who do this beedi rolling work for a long time. For this, the Government should establish a special welfare department for the workers like beedi workers, brick workers, etc. If the worker is not able to work further, the Government should arrange monthly pension by debiting directly in their bank account.
- In this study area, the women beedi workers reported that partiality problems in some of the beedi industries which is 65.47 per cent in the study area. This is a serious problem, which may develop unwanted violence among the workers. This should be seriously considered by the respective companies and take necessary action on the managerial staffs. The companies should come forward to appoint the senior women beedi workers as the supervisors. They can handle the women beedi workers very efficiently and they may know their problems very well.

- Need to involve private sector industry in skill training and to promote alternative employment opportunities for women beedi workers – through fiscal and monetary and incentives (such as garments export industry in Mangalore), fish processing, herbal medicinal plants, food processing, jari works, and various small and cottage industry.
- Improve women's awareness of employment opportunities and widen occupational choices through entrepreneurial development programmes and participatory rapid appraisal exercises at local level to be conducted through their organizations

7.4 Conclusion

At present, the women beedi workers have recorded a good amount of financial turn over in the study area. They played a significant role in the determination of financial strength of the study area though the industries may create a series of health problems for the chosen sample, the women beedi workers. The state and central Governments should assure the safe working condition for the women beedi workers by introducing novel ideas in the beedi making process. From the findings of the present study, it is clearly understood that several factors may have influence on the determination of income and expenditure pattern of the women beedi workers.

Though the Government has launched various welfare schemes for the beedi workers by passing several legislations, yet workers have been facing acute problem like disparity in minimum wages and lack of social security, the

female beedi workers are carrying out beedi rolling along with their responsibilities. On the other hand, there is need to address immediate concerns of women who are currently engaged in home based beedi work and simultaneously address long term policy issues resulting from anti- tobacco and globalization trends. In a nutshell, for their future prospects, the Government should try to arrange the alternatives employment in that sense; they can completely get out from this worse hazardous work.

7.5 Scope for further Research

Although there is much that the researcher would like to investigate into the status of women beedi workers, the present study tries to provide a few to guidelines that can be followed by future researchers.

1. A Study on Occupational Health Hazards among Women Beedi Rollers in Tirunelveli District, Tamilnadu.
2. A Study on Occupational Exposure and Health risk in Women Beedi workers in Tirunelveli District, Tamil Nadu.
3. Awareness on Health and Social Welfare Benefits among Beedi Workers: A Case Study.