

## Training Imparted to rural women on 'Use of underutilized textile materials for making trimmings'

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### ABSTRACT

*Reducing waste, reusing materials and products, and recycling is the most powerful way by which individuals, households, institutions and businesses can protect their communities and the environment. To prevent textile wastage and to protect environment, it is most important to make use of underutilized/ discarded textile materials by developing diversified products for economic gain. An idea was explored regarding use of underutilized textile materials for making of attractive trimmings by using underutilized textile materials, various designing and embellishments techniques. Seven days training was imparted at Kanwari village for development of trimmings (laces & borders and tassels) using underutilized textile materials. The information pertaining to personal profile of trainees, opinion regarding attending the training and gain in knowledge of trainees regarding development of trimmings using underutilized textile materials in terms of designing technique, embellishment technique & material. The main reason for attending the trainings was 'to make best use of time by utilizing underutilized textile materials'(rank I, WMS 3.00) by trainees followed by 'to learn various designing techniques' used to prepare trimmings (rank II, WMS 2.80). After training there was significant gain in knowledge of rural women regarding preparation of creative trimmings, designing techniques and surface embellishment techniques and materials. It increases creativity among women as it gives the sense of satisfaction to them. It will also prove to be an attempt to initiate the process of recycling, reusing, utilization and ability building in the women to make them agent for such change.*

*Keywords: underutilized textile materials, trimmings, training, rural women*

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### INTRODUCTION

Changes in fashion, both in clothing and household interior designate reason for the increase in textile waste. Seasonal changes in clothes become outdated quickly, encouraging replacement and disposal of clothes. Sometimes even 'not so worn garments' are also discarded as they become unfashionable, or undesirable. What is being thrown away is often beautiful and usable for designers who can approach such waste materials in a creative way. It is believed that about 80% of textile / garments being thrown away are reusable. Production of textiles and garments is an expensive and tedious process. Though textile industry has a large proportion of unnecessary waste is still produced each year, much of which is either incinerated or disposed off in landfills [1]. Utilization refers to the processing of diversified waste into new and useful materials and products. In broader economic terms, reuse offers quality products to people and organizations with limited means, while generating jobs and business activity that contribute to economy [2]. Underutilized or discarded textile can also be used for making different articles like durries, collage, pillow covers, accessories and trimmings [8]. A trim can add a special touch that makes the dress completely unique. In certain cultures trimmings are also used

for social identity or superstitions. Buttons, braids can show rank and power. Shiny items such as coins and mirror are commonly attached to garments to avert the evils eye. Trimmings are an ornamental addition used on apparel and home furnishings. It is purposeful and adds a detailed finish to garment [4]. These are generally used to enhance the beauty of apparel and attract customers. Trimmings could be both functional and decorative [3].

Today, most of the trimmings are commercially manufactured but before industrial revolution, all trimmings were made by hand. Women can dedicate their spare time, passion and skills in creating fabulous trimmings from underutilized textile materials. An infinite variety of attractive trimmings can be created by utilizing different texture of underutilized textile materials, various designing techniques and surfaces enrichment techniques & materials [7]. This art can utilize the spare time of women in a creative way and can also supplement their family income by making different types of trimmings using underutilized textile materials. These materials may be low cost raw materials for making of trimmings. Many Indian craft enterprises are also adapting traditional skills to create eco products, by reclaiming waste, recycling it and extending the life of a material and object [6]. These recycled crafts, have emerged as a result of the creative use of waste for craft innovators. To initiate the process of recycling, reusing, utilization and ability building in the women to make them agent for such change, the training was imparted to rural women. Gulati *et al.* [5] conducted a study to assess the impact of trainings on rural women related to clothing construction. Majority of respondents had favourable attitude. The overall impact of clothing construction training was found to be of high level.

## MATERIAL AND METHODS

The present study had been undertaken to impart training to rural women using underutilized textile materials for making trimmings. The present study was conducted in Hisar district of Haryana state.

**Selection of trainees-** Twenty interested rural women, who were having basic knowledge of clothing construction, of Kanwari village of Hisar district were selected purposively on the basis of approachability and their receptivity.

