

Quadrant II – Notes

Programme: T.Y.B.Sc (Hons) Home Science

Subject: Textiles and Clothing

Course Code: GE15

Course Title: Textiles: Care and Conservation

Unit I: Introduction

Module Name: Role of water in cleaning

Module No: 05

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Laundry Sources of Water

Personal Water Supply- Rain water harvesting, Rivers, Lakes, Springs, Wells.

Mainly has to be pre-treated before use by laundry. Low cost

Municipal Water Supply – Dams.

Safe water, no treatment required. But expensive

WATER AND ITS ROLE IN LAUNDRY

Washing in water alone, with agitation done by hand or machine, helps remove some loose dirt and particulate soils. Wetting or soaking in water softens some water-soluble soils, such as mud, making it easier to remove them.

Hence water is primarily used in the laundering process to:

- Dissolve some basic soils
- Wet the textiles and help the detergents into contact with the textiles
- Hold the soil in suspension with the aid of suspension agents
- Flush the soil away
- Rinse out the detergent

General Effects on Water Consumption

1) Type of washing machine - design of wash program and liquor ratio (water flow through textiles--swimming, falling during washing and rinse phase)

2) Type of textile (wool, silk, cotton, blend fabric) - water uptake of load depends on type of textile fibre, textile construction and age of textile as water uptake affects liquor ratio

3) Type and amount of soil on the load

4) Application (of textiles) - e.g. textiles for medical use and personal clothing like under garments need good rinse efficiency to remove traces of detergent as a consequence high water consumption. Detergent residuals may cause different problems, e.g. • skin irritation • unacceptable appearance of laundry • ironing problems

Dhobi

Dhobi (transl. 'washerman'), known in some places as Dhupi or Rajaka ('remover of dirt'), is a group of castes in India and the greater Indian subcontinent whose traditional occupations are washing and ironing clothes.^{[1][2]}

They are a large community, distributed across northern, central, western and eastern India; as well as in Bangladesh, Pakistan, Nepal, and Sri Lanka.^{[1][3]} A majority of the community associate themselves with Hinduism.^[3] Many religiously follow Sant Gadge (Gadge Maharaj), whose *jayanti* (birth anniversary) they celebrate every 23rd of February.

The word *dhobi* is derived from the Hindi word *dhona*, which means 'to wash'. As such, Dhobi communities in many areas today come under the status of schedule caste (sc).

Throughout India and south-central Asia, *dhobi ghat* is to refer to any laundry- or washing-place where many launderers or clothes-washers (either as ordinary people or professionals) wash clothes and other linen. The most notable of these is Dhobi Ghat in Mumbai.

Laundry

Laundry refers to the washing of clothing and other textiles,^[1] and, more broadly, their drying and ironing as well. Laundry has been part of history since humans began to wear clothes, so the methods by which different cultures have dealt with this universal human need are of interest to several branches of scholarship. Laundry work has traditionally been highly gendered, with the responsibility in most cultures falling to women (formerly known as laundresses or washerwomen). The Industrial Revolution gradually led to mechanized solutions to laundry work, notably the washing machine and later the tumble dryer. Laundry, like cooking and child care, is still done both at home and by commercial establishments outside the home.

The word "laundry" may refer to the clothing itself, or to the place where the cleaning happens. An individual home may have a laundry room; a utility room includes but is not restricted to the function of washing clothes. An apartment building or student hall of residence may have a shared laundry facility such as a *tvättstuga*. A stand-alone business is referred to as a self-service laundry (launderette in British English or laundromat in North American English).

Industrial laundry

Industrial laundry refers to laundering activities on a large scale. At CINET we've defined this industry at the Professional Textile Service (TS) industry. An industrial laundry can either be an on premise laundry (OPL) or an independant laundry company that offers a service. Large institutions (restaurants, hotels, hospitals, industries) that usually require a constant flow of clean linen, work wear or uniforms, can thus employ the services of an industrial laundry. Hotels, for example, need clean bed linen, bathrobes and bath towels. This is usually done on a contract-basis for several years.

Commercial Laundry

The term commercial laundry is used similar to the term professional textile care and covers all companies that are offering a textile cleaning and / or textile management service. Roughly the sector can be split up in:

1. Retail laundries, such as laundromats, dry cleaners or laundry on demand services
2. Industrial laundries, which can either be On Premises Laundries (OPLs) or independent laundries that service other companies or institutions.

Commercial laundry is a relatively small industry on a global basis but as every country is in need of laundry services the industry covers a global scale.

References

1. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dhobi>
2. <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Laundry>
3. <https://www.cinet-online.com/industrial-laundry/>