



Socio-Economic Status of the Street Vendors -Study With Reference To Mangaluru Taluk

Mrs.Nidhisha N

Faculty, Department of Commerce, University College Mangalore, India

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Abstract

Trade is the exchange of products or services for monetary compensation, between two parties. A market is a system or network that facilitates trade. The barter system was used in the distant past. In most cases, modern traders will bargain using a medium of exchange, such money. Money's introduction facilitated trade and made things much simpler. The first things that spring to mind when one hears the word trade are official, large-scale traders and multinational trade organizations. Even though these businesses and merchants are crucial, people rarely think of street vendors and informal trade, which employs a sizable portion of the population and generates revenue for them. Street vendor is a person who sets up a temporary static structure or mobile stall to sell goods or services to the general public instead of having a permanently constructed structure. Given this context, the paper's primary goal is to comprehend the social and economic circumstances facing street vendors. Both primary and secondary data have been taken into consideration for the study. Secondary data is gathered from numerous websites and research articles, while primary data is gathered from street sellers by distributing questionnaires.

Keywords: Street vendors, selling, services, trade.

I. Introduction

In essence, trade is the voluntary exchange of resources, such as commodities and services, between two parties in exchange for those resources. A street vendor is someone who, as opposed to working at a typical store, sells food, goods, and commodities on the streets or in the open. These street merchants deliver things right to the customers' door or other convenient spots. Many low- and middle-income households are able to survive in urban areas and large cities because they provide purchasers affordable options. Nowadays, when the emphasis is on creating jobs, self-employment is becoming a significant source

of income for the urban poor. The economy's unemployment issue is resolved by self-employment. In India, the number of people engaging in self-employment activities is growing. Since many jobless people are below the poverty level, starting their own business requires very little capital.

II. Review of Literature

Author: Sharit K. Bhowmik

Year: 2005

Title: Street Vendors in Asia- A Review

He has noticed that as formal sector employment declines, street vending grows. Coupled with the dearth of profitable jobs in rural regions. In quest of work, unemployed people from rural areas frequently relocate to urban areas. They typically have low levels of education and low skill sets. One of the few ways they can make a living is by street vending. This trade has lower capital requirements and requires less talent to enter, making it easier to enter. This is evident in the situations of Vietnam, Cambodia, Bangladesh, and Nepal. The number of street vendors increased dramatically in other Asian tigers, such as Thailand, Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines, and Korea, following the 1998 financial crisis. Following the implementation of the economic liberalization program in 1991, there was a rise in the number of street sellers in India. According to the author, street sellers in most Asian countries lead perilous lives since they constantly fear being evicted and having their property destroyed because the government does not recognize them.

Author: Robert SP

Year:2012

Title: a study on the socio-economic status of street vendors in the unorganised/ informal sector at a Tiruchirappalli Town , Tamailnadu, India

This study looked at the socioeconomic characteristics of street vendors, the type of business they operate, and the state of their human rights. The socioeconomic condition of street



vendors in Tiruchirappalli municipalities was discovered to be extremely poor, and there is a pressing need for improvement. Proposing a detailed action plan aimed at improving the socioeconomic circumstances of street vendors. Even though the government offers a range of services through social programs, the bulk of street sellers are living in extreme poverty and hardship. The great majority of street sellers are unable to meet their basic demands for clothing, food, shelter, education, and other employment prospects. The government would create specially designed programs to meet the unique requirements of street vendors.

Objectives of the study:

1. To understand the economic conditions of the street vendors.
2. To know the level of earnings by street vendors.
3. To analyse the challenges and problems faced by the street vendors in their business.
4. To know the extent of awareness of Government support and regulations on street vendors.
5. To give suggestions based on the findings.

Statement of the problem:

Observing the features of the unorganised sector vending workers, one finds that they live in substandard conditions, exposed to the harsh sun and rain. All people are entitled to equality and dignity under the highest Indian Constitution, yet this is not the situation for these street sellers. In addition to their hard work, they pay for the harassment they receive from the police, local thugs, and politicians out of their meager earnings. The enormous Indian and multinational corporations pose a threat to them under the guise of globalization. Numerous retail establishments are emerging to contend with this subpar labor. Therefore, it is crucial to research socioeconomic conditions and recommend policies to raise people's standing.

