

Original Study

An Exploratory Study on Rugs & Bathmats of Panipat

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Abstract:

Indian rugs and bathmats have their own charm and class in present era. However, Panipat bathmat and rugs are much in demand in India and abroad as they have impact of both historical tradition and there is a small market for rugs and bathmat in India. Hence forth, their potential to earn foreign exchange and to give employment to people alike cannot be overlooked. The study of rugs and bathmat in Panipat was conducted with the help of an interview schedule to find out the process of developing rugs and bathmat by taking almost all the steps in to account like selection of raw material, finishing, dyeing, weaving, tools, loom, designing and after treatment of carpets. 50 Rugs and bathmat unit were selected for the study. The study revealed that Rugs and bathmat have earned a legendary reputation in Panipat all over the world due to their magnificent traditional and contemporary patterns, wide range of size and shapes in different colors, fineness of knotting and lasting durability. In Panipat use of dark colour like red, yellow, blue & ivory is more prominent in the Rugs Bathmats but some time light shades are also used according to buyers demand.

Keywords: Rugs, Bathmat, Carpet, Panipat

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Introduction

Floor covering is a term to generically describe any Finish material applied over a floor structure to provide a walking surface¹. Flooring is the general term for a permanent covering of a floor, or for the work of installing such a floor covering. Both terms are used interchangeably but floor covering refers more to loose-laid materials². Materials almost always classified as floor covering include carpet, area rugs, and resilient flooring such as linoleum or vinyl flooring. Materials commonly called flooring include wood flooring, ceramic tile, stone, terrazzo, and various seamless chemical floor coating³. The choice of material for floor covering is affected by factors such as cost, endurance, noise insulation, comfort and cleaning effort. Some type of flooring must not to be installed below grade (lower than ground level), and lamination or hardwood should be avoided where there may be moisture or condensation⁴. There are number of special features that may be used to ornament a floor or perform a useful service. Examples including Floor medallions which provide a decorative centerpiece of a floor design, or Gratings used to drain water or to rub dirt off shoes⁵.

Home Textile Production in India

The Home Textile Industry is quite widespread in India. There are a number of centers in India where in the production of home textile has been undertaken since

decades. Panipat situated in the state of Haryana and about 100km from India's capital, New Delhi is traditionally known for its light and medium rugs and durries, 'chindi' or fabric and leather scrap durries, and handloom and hand-tufted carpet of contemporary design. This city is also well known for its manufacturing and export of woven made-ups. Keeping pace with global demands India's largest hand weaving center, Panipat, which export about Rs 800 crore worth of home textile products⁶. Producers in Panipat have of late started experimenting with different fabrics such as polyester, silk and poly silk. Some producers have also started the use of natural fabric such as bamboo and soya. Panipat has certain limitations which prevent it from reaching its full potential lack of mechanization and skilled manpower, lack of proper organization as well as lack of efficient infrastructure facilities. Palliwal Export, SRJ Textiles Pvt. Ltd, Mahajan Overseas and liberty are some of the eminent players in Panipat in terms of home textiles. The handloom products of panipat such as carpet table covers, mats, bed sheets and curtains, have occupied a prominent place in the international markets. With the trade flourishing, new units are coming up in panipat. The district is currently also turning out new products such as shoddy and acrylic, polypropylene and shoddy yarns. There are currently about 65 companies exporting a wide range of product such as mats, table covers, bed sheets, curtain and carpet to the USA, France, Canada, Japan, Spain, Germany and Australia. To cater to the burgeoning overseas

demand, tradition handlooms are now being replaced by power looms, shuttles less loom and automatic machines⁷. Objectives of the study comprises of the documentation of the company profiles, variety of rugs & bathmats constructed in the manufacturing units.

Classification of Rugs

Hand knotted Rugs	Handmade Rugs	Machine Made Rugs	Loop &Pile Rugs	Chindi Rugs
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Classification of Bathmats

Cotton Bathmats	Tufted Bathmats	Chenille Bathmats	Yarn dyed Bathmats	Shaggy Bathmats
Reversible Bathmats	Multicolored Bathmats	Jute Dari & Flooring		

Classification of Carpet

Woven Carpet	Loop Pile	Cut Pile Carpet	Knotted pile weave	Needle Felt
Embroidered Carpet	Tufted Carpet	Persian Carpet	Kids Carpet	Plain Acrylic Carpet

Methodology

A qualitative approach was used to procure the information of the rug & bathmat industries of Panipat. Interpretation was done based on the information gathered using a semi structures interview schedule. In depth information on the topic of study was collected from focus group schedule created on an extensive review of literature. The interview schedule comprised of both open and closed ended questions.

Selection of Sample

Cluster of Panipat home hold a huge furnishing industry holds a huge number amongst the other sectors in India. A total number of 1920 manufacturing units exists in the region of Panipat. Out of the total (Rugs-50 Bathmat-50) were selected. Information was procured by manufacturers and workers of the rugs and bathmat manufacturing units. Apart from primary source of data collection historical literature, newspapers, documentaries & internet were surfed as the secondary source of information. Tool for data collection comprised of interview schedule.