**Organization of training-** The developed trimmings (laces & borders and tassels) were shown to rural women and then seven days training was imparted for preparation of these trimmings using underutilized textile materials, designing techniques and surface embellishment techniques & materials.

**Knowledge acquisition of trainees-** The knowledge level of the rural women regarding underutilized textile materials used for making trimmings along with designing techniques and surface embellishment techniques & materials was judged before and after training. The pre and post exposure knowledge level was judged using self structured modified knowledge inventory. The data regarding opinion of trainees for attending the training and pre & post exposure knowledge level of trainees regarding developed trimmings from underutilized textile materials with different designing techniques, surface embellishment techniques & materials was collected in dichotomized categories of Yes or No by personal interview method. The scores assigned were Yes-2, No-1. The pre and post scores were obtained and gain in knowledge was calculated.

## Results

**Personal profile of the trainees:** The data regarding personal profile of trainees, include age, marital status, education, monthly family income, education, family type and occupation has been presented in Table 1.

The data indicated that 45.0 percent respondents belonged to age group of each 15-25 years and 26-35 years. Half of the respondents (50%) were married while 40.0 percent were unmarried and only 10 percent were widow. The data regarding education revealed that half of respondents were educated upto matric followed by 35 percent respondents were having education upto 12th standard. The monthly family income was operationally defined as the average monthly income obtained by the respondent family from all the sources. Majority of respondents (75%) were having family income between upto ₹ 20,000 followed by 25.0 percent respondents were having family income between ₹ 21-40 thousand and 20 percent respondent were having family income above ₹ 40,000/-. Eighty percent of the respondent hailed from joint family while 20.0 % had nuclear family system and the data

depicted that 60.0 percent of the respondents were housewives and 20percent each were doing service and student.

**Table-1: Personal profile of the trainees [n=20]**

Variables	Categories	Frequency (%)
Age	15-25 years	9(45.0)
	26-35 years	9(45.0)
	36-45 years	4(10.0)
Marital status	Married	10(50.0)
	Unmarried	8(40.0)
	Divorce	-
	Widow	2(10.0)
Education	Vocational education related to clothing & textiles	2(10.0)
	Graduate	-
	Upto12th	7(35.0)
	Matric	10(50.0)
	Illiterate	1(5.00)
Monthly family income	Upto 20,000	15(75.0)
	21-40,000	5(25.0)
	Above 40,000	4(20.0)
Family type	Joint	4(20.0)
	Nuclear	16(80.0)
Occupation	House wives	12(60.0)
	Girls	4(20.0)
	service	4(20.0)

**Opinion of trainees regarding attending the training**

The data presented in Table 2 indicated that the foremost reason for attending the training was ‘to make best use of time by utilizing underutilized textile materials’ ranked I with WMS 3.00 followed by the reason ‘to learn various designing techniques, ranked II with WMS 2.80, ‘to learn something new’ ranked III with WMS 2.60 and the reason ‘to increase income by acquiring skills’ ranked IV with WMS 2.50. The least preferred reasons by respondent was ‘to pass spare time’ V rank with WMS 1.10. It was concluded that the main reason for attending the training by trainees was ‘to make best use of time by utilizing underutilized textile materials’ followed by the reason ‘to learn various designing techniques’ used to prepare trimmings. The least preferred reason was ‘to pass spare time’ by the respondents.

**Table-2 : Opinion of trainees regarding attending the training [n=20]**

Reasons	WMS	Ranks
To pass spare time	1.1	V
To learn something new	2.6	III
To make best use of time by utilizing underutilized textile materials	3.0	I
To increase income by acquiring creative skills	2.5	IV
To learn various designing techniques	2.8	II

Strongly agree -2.34-3.00, Agree-1.67-2.33, Somewhat agree -1.00-1.66, (WMS Weighted mean score)

**Knowledge acquisition of trainees regarding development of trimmings using underutilized textile materials**

The data related to knowledge acquisition of rural women regarding development of trimmings from underutilized textile materials in terms of designing techniques, embellishment techniques & materials used for making of trimmings (laces & borders and tassels) has been presented in Table 3.