Scope of the study:

India is currently among the countries with the quickest economic growth. A socially and economically significant aspect of a nation's life, street vendors are an essential part of the unorganized sector. In addition to providing work for millions of street sellers globally, street trading

also makes a major contribution to India's GDP. The study's scope is broad. The socioeconomic circumstances of the street vendors in Mangaluru Taluk may be found out through this investigation. This study also provides information on the income levels of street vendors and the difficulties they encounter while trying to sell their goods. The present study contributes to the understanding of public awareness regarding government assistance and laws pertaining to street vendors.

III. Methodology:

It is necessary to draft a basic plan before beginning any investigation. It is important to know the study's purpose and the tools that are available right once. Since the technique of any systematic research is what makes it valuable, this chapter provides a thorough understanding of the research approach used for the study. This researcher evaluated primary and secondary data in order to analyze the issue in accordance with the study's goals. The Mangaluru Taluk provided the sample. The study was conducted through in-person interviews and the distribution of a questionnaire to respondents who lived in the Mangaluru Taluk.

Limitations

There will be some specific factors restricting or limiting the study to a certain extent. There is no human being who is perfect likewise the research study is any field cannot be perfect; is bound to have certain limitations from several angles. The present study is also subject to several limitations. They are mentioned below:

- ✓ Time constraint has made the study difficult.
- ✓ The study confines only to the street vendors of Mangaluru Tuluk.
- ✓ The study was done by taking only 75 street vendors.
- ✓ The accuracy of study is total based upon the assumptions that respondents have given all correct answer.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

The Questionnaire Method was used for the investigation. The 36-question questionnaire was given to the 75 street sellers in Mangaluru Taluk in order to gather data. Tables have been used to illustrate the analysis and interpretation of the obtained response. The % approach is essentially used to analyze the data.



TABLE NO. 1
Gender wise classification of respondents

Gender	Number of respondents	Percentage
Male	49	65
Female	26	35
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority i.e. 65% of the respondents are male. It indicates that women participation is lower than the male.

TABLE NO.2
Age wise classification of respondents

Age	No. of respondents	Percentage
Below 20	4	5
21-30	15	20
31-40	24	32
40 and above	32	43
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 43% of the respondents are belonging to the age group of 40 and above. So we can observe that most of the respondents are experienced persons in the street vending business.

TABLE NO. 3
Place of residence wise classification of respondents

Place	No. of respondents	Percentage
Rural area	20	27
Urban area	55	73
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 73% of the respondents are living in urban areas of Mangaluru Taluk.

TABLE NO. 4
Type of accommodation of respondents

Accommodation	No. of respondents	Percentage
Rental	20	27
Own house	45	60
Leasing	10	13
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority (60%) of the respondents are residing in their own house.

TABLE NO.5
Educational qualification of respondents

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
No formal education	24	24
Primary	25	25
Secondary	36	36
PUC	12	12
Degree	-	-
other	1	1
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 36% of the respondents have secondary education. This shows that people with low formal education opt for street vending since they can not place themselves in formal sector.



TABLE NO. 6
Marital status of respondents

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Married	61	84
Unmarried	14	19
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority (84%) of the respondents are married.

TABLE NO. 7
Type of family system of respondents

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Joint family	17	23
Nuclear family	58	77
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority i.e. 77% of the respondents are living in nuclear family. This clearly shows the breaking down of the joint family system among the respondents.

TABLE NO. 8
Size of respondents' family

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Below 4	50	68
4-6	14	18
6-8	8	10
8 and above	3	4
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority i.e. 68% of the have 4 or less than 4 members in their family.

TABLE NO. 9
Number of dependent members in a family

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Below 4	50	68
4-6	14	18
6-8	8	10
8 and above	3	4
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority (68%) of the family has 4 or less dependent members.

TABLE NO. 10
Monthly income of respondents

Income	No. of respondents	Percentage
Below 3000	1	1
3000-6000	10	13
6000-9000	21	28
9000 and above	43	58
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority i.e. 58% of the respondents are having monthly income of 9000 and above. This shows that even the street vendors can earn income which is more or less equal to other employed people.



Table No. 11

Type of respondents business

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Greengrocery	11	19
Foot ware	8	10
Flower	11	15
Readymade garments	10	13
Food items	10	13
Mixed items	9	12
Leather products	2	3
Other	14	15
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 19% of the respondents are engaged in selling greengrocery i.e. fruits and vegetables.

