

## STREET VENDORS: AN OVERVIEW

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### ABSTRACT

The purpose of this research was to conduct a descriptive analysis of the socio economic vulnerability of street sellers in Vijayapura, Karnataka. A cross-sectional survey was performed on 40 vendors who were chosen using multi-stage. The research focuses on the difficulties and working circumstances encountered by street vendors in Vijayapura city. According to the result of the study, the majority of vendors were compelled to pursue street selling as a career due to a lack of alternative employment opportunities. Additionally, it was found that, although the majority of vendors feel secure at work, they are unaware of policy initiatives and encounter obstacles such as an absence of fixed space, cleanliness, sanitation, and potable water facilities. Vulnerability was shown to be greater among street sellers, who occupied a higher level of vulnerability on the vulnerability spectrum. It did, however, vary by sex, kind of products vended, frequency of attendance at vending cluster locations, and type of goods, but not by vending location. The statistics show the negative effects of widespread job insecurity, harassment, and merchandise seizure on street vendors' incomes, assets, and time.

**KEYWORDS:** Street vending, urban, male, female, city.

### INTRODUCTION

A street vendor is defined as someone who sells products or services to the public without a permanent built-up structure, but rather with a temporary static structure or movable stand (or head-load). This definition applies equally to street vendors who use a push cart or a bicycle to transport their goods from place to place, as well as to mobile vendors who travel from place to place with push carts or cycles or with their merchandise carried on their heads. Around 80% of all urban employees (79% of men and 81% of women) in India worked informally in 2009-2010 (Chen and Raveendran 2011). Though numerous studies provide ideas to explain the durability, features, and expansion of informal employment, very few have assessed the actual reality of labour in the informal economy and nobody has ever accomplished this over time, and over a big enough number of sectors and cities. With rising urban migration and a diminishing formal economy, entrepreneurship and street vending have been identified as significant sources of income for India's urban poor. Presently, vending is a significant source of income for a sizable portion of the urban poor due to its low skill requirements and minimal financial investment. Street sellers are mostly people who are unemployed or unable to get regular employment. In this segment of the urban poor, they use their own limited resources to combat their issues. Instead of demanding that the government provide employment for them, the population does not participate in crimes such as robbery, blackmail, or extortion. They make an effort to live a dignified and self-respecting life through hard labour.

## OBJECTIVES

- 1) To know about the socio economic circumstances of Vijayapur city street vendors.
- 2) To know about the motivations that drive individuals to engage in street vending.
- 3) To study the particular issues those street sellers face.
- 4) To gain knowledge of the government's policies and programmes affecting street sellers.

## METHODOLOGY

The present study focuses on the socio economic conditions of street vendors in Vijayapur. This research included both primary and secondary data.

### Primary Data

This research is based on primary data, which includes information on the socio economic background of street vendors in Vijayapur. The data gathered sheds light on the socio economic circumstances of street sellers.

**The data collection techniques are as follows:** (a) the questionnaire method (b) direct interaction with street vendors. (c) Using the questionnaire method, street vendors were randomly selected for the research.

**Sampling technique:** The researcher used a stratified random technique. The samples were collected from various strata. We have randomly chosen 40 people from Vijayapur's different streets. Twenty responders are fruit vendors, while the remaining twenty are vegetable vendors.

## DATA ANALYSIS

The researcher used basic statistical techniques such as averages, percentages, and so on to analyse the gathered data. Secondary data collection is nothing more than gathering sources via books and websites that are relevant to the research. This research also incorporates secondary data.

## SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY

This is exploratory research that seeks to identify and describe the socio-economic conditions of street sellers in Vijayapur City. The goal of this research was to uncover the issues, as well as the current and future revenue of street sellers. Even yet, street sellers continue to face many issues. These findings contribute to illuminating the regulations that regulate street vendors in India.

## MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

In particular, in our research, we have found a number of significant variables:

1. Male respondents accounted for 65 percent of the study's respondents and the male gender's study work side is greater than that of the female gender.
2. The research found out that the majority of respondents were between the ages of 41 and 50 years old and the vast majority of respondents were Hindus.
3. According to the survey, 92.5 percent of respondents are married and the vast majority of respondents own their homes. And when compared to individuals who own their own homes, additionally, it is safe to say that the majority of people have opted to live in their homes as they would in a shelter.

4. The research established that the majority of respondents (92.5 percent) live below the poverty level and the majority of respondents earn more than Rs.300 per day. The majority of responders are able to support their families with a decent salary.
5. According to primary statistics, 82.5 percent of respondents do not own any agricultural land and 92.5 percent of respondents reported receiving no help from their company.
6. The primary data indicates that the majority of respondents live in rural areas and work more than seven hours each day. Similarly, 65 percent of those who answered the survey said they did not have to deal with middlemen interfering with their operations.
7. The study also revealed that the vast majority (97.5 percent) of those who took part in it paid money to the police and municipal authorities and the vast majority of responders (70 percent) do not have a suitable location for vending.
8. Street vending is the primary source of income for 55% of those who answered the survey questions and majority of those who responded pay money on a daily basis to get authorization to vend. Similarly majority of those who responded work as street vendors because; it is more convenient for them to do so.
9. Ninety percent of those who answered the survey stated that street selling had no negative impact on their health and only 25 percent of those who answered the survey said they were distracted by their surroundings.
10. According to the results of research, 92.5 percent of those who responded used cars to transport their products and 85% of the respondents said that they encounter harm to their possessions at least occasionally by man, nature, or animals.
11. As per the findings of research, 67.5 percent of respondents believe that storage is not required and majority of responders have taken enough precautions to avoid being exposed to the elements throughout the summer season.
12. The vast majority of those who answered the survey had taken appropriate precautions against rain and 57.5 percent of respondents said that they were pleased with their business.
13. Eighty percent of those who responded were business owners who said that they were unable to economically empower themselves as a result of this and every single person who took part in this survey had no idea about the government's policy regarding a company.
14. It is surprising to note that nobody gets assistance from the government and nobody joins a labour union because of their company.

## CONCLUSION

Based on an in-depth study of the socio-economic circumstances of street vendors in Vijayapur City, it has become clear that their economic situation is really terrible and that there is an urgent need for tangible to be provided to them. Their quality of life is extremely poor and they are in really terrible shape. Finally, many survey respondents do not have the education required to deal with this kind of information since they are well aware of all of the government assistance/policies. Thus, they are unable to use them, which is a very unfortunate situation, and yet 30% of respondents do not

own a home, while 75% of respondents possess a partially completed home. Every responder was found to be devoid of a trade union which they might use to raise their voices against issues, or to address issues of their own. The government should play an active role in ensuring that the policies that they have adopted are properly implemented. As a result, the government should look at the difficulties that street vendors face in every aspect of their daily lives. We must not lose sight of the adage that states "Poverty everywhere is a danger to prosperity everywhere," which is true in any circumstances.

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