

Case study 3

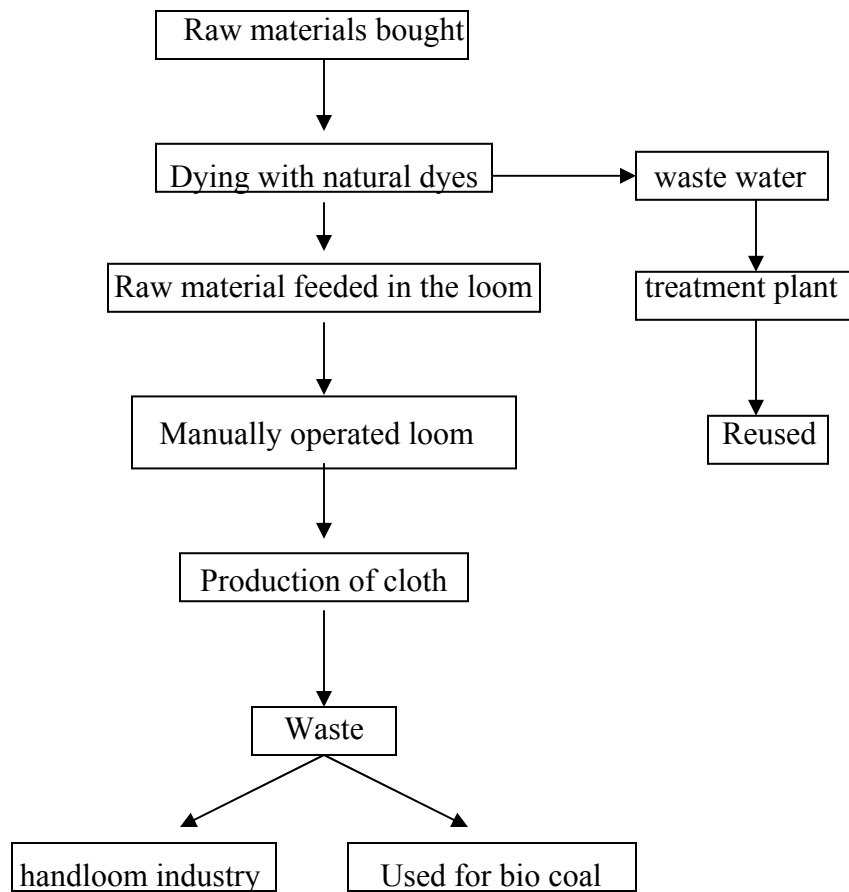
Cloth industries (handloom)-in Auroville

Imagination-handloom cloth and hammock making unit. (Total area 700 mt. sq.)

Office area (100 mt. sq.)

Reception, lobby, entrance foyer, etc. (50 mt. sq.)

Diagrammatic study of different areas with their functions.



Areas and their functions

1. Raw materials (100 mt. sq.)
 - The raw materials are bought in the form of threads from places like Bangalore, Chennai, etc.
 - The threads are either already coloured but if not they can be dyed using natural dyes to the desired colour.
 - The storing is generally done in small store like rooms.
2. Weaving (10 mt. sq. area for each machine);(200 mt. sq. total for 10 machines)
 - The threads of desired colors are feeded into the handloom machine.
 - The weaving machine is manually operated and is generally a single mans job.
 - The cloth can be woven to a fixed maximum span but to a required length.
 - Different colors of thread can be used for different colors in the cloth.
3. Dying (100 mt. sq.)
 - The cloth can be dyed as a finished product using natural dyes.
 - The threads can be dyed even before the weaving.
 - The thread or cloth need to be dried after washing off the extra dye.
4. Washing (100 mt sq.)
 - The cloth is washed and cleaned with eco friendly detergents after weaving.
 - Some times it is even starched it stack in comfortably.
 - The cloth is dried in the sun on suspended ropes after squeezing out the water.
5. Storing (50 mt. sq.)
 - The cloth is stored in rodent free areas in store rooms.

Uses of handloom cloth

- Cloth becomes a basic necessity of man.
- Auroville has many fashion designing units to which this cloth can be supplied. (Upasana, Rangoli, Gecko, etc.)
- Some other units also use small quantity of cloth for making other products.(papyrus, lotus)
- The garments made from this cloth fetches a large market else where.

Advantages of cloth.

- Being it a basic necessity it is good to have produced cloth to satisfy the local needs as well as the national and international markets.
- This it becomes an important raw material for all the garment units in Auroville.
- Handloom being a manual machine allows employment to a large no. of people.

- It does not use any detergents or harmful chemicals.
- It uses simple, basic machinery which consumes optimum power.
- It is an eco friendly non polluting product which is easily bio degradable.
- The industry produces minimum, recyclable and reusable waste.
- The same product becomes a major raw material for the handicraft industry.