Results and Discussion

A thematic interpretation of interviews and focus group discussion led to the development of actual facts and responses of the respondents. This Study focuses on finding the relevant information about cluster of Panipat manufacturing rugs & bathmats. Each table & graphs gives the statistics of the response from the sample of fifty units of Bathmat and fifty of Rugs manufacturing. Maximum no of units have established with an invested amount of 1,00,000 - 2,00,000Rs. Some units have established with 2,00,000-3,00,000Rs and minimum number of the units have established with less than

50,000.Now a days the amount of investment is about 7,00,000Rs.

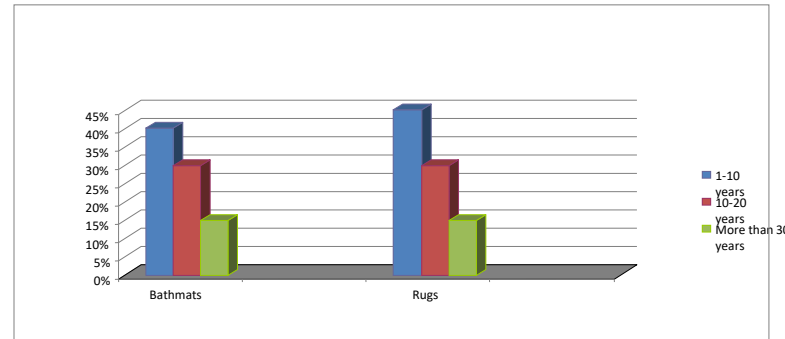


Fig 1: Year of Establishment of the unit

Above statistics revealed that most of the units were established more than 30 years ago as it was the ancestral business taken up by the young generation.

Table 1: Amount invested for the establishment of the unit

Amount	Bathmats Units		Rugs Units	
	Frequency (n)	% age	Frequency (n)	% age
Less than 50,000	10	10	20	20
50,000-1,00,000	30	30	30	30
1,00,000-2,00,000	40	40	30	30
2,00,000-3,00,000	20	20	20	20

Table 2: Numbers of workers employed in the units

No. of workers	Bathmats Units		Rugs Units	
	Frequency (n)	% age	Frequency (n)	% age
10-50	20	20	20	20
50-100	60	60	60	60
100-150	15	15	15	15
More than 200	5	5	5	5

Most of the unit have employed 50 to 100 work force followed by some of the unit have employed 20 workers followed by some of the unit have employed more than 150workers in the units . The working shift of the worker; most of the worker work in morning while minimum number of the worker work in evening shift. Actual number of workers was not stated by the owners as with exceeding number of people engaged in the unit the manufacturing units might come under large scale enterprise, on the contrary the registered units were small scale.

Table 3: Type of worker working in unit

Criteria of selection	Bathmats Units		Rugs Units	
	Frequency (n)	% age	Frequency (n)	% age
Skilled	40	40	40	40
Semi skilled	40	40	40	40
Unskilled	20	20	20	20

In bathmat and rugs unit have similar number of skilled and semi-skilled worker while minimum number of the unit have minimum number of unskilled worker. Skilled worker were working in rugs weaving while semis

skilled were working in tufting of bath mats. That's why rugs cost is high and bathmat cost is less.

Manufacturing of the Rugs & Bathmats

The units of Panipat are famous for creating a variety in creating the rugs & Bathmats. The production Process of the manufacturing of rugs (Fig 3) starts with dyeing of thick cotton yarns using Reactive and Direct dyes. The weft yarns are wined in the shuttle and warp yarns are wrapped on the loom. The yarns are woven into rugs and later are subjected to finishing and packaging. Fig 4- types of rugs manufactured in the units.

Manufacturing of Rugs



Fig 3a: Dyeing of Yarn



Fig 3b: Dyeing of Yarn



Fig 3c: Entanglement of Yarn



Fig 3d: Winding of weft yarn



Fig 3e: Warping Machine



Fig 3f: Warping of yarn



Fig 3g: Weaving of Rug



Fig 3h: Finishing of rug

In manufacturing of Bathmats , Canvas is cut of the desired shape. The size and shape of the bathmat is not fixed. Yarns are either dyed prior to tufting or are tufted on canvas and then dyed. Piece dyeing is the technique used to dye the bathmats.(Fig 5)

Table 4: Marketing of the products

Sources selling	Bathmats Units		Rugs Units	
	Frequency (n)	% age	Frequency (n)	% age
Domestic Market	15	15	15	15

Export	80	80	80	80
Other(Retail outline)	5	5	5	5

Maximum number of the units of bathmat and Rugs exported their product in USA and Canada. Some of the units were sell their products in domestic market and minimum numbers of units sell their products to retail outline

