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IMPACT OF 5S METHODOLOGY ON THE EFFICIENCY OF THE WORKPLACE: STUDY OF MANUFACTURING **FIRMS**

Dr. PALLAWI SANGODE ASST. PROFESSOR Dr. AMBEDKAR INSTITUTE OF MANAGEMENT STUDIES & RESEARCH **DEEKSHABHOOMI**

ABSTRACT

5S is a basic framework of workplace organization that focus on sort, set in order, shine, standardizes and Sustain. This methodology is used to attain lean in the manufacturing system by eliminating the wastages that are about to occur because of the untidy, unhealthy work environment. This paper is an attempt to understand the implementation of 5S methodology by a set of manufacturing firms of Nagpur region. A sample of 10 manufacturing units was taken for the study. Chisquare test was used to prove the assumption that organizations that implement 5S attain efficiency in the work place. The study concluded that the organizations have a positive impact of the 5S implementation. The prominent benefits were that the right things were kept at the right place, continual improvement of the work place and improvement in the human relations & motivation.

KEYWORDS

5S methodology, lean, efficiency, productivity.

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INTRODUCTION

very manufacturing system that attempts to attain lean system follows a methodology that defines the basic rules or guidelines to reduce waste and maintain an efficient, safe, and clean work environment. This methodology is the 5S framework which comprises of "sort", "set in order", "shine", "stand-'ardize", and "sustain". 5S was developed in Japan which meant seiri, seiton, seiso, seiketsu, and shitsuke was identified as a workplace organization method. 5S methodology which was widly popular in manufacturing firms is now is now being applied to a wide variety of industries comprising health care, education, and government. Although the origins of the 5S methodology are in manufacturing, it can also be applied to knowledge economy work, with information, software, or media in the place of physical product. (5S Methodology).

MEANING OF 5S

Seiri: It means to straiten up. That includes sorting of work-in-process, unnecessary tools, unused machines, defective products and papers and documents. (Bhat, 2015) Sorting's benefits include: a more effective use of space, simplified tasks, a reduction in hazards, and a significant decrease in distracting clutter. (5S: Sort, Set, Shine, Standardize, Sustain).

Seiton: It means putting things in order. Things are put in order that is ready for use when required. With an organized and efficient use of storage, everyone is easily able to locate important items and enjoy a less stressful work environment.

Seiso: It means to clean up. Every individual should clean the workplace every day to improve the work productivity (Bhat, 2015). Employees will feel more comfortable in this clean and uncluttered environment, which could also lead to increased ownership of the organization's goals and vision (5S: Sort, Set, Shine, Standardize, Sustain).

Seiketsu: It means personal cleanliness and good housekeeping practices. When these new standards and best practices are implemented, the old habits will soon die out and be replaced by the more efficient patterns of behavior (Bhat, 2015). New standards, however, will probably require some oversight and enforcement until they are habitual; reminders such as visuals and emails are effective tools to help these new standards become set in stone (5S: Sort, Set, Shine, Standardize,

Shitsuke: It means discipline. Every worker and manager has to follow procedures in the workplace with utmost sense of discipline (Bhat, 2015). By putting a formal system in place that includes regular training and communication, employees will be able to comfortably conform to the company's 5S procedures (5S: Sort, Set, Shine, Standardize, Sustain).

Implementation of 5S methodology at workplace results in improved profits thereby reducing costs, streamlining the labor costs and improving the quality. Because of standardized procedures workforce becomes more efficient. It keeps the workplace clean and organized hereby increasing the safety. This ultimately reduces errors and defects and makes problem solving easier.

This concept was invented in japan but has been adopted by many non-Japanese companies. Indian companies also practice the principles of five S under the umbrella of their efficiency and quality initiative, Total Productive Maintenance (TPM) (Bedi, 2011).

OBJECTIVES

Every organization has its own best practices that contribute to the betterment of the organization in terms of employee involvement and motivation, efficient workplace, defect free environment etc. 5S is one such tool that most organizations implement in its internal workplace to improve the productivity. This research study aims at understanding the 5S implementation in different types of manufacturing set ups. Accordingly the objectives of this study are framed as under.

To determine whether the manufacturing firms implement 5S methodology at their workplace.

Organization whether manufacturing or services, implement 5S methodology for the reduction of wastage. But do these organizations have a standard platform for implementation of 5S? Do they know the concept of 5S? to answer these questions, the first objective was framed.

