



36. Table Top Paddle Operated Charkha

Type: Improved Tool

Date:

Patent: NA

Name of Inventor

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Description of Technology

For preparation of the world renowned handspun handmade pashmina shawls, spinning is one of the processing steps which is usually done by women folk on a traditional spinning wheel locally known as *Yander*. The operation of spinning on traditional charkha besides being less remunerative inflicts great physical stress leading to backache, numbness in the legs, pain in shoulders etc. This health related problems further decrease efficiency of the artisans. With the result the artisans are discouraged and are moving away from this age old enterprise. To make it more lucrative and remunerative, "Table Top Paddle Operated Charkha" was fabricated under ICAR funded NAIP subproject entitled "A Value Chain on Enhanced Productivity and Profitability of Pashmina Fibre" keeping the originality (Hand spun Hand woven) of the product intact. The Table Top Paddle Operated Charkha comprises of table top, small spinning wheel, spindle and foot paddle. The spinner sits comfortably in a working chair and operates the charkha using feet. The results revealed that Table Top Paddle Operated charkha lead to an improvement in spinning efficiency by 73.50 (%) and remuneration by 146.64 (%) besides reducing physical drudgery to the artisans compared to traditional one without compromising the quality of the yarn.



Traditional Charkha



Traditional Charkha

Impact

- Improvement in spinning efficiency 73.50 (%)
- Improvement in remuneration 146.64 (%).
- Reduction of physical drudgery to the artisans.
- Revival of traditional pashmina shawl enterprise.

Commercial Applicability

- A boon to rural women folk for empowerment.
- Employment generation.
- Efficient alternative to traditional charkha.