Table No. 12

Nature of street vending business of the respondents

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Permanent	69	92
Seasonal	6	8
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority(92%) of the are selling the commodities near the streets on a permanent basis.

Table No. 13

Registration of the respondents for vending at streets

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	14	19
No	61	81
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority (81%) of the respondents not yet registered under any associations for their street vending business.

Table No. 14

No. of years for their business

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Past 6 months	3	4
Past 1-2 years	8	11
Past 3-4 years	27	36
5 and more than 5 years	37	49
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 49% of the respondents are engaged in street vending for period of 5 years and more. It shows that they are experienced people in their business.

Table No. 15

Sources of motivation for the respondents to start street vending as their business

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Friends	9	12
Family	33	44
Self-interest	33	44
Other	0	0



Total	75	100
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N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 44% of the respondents selected street vending as their occupation by motivating from their family members and with their own interest.

Table No. 16

Working hours of the respondents per day

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Less than 3 hours	1	1
3-5 hours	3	4
5-7 hours	11	15
More than 7 hours	60	80
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority (80%) of the respondents are working for more than 7 hours. This shows that they are trying hard to earn their livelihood even though they are exposed to rain, glare and vehicles sound.

Table No. 17

Other sources of income of the respondents apart from their street vending business

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	1	1
No	74	99
Total	75	100

Interpretation: Majority (99%) of the respondents do not earn any income from other sources. This indicates that income generated through street vending is the main source of income for their livelihood.

Table No. 18

Saving habit of the respondents out of their income

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	52	69
No	23	31
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority (69%) of the respondents have the habit of saving the small portion of their income for future needs.

Table No. 18(A)

Amount of monthly savings

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Below Rs 1000	5	10
Rs 1000-2000	29	55
Rs 3000 and above	18	35
Total	52	100

N=52

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority i.e. 55% of the respondents saves Rs1000 to 2000 every month.

Table No. 19

Avenues of investment where respondents invest or want to invest their savings

elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Bank	24	29
Post office	12	14
Gold	1	1
Insurance	29	35



Other	18	21
Total	84	100

N=84

Source: Field Survey

Here total is not equal to 75 because of Multiple Response rate[MRR]

Interpretation: 355 of the respondents selected insurance products for investing their savings. This is because insurance gives both savings and security for their life.

Table No. 20

Sources of funds of the respondents to start their street vending business

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Own fund	23	31
Loan from bank	2	3
Friends and relatives	17	22
Money lenders	31	41
Other	2	3
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 41% of the street vendors raised their initial fund for starting their business though borrowing money from money lenders.

Table No. 21

Loan taken by the respondents from banks for street vending business purpose

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	12	16
No	63	84
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority i.e. 84% of the respondents have not taken any loan from the banks for their street vending business.

Table No. 22

Responses of the street vendors for the challenges faced by them during their business hours

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	18	24
No	57	76
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority (76%) of the respondents do not face any challenges or problems during their business hours.

Table No. 23

Responses of the street vendors for other earning members in a family except them

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	11	15
No	64	85
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority (85%) of the family has other earning hands in their family except the street vendors.

Table No. 23(A)

Number of earning members

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
1-3	55	86
4-7	9	14
8 and above	0	0



Total	64	100
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N=64

Source :Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority (86%) of the family has 1-3 earning members.

Table No. 24

Main purpose of the respondents for vending at streets

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Job opportunity with low investment	46	32
Financial security	27	19
Earn livelihood for family	38	26
Education for children	32	22
Other	1	1
Total	144	100

N=144

Source: Field Survey

Here total is not equal to 75 because of Multiple Response rate[MRR]

Interpretation: 32% of the respondents are into the street vending business because they can get job opportunity with low investment. This shows that due to investment problem people selected street vending as their occupation.

Table No. 25

Respondents response for changing their business from street vending

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	22	29
No	53	71
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority (71%) of the respondents do not want to change their business from street vending. This is mainly due to investment problem and educational qualification of street vendors.

Table No. 25(A)

Reasons to change

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Low income	13	59
Lack of interest	4	18
Health issues	2	9
Harassment by public authorities	2	9
Other	1	5
Total	22	100

N=22

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 59% of the respondents wants to change their occupation from street vending as it generates low income.