To determine the impact of 5S strategies on the efficiency of these manufacturing firms.

5S deals with sorting of unnecessary items for the necessary items, setting in order these items as per the use, keeping the workplace clean, standardizing and sustaining these 5S for making the manufacturing setup lean. But do these 5S impact the efficiency of the firm? Understanding this impact and advantage was the second objective of this study.

HYPOTHESIS

Implementation of 5S methodology has no significant difference on the efficiency of the Manufacturing firm.

LITERATURE REVIEW

(Agrahari, 2015)This paper on the Implementation of 5S Methodology in the Small Scale Indusrty concluded that implementation of 5S provides benefits to the organization in terms of Process development by cost reduction, Stock confinement, Better usage of workplace, Prevention of losing tools, Process growth, Increasing Efficiency, Shortening of time required for searching necessary things, Improvised working conditions for workers. Maintenance of clean and neat layout has increased the number of customers. Machine maintenance cost has been reduced. The standards of the company increased. Improvement in safety has supported in reducing the injuries of workers. Travel time of materials is reduced which led to reduction of work hazards. It gives a scope for Workers participation in the work area design and maintenance. Slips and falls of the material have been reduced.

(J. Michalska, 2007) This paper on the 5S methodology as a tool for improving organization concluded the implementation of 5S resulted in stock decrease, prevention of losing tools, safety improvements, increased machine efficiency, elimination of accidents. With respect to standardize and sustain methodology the benefits listed were reduction of industry pollution, increased awareness and morale and improvement in interhuman relations.

(Ghodrati, 2013)This study on the 5S implementation showed that it has an active impact on performance of organization. This study was performed on different companies with different kind of products and services and showed that 5S has had effect on organizational performance of all of them. It could be concluded that 5S is a useful quality management tool causes to improve performance in any organization without any limitation on different kinds of products or services.

(Rai, 2016) This study analyzed that 5s has positive effect on employees as well as organizational performance but there is lack of awareness among employees except few high tech firm who are known for TQM implementation and few top managers from both SMEs as well as from high tech firms. SMEs need to focus on 5s technique of quality of quality management system. Another result comes out from the research is that employees are not feeling 100% responsible for 5s implementation this might be due lack of awareness and training for 5s.

(Young, 2014) This paper aimed at reviewing the use of 5S in health care sector. The study concluded that 5S can be applied to healthcare services with beneficial effects such as cleaner, organized, efficient workplaces for enhanced safety and increased productivity; reduction of inventory and supply costs and recapturing of valuable spaces and minimizing overhead costs. Sustain is a key to success.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The population for the study was the small and medium manufacturing units of Nagpur region. 16 firms, 4 firms from each sector of chemical, manufacturing, agricultural products and automobile were put to the study. Out of 16 only 10 responded to the research survey.

Primary data was collected from the sample of 10 manufacturing organizations in in Nagpur city. A structured questionnaire was used to collect the data from the respondents. The instrument comprised of 20 questions on the implementation and efficiency improvement because of 5S methodology. Secondary data was collected related to 5S methodology with the help of various published journals, books and internet sources.

S. No.	Sector	Type of firm Total no. of firms		Percentage
1	Chemical	Anodising and colour anodizing 2 20 %		20 %
		Powder coating		
2	Manufacturing	Textile manufacturing	2	20%
		Furniture manufacturing		
3 Agriculture Farm		Farm division	3	30%
		Farm equipment sector		
		Dairy sector		
4	Automobile	Auto component	3	30%
		Tractor		
		Automobile sector		
	Total		10	100

TABLE 1: DISTRIBUTION OF THE FIRMS ACCORDING TO THE SECTOR

DATA ANALYSIS

Overall twenty parameters on the impact of 5S on the efficiency of the firm were studied. The table below shows the average responses and the standard deviation of the responses of the respondents on the given parameters. It can be seen that lowest mean values are obtained for easy accessibility of Tools and equipment/ essential items, time saving due to sorting and marking the position of the main passages and places of sorted items. Here the standard deviation is seen highest for Removal of waste material, nonconforming products and damaged tools and Easy maintenance of machines and equipment. This shows that there is an inconsistency in responses of respondents. Some organizations find that sorting removes the wastage material from the workplace and shining brings easy maintenance of machines. Some do not find relevance of sorting in waste material removal from the workplace. Shining or keeping the workplace clean do not confirm easy maintenance of machines for some firms.