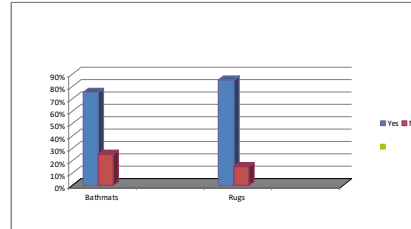


Fig 2. Participation of unit owners in trade, fair, exhibition for their products

Most of the units of bathmat and rugs participated in fairs & exhibitions. Majority of the owners

Table 5: Distribution of units according to the use of loom

Loom	Bathmats Units		Rugs Units	
	Frequency (n)	% age	Frequency (n)	% age
Handloom	-	-	60	60
Pit loom	-	-	30	30
Tufting Machine	80	80	-	-
Embroidery	20	20	10	10

It was observed that 80 per cent of the units manufacturing bathmat used tufting machine and 20 per cent used embroidery machine. 60 per cent of the Rugs manufacturing enterprises used handloom and 30 per cent use pit loom whereas only 10 per cent used embroidery machine since non embellished rugs are

Fig 4. Types of Rugs Manufactured

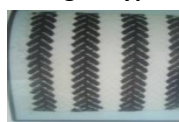


Fig.4a Handmade Rug



Fig.4b Loop of Pile Rug



Fig.4c Fancy Rug



Fig.4d Chindi Rug



Fig.4e Knotted Rug



Fig.4f Fancy Rug

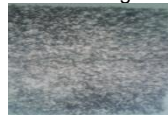


Fig.4g Fancy Rug



Fig.4h Chindi Rug

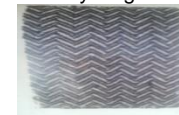


Fig.4i Zigzag Rug



Fig.4j Rug with fringe

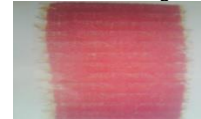


Fig.4k Loop Rug



Fig.4l Embroidered Rug



Fig.4m Braided Rug
 Fig.4n Rug with fringe
 Fig.4o Loop & pile Rug
 more in demand. Handloom and pit loom were the two types of handloom used in rugs weaving. Handloom is the basic type of loom. Tufting Machine is the basic machine for manufacturing Bathmat. The Bathmats are washed, labeled & Packed.

Fig. 5 Manufacturing of Bathmats

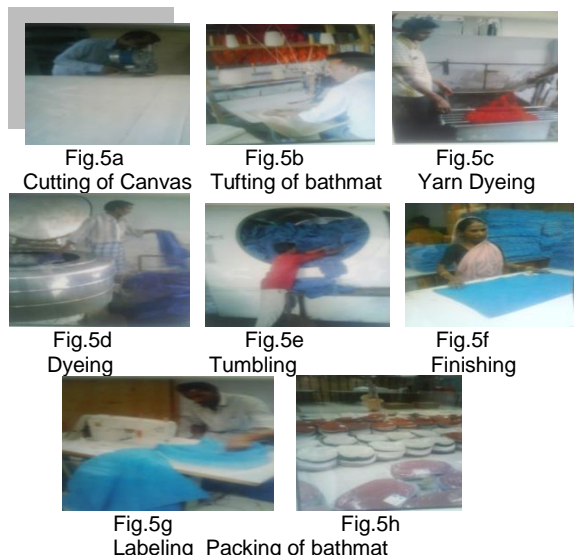


Fig.5a Cutting of Canvas
 Fig.5b Tufting of bathmat
 Fig.5c Yarn Dyeing
 Fig.5d Dyeing
 Fig.5e Tumbling
 Fig.5f Finishing
 Fig.5g Labeling
 Fig.5h Packing of bathmat

Table 6: Type of motif used in rugs & bathmats

Motifs	Bathmats Units		Rugs Units	
	Frequency (n)	% age	Frequency (n)	% age
Geometrical Motif	70	70	80	80
Floral Motifs	10	10	5	5
Human Motifs	10	10	5	5
Animal Motifs	5	5	5	5
Other Type of Motifs	5	5	5	5

Fig.6: Types of Bathmats



Fig. 6a Shaggy bathmat
 Fig.6b Bonded bathmat
 Fig.6c Pile bathmat

Table 7: Criteria for selection of yarn for manufacturing

Quality	Bathmats Units		Rugs Units	
	Frequency (n)	% age	Frequency (n)	% age
Strength	30	30	40	40
Color Fastness	20	20	20	20
Yarn Number	10	10	10	10
All of above	40	40	30	30

Most of the units were using geometrical motifs while similar number of the units were using human and animal motifs and minimum number of the units of rugs and bathmat are using other type of motifs (Abstract type motifs). Usage of geometrical motifs was comparatively low.

Most of the unit selected the yarn according to their strength, color fastness, yarn number and some of the units were selecting the yarn according to their color fastness and owing to the lack of knowledge about the numbering system of yarns this criteria was least considered while selection of yarn for manufacturing of yarn...

Synthetic dyes were used in dyeing the rugs & bathmats. Dyeing was carried out in house by twenty percent of the total units while other eighty percent preferred job work for dyeing of yarns.

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Conflict of interest: Nil
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