

**Presented by:  
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# **POLICY WORKSHOP ON HOME BASED WORKERS**

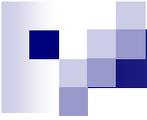
**Bihar Rajya Gharkhata Mazdoor Union  
Institute of Social Studies Trust  
Homenet India  
UNIFEM**

**Patna  
31st May 2008**



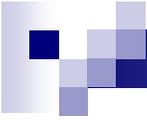
# Study on Home-based Workers in Bihar

Sector	Place	Methods adopted
Agarbatti rolling	Gaya	Case Study/GD
Beedi rolling	Samastipur/Begusarai	Case Study/GD
Toffee wrapping	Patna City	Case Study/GD
Flute making	Patna City	Case Study/GD
Mala making	Patna City	Case Study/GD
Chappal making	Patna City	Survey: 76 respondents



# Agarbatti Rolling

- A few thousand people (exact figure not known) in and around Gaya are involved in agarbatti rolling.
- Generally women get the job from the factory in the locality, the children help their mothers
- The work is available throughout the year, quantum of works varies from season to season.
- Wage is received on piece-rate basis
- Wage rate: Rs. 8 to Rs. 10 per 1000 agarbattis or per 1 Kg.
- Work for 8 to 10 hours a day
- One family earns Rs. 20 to Rs. 40 a day
- On an average one family earns Rs. 500 to Rs. 900 a month
- Credit facility: No credit/loan facilities from the contractor.



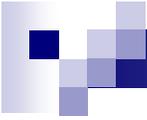
# Beedi Rolling

- Beedi is a major home-based job in the whole of rural Bihar.
- Both men and women get the job from the local contractor.
- The work is available throughout the year, quantum of works may vary from season to season.
- Wage is received on piece-rate basis
- Wage rate: Rs. 15 to Rs. 30 per 1000 beedis (local beedi) and Rs. 38 for 1000 beedis (company brands)
- Work for 5 to 8 hours a day
- One person makes 500-1000 beedis in a day.
- Members together of a beedi making family can make 2000-4000 beedis a day.
- Credit facility: No formal credit/loan facilities from the contractor.



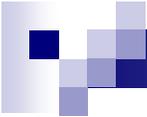
# Flute Making

- 100 men with substantial assistance from women and children in the family make bamboo flutes in Karbala area of Patna City.
- It's a traditional craft
- Men procure the raw material on their own, and sell the finished products to the local trader.
- The whole process of making flutes takes about a week's time.
- The work is available throughout the year; however, quantum of work increases in the festive seasons.
- 1000 flutes sold for Rs. 600 to Rs. 700.
- Credit facility: No institutional credit facility is available for them.



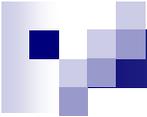
# Mala Making

- 100 to 200 persons from 50 – 60 households are involved in mala making
- People in this locality has been involved in this trade for last 8 years.
- Women get the job, the children help their mothers
- The work is available throughout the year, quantum of works varies from season to season.
- Wage is received on piece-rate basis
- Wage rate: Rs. 3 to Rs. 10 per dozen
- Work for 8 to 10 hours a day
- One family earns Rs. 10 to Rs. 20 a day
- On an average one family earns Rs. 500 a month
- Credit facility: No credit/loan facilities from the contractor



# Toffee Wrapping

- 100 to 250 persons from 50 households are involved in toffee wrapping in one particular locality in Patna City.
- This job has been available in this locality for last 10 years
- One person gets the job, the children help their mothers
- The work is available throughout the year, quantum of works varies
- Wage is received on piece-rate basis
- Wage rate: Re. 1 for 1 kg. of wrapping
- Work 8 to 10 hours a day
- One family earns maximum up to Rs. 25 a day
- On an average a family earns Rs. 300 – 350 a month
- Credit facility: No credit/loan facilities from the contractor