TABLE 2

58		Improvement in the following parameters that define the efficiency of workplace	Mean	Std. Deviation
	S1	Searching and receiving things/ tools	4.2	2.00
	S1	Maintaining the workplace clean	4.2	2.00
S1- Seiri	S1	Removal of waste material, nonconforming products and damaged tools	4.7	3.08
	S1	Easy accessibility of Tools and equipment/ essential items	3.9	2.00
	S1	Time saving due to sorting	3.9	1.58
	S2	Marking the position of the main passages and places of sorted items.	3.9	1.58
S2 - Seiton	S2	Quick identification of items	4.2	2.55
32 - Seiton	S2	Segregation of tools of regular use and specialized use	4.1	2.12
	S2	Reduction in time wasted in obtaining necessary items for an operation	4.1	2.00
	S3	Right thing is kept at the right place	4.8	2.00
	S3	Blockage removal	4.1	2.35
S3 - Seiso	S3	Easy maintenance of machines and equipment	4.7	3.08
	S3	Easy identification of faults and defects	4	1.58
	S3	improved productivity of the employee	4.4	2.35
S4 - Seiketsu	S4	Time saving due to standardization	4	1.87
34 - Seiketsu	S4	Employees are adhered to their responsibilities	4.1	1.87
	S5	All the processes are carried out smoothly	4.3	2.55
S5 - Shitsuke	S5	Increased consciousness of staff.	4	2.00
33 - Silitsuke	S5	Continual improvement of the organization/ work place	4.5	2.74
	S5	Improvement in the human relations & motivation	4.5	2.55

TABLE 3: SECTOR WISE SCORE AND MEAN f 5S							
Sector		Sort	Strengthen	Shine	Standard	Sustain	5S
Chemical	Score	39	29	45	30	38	181
	Mean	19.5	14.5	22.5	15	19	90.5
Manufacturing	Score	42	34	44	34	44	198
	Mean	21	17	22	17	22	99
Agriculture	Score	58	50	59	49	65	281
	Mean	19.3	16.6	19.6	16.3	21.7	93.5
Automobile	Score	70	50	66	55	69	310
	Mean	23.3	16.6	22	18.3	23	103.2

The above table shows that mean response on the impact of 5S methodology on the efficiency of the firm is highest for automobile manufacturing sector. The lowest mean is seen for the agriculture manufacturing sector.

TESTING OF HYPOTHESIS

Data was collected on a likert scale of 5 points. The assumption made for this study was that 5S methodology implementation in an organization does not have any difference on the efficiency of the workplace. The null hypothesis of the study was that there is no significant difference between the implementation of 5S methodology and efficiency of the workplace. This hypothesis was tested using Chi-Square test. Here the expected responses from all the respondents were on the neutral side. This meant that the organizations that implemented 5S methodology had efficiency in their workplaces.

The significance level was considered to be 5%. And the degree of freedom (n-1) was 9. At 5% significance level the result obtained were as below.

TABLE 4	4
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5S	p value	$\alpha = 0.05$	Accepting/rejecting Null Hypothesis
Seiri	eiri 0.14 p value > α		Accept Ho
Seiton	0.16	p value > α	Accept Ho
Seiso	0.13 p value > α		Accept Ho
Seiketsu 0.21 p value > α		p value > α	Accept Ho
Shitsuke 0.09 p value > α		p value > α	Accept Ho

The Chi Square test proves that for all the 5S components, the null hypothesis has to be accepted. This means that when the organization implements all the components of 5S methodology, the overall efficiency of the organization increases. Highest p value was obtained or the fourth S that is 'Standardize'. This meant that the organizational efficiency was high due to the major contribution by the standardization of the first 3 S of the methodology.

FINDINGS AND CONCLUSION

The research study on the ten manufacturing units showed that SS implementation has a remarkable impact on the workplace efficiency improvement. Automobile units of manufacturing sector showed highest mean on the efficiency level. Thus it can be concluded that proper sorting of things, setting in order all the required items based on the frequency of requirement, maintaining the workplace clean and tidy directly contribute to the productivity. Standardizing and Sustaining the first three S result in easy maintenance of machines and equipment, easy identification of faults and defects, improved productivity of the employee.

Employees also feel motivated to work, they are adhered to their responsibilities. Increased consciousness of staff is attended which ultimately results in continual improvement of the organization thereby contributing to the important principle of total Quality management.

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