Table No. 26

Level of satisfaction street vendors derived from their business

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Highly satisfied	11	14
Satisfied	56	75
Dissatisfied	8	11
Highly dissatisfied	0	0
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: Majority (75%) of the respondents derived satisfaction in their occupation of street vending.



Table No. 27

Providing education to the children is challenging for street vendors

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Strongly agree	6	8
Agree	49	66
Disagree	16	51
Strongly disagree	4	5
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 66% of the respondents are agrees with the statement of “ providing education to the children is challenging for street vendors”, since they can earn less income they find it difficult to provide education for their children.

Table No. 28

Ability of earnings to meet the family needs

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	38	51
No	13	17
Sometimes	24	32
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 51% of the respondents agreed that their earnings is enough to meet their family needs.

Table No. 29

Respondents awareness about Street Vendors Act, 2014 which protects them from harassment

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	0	0
No	72	96
A little	3	4
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 96% of them are not aware about the Street Vendors Act, 2014.

Table No. 30

Respondents awareness about the assistance provided by the Government for the street vendors

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	57	76
No	18	24
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 76% of the street vendors are aware about the assistance given by the Government for street vendors.

Table No. 31

Respondents willingness to take loan from bank under Government assistance

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	30	40
No	45	60
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 60% of the respondents are not like to take loan from bank under the Government assistance. They says that they do not need any additional fund to carry out their business.



Table No. 32

Responses of the street vendors about receiving the assistance from the Government

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	6	18
No	69	92
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 92% of the respondents are not yet received any assistance from the part of Government.

Table No. 33

Responses of the street vendors for the payments of taxes for vending at streets

Elements	No, of respondents	Percentage
Yes	7	9
No	68	91
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 91% of the respondents are not paying any taxes for vending at streets.

Table No. 34

Responses of the street vendors about the season in which they get more number of sales

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Summer	24	32
Rainy	27	36
Winter	4	5
Festival	20	27
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 36% of the respondents feels that during rainy season they get more number of sales.

Table No. 35

Responses of the street vendors about how road construction project have impact on their sales

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	35	47
No	40	53
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 53% of the respondents says that road construction project do not have any impact on their sales.

Table No. 35(A)

Impact of sales

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Sales increases	0	0
Sales decreases	47	100
Total	47	100

N=47

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 100% of the respondents says that their sales decreases when road construction work takes place.



Table No. 36

Responses of the street vendors about the health problems faced by them

Elements	No. of respondents	Percentage
Yes	24	32
No	35	47
Sometimes	16	21
Total	75	100

N=75

Source: Field Survey

Interpretation: 47% of the respondents says that they do not face any health issues as they are exposed to rain, glare and vehicles sound.

Major findings of the study

- ❖ Majority i.e. 65% of the respondents are male. It indicates that women participation is lower than the male.
- ❖ 43% of the respondents are belonging to the age group of 40 and above. So we can observe that most of the respondents are experienced persons in the street vending business.
- ❖ 73% of the respondents are living in urban areas of Mangaluru Taluk.
- ❖ Majority (60%) of the respondents are residing in their own house.
- ❖ 36% of the respondents have secondary education. This shows that people with low formal education opt for street vending since they cannot place themselves in formal sector.
- ❖ Majority (84%) of the respondents are married.
- ❖ Majority i.e. 77% of the respondents are living in nuclear family. This clearly shows the breaking down of the joint family system among the respondents.
- ❖ Majority i.e. 68% of the respondents have 4 or less than 4 members in their family.
- ❖ Majority (68%) of the family has 4 or less dependent members.
- ❖ Majority i.e. 58% of the respondents are having monthly income of Rs 9000 and above. This shows that even the street vendors can earn income which is more or less equal to other employed people.
- ❖ 19% of the respondents are engaged in selling greengrocery i.e. fruits and vegetables.
- ❖ Majority(92%) of the are selling the commodities near the streets on a permanent basis.
- ❖ Majority (81%) of the respondents not yet registered under any associations for their street vending business.
- ❖ 49% of the respondents are engaged in street vending for period of 5 years and more. It shows that they are experienced people in their business.
- ❖ 44% of the respondents selected street vending as their occupation by motivating from their family members and with their own interest.
- ❖ Majority (80%) of the respondents are working for more than 7 hours. This shows that they are trying hard to earn their livelihood even though they are exposed to rain, glare and vehicles sound.
- ❖ Majority (99%) of the respondents do not earn any income from other sources. This indicates that income generated through street vending is the main source of income for their livelihood.
- ❖ Majority (69%) of the respondents have the habit of saving the small portion of their income for future needs and out of which 55% of them saves Rs1000 to 2000 every month.
- ❖ 35% of the respondents selected insurance products for investing their savings. This is because insurance gives both savings and security for their life.
- ❖ Majority i.e. 84% of the respondents have not taken any loan from the banks for their street vending business.
- ❖ Majority i.e. 84% of the respondents have not taken any loan from the banks for their street vending business.
- ❖ 76% of the respondents do not face any challenges or problems during the business hour.
- ❖ Majority (85%) of the family has other earning hands in their family except the street vendors and 86% of the family has 1-3 earning members.
- ❖ 32% of the respondents are into the street vending business because they can get job opportunity with low investment. This shows that due to investment problem people selected street vending as their occupation.
- ❖ Majority (71%) of the respondents do not want to change their business from street vending. This is mainly due to investment problem and educational qualification of street vendors.