**Knowledge regarding use of underutilized textile materials for preparation of creative trimmings (laces & borders and tassels):**

After training there was a significant gain in knowledge regarding making of creative trimmings like laces, fabric flowers, frills, embroidered borders and tassels at 1 % level of significance. Result of making of piping was found no significant at 5% level of significance because the respondents were already making this type of trimming.

### Knowledge regarding types of designing techniques used

There was a significant gain in knowledge of respondents regarding types of designing techniques used to prepare the trimmings i.e. quilting, appliqué & patch work, drawn thread work, smocking and tucks. The knowledge of respondents regarding pleats technique was found significant at 5% level of significance.

### Knowledge regarding various surface embellishment techniques and materials

The gain in knowledge regarding surface embellishment technique that is fabric painting /printing,

Hand/machine embroidery, and crochet work was found to be significant at 1% level of significance. The gain in knowledge regarding embellishment materials i.e. multi colored thread, and *gotta*, fabric color & glitter was found to be highly significant at 1% level of significance whereas knowledge regarding beads (*pipes/cut dana*) was significant at 5% level of significance. The results showed that knowledge regarding *sitara*/sequins, ribbon and rhinestone was non-significant at 5% level of significance because respondents were already using these materials for embellishment of apparel. Thus, it was concluded that after training there was significant gain in knowledge of rural women regarding preparation of creative trimmings, designing techniques and surface embellishment techniques & materials.

**Table-3: Knowledge acquisition of trainees regarding development of trimmings using underutilized textile materials [n=20]**

Sr. No	Knowledge Statements z	Pre mean score	Post mean score	Gain mean score	t-value
A.	Underutilized textile materials can be creatively used to make trimmings.				
	Piping	1.90	2.00	0.10	1.45(NS)
	Laces	0.27	1.67	1.40	10.59**
	Fabric flowers	1.20	1.80	0.60	5.33**
	Frills	1.30	1.90	0.60	5.33**
	Embroidered borders	1.10	1.90	0.80	8.71**
	Tassels	0.35	2.00	1.65	14.26**
	Ready to use patches	1.20	2.00	0.80	8.71**
B.	Trimmings can be developed by using various designing techniques :-				
	Smocking	0.50	2.00	1.50	10.35**
	Quilting	1.00	1.90	0.90	13.07**
	Drawn thread work	1.20	1.90	0.70	6.65**
	Cut work	1.10	2.00	0.90	13.07**
	Tucks	1.80	2.00	0.50	4.35**
	Pleating	1.80	2.00	0.20	2.17*
	Flowers	1.30	1.90	0.60	5.33**
a.	Surface embellishment techniques-				
	Fabric painting/printing	1.50	1.90	0.40	3.55**
	Using surface embellishment materials	0.27	1.67	1.40	10.59**
	Hand/machine embroidery	1.50	1.90	0.40	3.55**
	Crochet work	1.20	1.30	0.10	1.45**
b.	Embellishment materials-				
	Sitare/sequins	1.90	2.00	1.10	1.45(NS)
	Ribbon	1.20	1.90	0.70	4.76(NS)
	Multicoloured thread	1.60	2.00	0.40	3.55**
	Rhinestone	1.90	2.00	0.10	1.45(NS)
	Beads(cut dana/pipes)	1.80	2.00	0.20	2.17*
	Gotta	1.20	1.80	0.60	5.33**
	Fabrics color & glitters	1.30	1.70	0.40	3.55**

\*\* = Significant at 1% level of significance at 19 degree of freedom

\* = Significant at 5% level of significance at 19 degree of freedom

NS = Non significant

### CONCLUSION

Trimmings developed using underutilized textile materials, various designing techniques, embellishment techniques and materials were appreciated by majority of trainees on the

basis of various parameters of design. Training helped the rural women to upgrade their skills in making of trimmings from underutilized textile materials. The gain in knowledge regarding types of designing techniques i.e. quilting; drawn thread work, smocking and tucks was significant at 1% level of significance. Hence, there was significant improvement in knowledge of respondents regarding making of trimmings using various types of designing techniques.

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