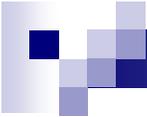


# Chappal Making

**Table: Respondent profile**

<b>Profile</b>	<b>Percentage</b>
Female	49
Male	51
Hindu	88
Muslim	12
Urban residence	100
Scheduled caste	87
Married	87
Male headed households	93

*Source: ISST Survey, 2006*



# Chappal Making

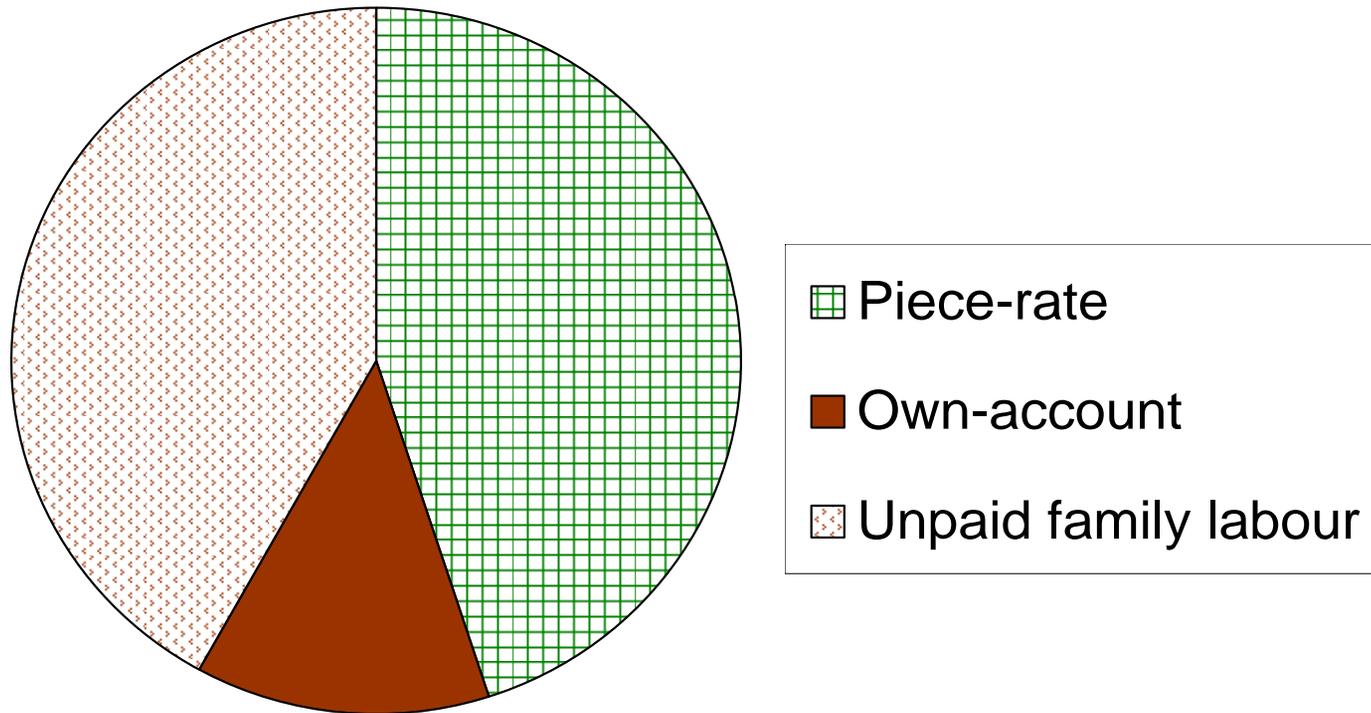
**Table: Labour Status by Sex**

<b>Labour Status</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Combine</b>
Piece-rate	19	69	45
Own-account	0	26	13
Unpaid family labour	81	5	42
Total	100	100	100