- ❖ Majority (75%) of the respondents derived satisfaction in their occupation of street vending.
- ❖ 66% of the respondents are agrees with the statement of “ providing education to the children is challenging for street vendors”, since they can earn less income they find it difficult to provide education for their children.
- ❖ 51% of the respondents agreed that their earnings is enough to meet their family needs.
- ❖ 96% of them are not aware about the Street Vendors Act, 2014.
- ❖ 76% of the street vendors are aware about the assistance given by the Government for street vendors.
- ❖ 60% of the respondents are not like to take loan from bank under the Government assistance. They says that they do not need any additional fund to carry out their business.
- ❖ 92% of the respondents are not yet received any assistance from the part of Government.
- ❖ 91% of the respondents are not paying any taxes for vending at streets.
- ❖ 36% of the respondents feels that during rainy season they get more number of sales.
- ❖ 53% of the respondents says that road construction project do not have any impact on their sales.
- ❖ 47% of the respondents says that they do not face any health issues even though are exposed to rain, glare and vehicles sound.

IV. SUGGESTIONS

- Awareness programme and campaigns with regards to street vendors right, social security scheme, institutional credit support should be organised.
- The Government can assist them financially for their business activities at free rate of interest or at low rate of interest.
- Welfare schemes of Government for street vendors should be promoted.
- Entrepreneurial skills must be imparted to street vendors which would upgrade their skills and help them to overcome the problems,
- Vending zones with all needed facilities should be created. It would reduce their work related problems like lack of drinking water and reduction in quality of wares because of heat, rain and dust.
- A market place can be allotted specially for street vending where street vendors may be charged a very nominal rent.

- Sustained and continuous efforts are needed to improve the education, health and employment conditions of the street vendors .
- Free education can be given to the children of street vendors,
- Authorities should take necessary steps to provide vending licence as a prof of identification as street vendors so that they can reduce the problem caused by Government authorities.

V. CONCLUSION

A street vendor is someone who offers goods and services for sale to the public without having a permanently built structure; instead, they do so from a temporary static structure, mobile stall, or head load. The informal sector plays a significant role in providing employment and income sources in India. People prefer to work as street vendors since it's an interesting job with little startup costs. However, it has been observed that street sellers are often persecuted by different authorities and lack the legal standing to operate in any of the locations. They deal with a number of issues, such as getting a license and unstable income. Due to their working conditions and lack of social protection, street vendors are vulnerable to a number of health and safety risks. They encounter numerous issues as a result of their ignorance of their rights. They struggle with a lack of funding and rely mostly on loans from loved ones, friends, or moneylenders to operate their businesses. It is the responsibility of NGOs and social activists to educate sellers about their rights and responsibilities. In order to avoid forcing them to borrow money from money lenders at higher interest rates, the government should make special efforts to provide them with vocational education, entice the children of vendors to attend schools, and establish self-help groups for health programs. In addition to belonging to the underprivileged and weak, street vendors are productive and serve an economic purpose, which is why they should be supported.

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