

Assessment of Work Environment of Beauticians

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Abstract: *The beauty care market in India consists of cosmetic products, cosmetic treatment centers, parlors, salons and spas. The major contributors towards the revenues of parlor industry are the women segment. Women are becoming more and more aware about their looks and personality and they are even willing to pay a premium sum for their self-grooming and beauty enhancement. The "feel good" factor is catching up with Indians and visiting parlors have become a part of their lifestyle. The study was conducted at Prayagraj city, Uttar Pradesh with the objective assessment of work environment of beauticians who were engaged in various beauty parlor activities like- Facial, Cleanup, Threading, Waxing, Bridal makeup, Mehandi, Hair style, Hair cut, Manicure-pedicure, Body massage of total 110 beauticians were purposively selected for the collection of data whereas randomly selected for the working environment. The data was collected with the environmental parameters of work zone that can affect the health and work efficiency of beauticians. The data was collected by taking five time readings of light, noise, temperature and humidity.*

Keywords: Assessment, Environment, Parameters, Beauticians.

1. Introduction

Environmental parameter of the work area including lighting, noise, humidity and temperature are affected on physical health of workers **Parimalam et al. (2006)** revealed that the congested work area, improper ventilation, dust, unergonomically designed workstation, excessive noise were the main constraints faced by the workers in garment manufacturing units. Most of the beauticians are needed comfort zone for give better result and increase their work efficiency. The works of beauticians are very tedious they spend 8-10 hr. per day in beauty parlors. They have over work load in marriage time and festivals time. They do their work according to their clients and satisfied them for good services and facilities. They try to give luxury and comfort to their clients and charge the amount according to their services and facilities. **Majer. E et al. (2002)** reported that poor lighting can accentuate existing vision problems and reading difficulties among the elderly, it can cause depression and disrupt sleep cycles.

2. Methodology

Sampling procedure: Samples of 110 beauticians from various beauty parlors of mentioned Prayagraj were selected purposively for the study.

Environmental parameters:

The environmental conditions of the work place were studied by using the following parameters and collected the data by these instruments.

Thermo Hygrometer - It is used for measuring indoor humidity and temperature. The upper display shows indoor temperature while the lower display shows the humidity level. The user can view maximum and minimum temperature or humidity records by using maximum/minimum keys.

Noise level meter - It is used for measuring the level of sound in the working area. It is small in size and light in weight design allows for easy operation

Lux meter - It is used to measure the intensity of light available in the working area. It has LCD display, and is of pocket size, easy to carry and operate.

3. Results and Discussion

Assessment of environmental parameter (winter season):

| Parameters | Range | Mean± SD |
|------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Noise (db) | 25.30-97.00 | 69.30± 0.859 |
| Humidity (%) | 21.80-76.00 | 59.47± 0.322 |
| Temperature (°c) | 15.10-29.10 | 22.42± 0.054 |
| Light (lx) | 126.00-169.00 | 161.53± 9.063 |

Light

Light level or illuminate is the total luminous flux incident on a surface per unit area. The workplace is where the most important tasks in the room or space are performed. The light was measured with the help of Lux meter. The mean and SD of light while performing the activity in beauty parlors was found to be 161.53± 9.063 and range is varied from 126.00-169.00 lux respectively. For clear visibility without any stress and strain, the light level should be proper to make the beauticians feel comfortable. The recommended light level for rough work (50-100 lux), moderately precise work (250-500 lux), precise work (500-1000 lux) and for every fine work (1000-2000 lux) have been given by **Grandjean (1988)**.

Noise

The normal range of hearing for a healthy young person varies from approximately 20 Hz (Hertz) to 20,000 Hz, the amount of sound present at the respondent's workplace was measured with the help of sound level meter and The mean and SD of sound level in beauty parlors was found to be 69.30± 0.859 and the range is varied from 25.30-97.00 db respectively.

Humidity

Human are very sensitive towards humidity, as the skin relies on the air to get rid of moisture. The process of sweating is the body's attempt to keep cool and maintain its

current temperature. If the air is at 100 per cent relative humidity, sweat will not evaporate into the air. As a result, one feels much hotter than the actual temperature when the relative humidity is high. If the relative humidity is low, one can feel much cooler than the actual temperature because sweat evaporates easily and cools the body. Humidity was also measured with the help of them hygrometer. The mean and SD of humidity in different production units of BAL i.e. beauty parlors, was found to be 59.47 ± 0.322 (range 21.80-76.00) respectively. The comfortable limit of humidity is 40-50% for winter and 40-60% for summer. Relative humidity less than 30% is undesirable (Bakshi, 1997)

Temperature

The environmental parameters were measured with the thermo hygrometer and in the month of December to January in the beauty parlors of Allahabad. So the temperature was found to be high compared to the other workplaces. The means and SD of temperature in beauty parlors was recorded as 22.42 ± 0.054 with a range between 15.10-29.10 °c. The comfortable body temperature as given by Saha (1980) is 20-23°C and the temperature below and above these light makes the person comfortable and leading causes to reduce work efficiency.

4. Conclusion

Working environment affect on physical and mental health of beauticians that can lead main role to performing each activities in the beauty parlor. The suitable working environment increases work efficiency. Favorable environmental condition without any stress and strain, make the beauticians feel more comfortable.

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