*Source: ISST Survey, Patna 2006*

# Chappal Making

## Labour Status - Combine



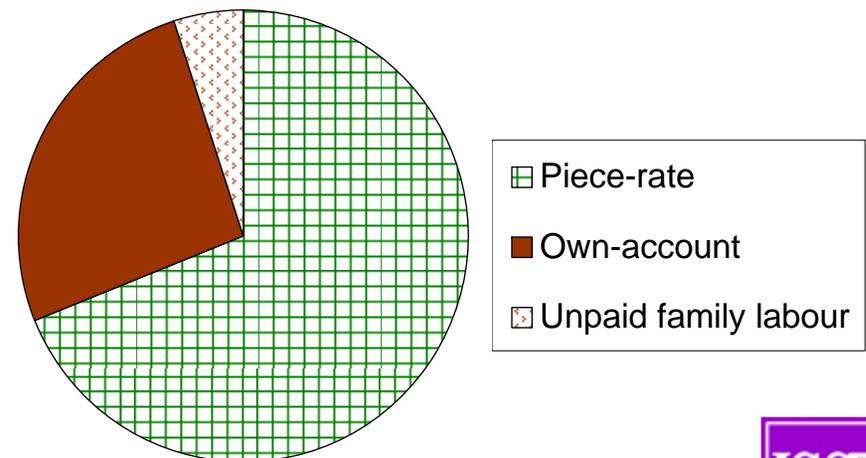
Source: ISST Survey, Patna: 2006

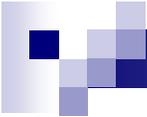
# Chappal Making

Labour Status - Female



Labour Status - Male

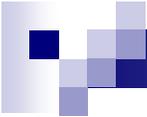




# Chappal Making

**Average monthly earnings in Peak and lean periods by the Male and Female workers**

<b>Period</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>M+F Combined</b>
Peak period	454.29	3129.73	1829.17
Lean period	235.14	1408.11	837.92



# Chappal Making

**Table: Needs of chappal makers by rank**

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Need</b>	<b>Percentage of responses</b>
I	Credit	33
II	Market information	21.5
III	Skill training	14
IV	Minimum wage	10.5
V	More work	9.5

# Sector, Location, Labour status, Payment

Sector	Location		Labour status	Regularity
	Place	Urban/ Rural		
Toffee wrapping	Patna City	Urban	Piece rate basis	Fortnightly/monthly (Irregular)
Mala making	Patna City	Urban	Piece rate basis	Weekly/fortnightly (Regular)
Bidi rolling	Samastipur and Begusarai	Rural	Piece rate basis	Regular
Agarbatti rolling	Gaya	Urban & Rural	Piece rate basis	Weekly/fortnightly (Regular)
Chappal making	Patna City	Urban	Piece rate basis	Weekly (Regular)
Flute making	Patna City	Urban	Self employed	

# Sector, Minimum wage, hours worked and availability of work

Sector	Minimum wage (Minimum wages as on 31.12.2004) Rs. 45.18 – 64.62	Wage earned in a day		No. hours worked in a day		Availability of work Number of months in a year
		Female	Male	Female	Male	
Toffee wrapping	Not listed	Rs. 10-20	-	8-10 hrs.	-	10-11 months
Mala making	Not listed	Rs. 10-20	-	8-10 hrs.	-	10-11 months
Bidi rolling	Rs. 66.00	Rs. 38.50	Rs. 42.50	8 -10 hrs.	8 -10 hrs	12 months
Agarbatti rolling	Not listed	Rs. 15-20	-	8-10 hrs.	-	8-10 months
Chappal making	Listed Rs. 68.00	Rs. 25-30	Rs. 60 - 150	6-7 hrs.	8-16 hrs.	6-8 months
Flute making	Not listed	Unpaid family labour				10-11 months



# KEY POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

- **Minimum Wages** for Home Based Trades
- Need for **more market information and timely payment cited**
- Smaller chains of production should be exploited to **involve shopkeepers and contractors in social security arrangements and dialogue.**



Thank You !

