



## Problems of women in unorganised sector: A study of women workers in UN organised sector in Vijayapura city (Karnataka)

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### Abstract

Since independence India has made strong strides on the path of its development and also achieved remarkable success in various fields. But it has yet to go to long way to make better life of women. In India majority of the women are working in unorganised sector. And labours are below the minimum standard of level. Many workers are not in a position to meet their daily requirement. Maximum number of women workers are contestant victims of low wages when compare to men. And they are most vulnerable working segment in the society. They came from a marginalised population. They have no voice to raise their right. The number of workers in the informal sector increasing for various reasons. Such as illiteracy, poverty, the paucity of employment, helplessness and dependents. As women and as a researcher it is important to study the women contribution and their problems in the unorganised sector.

**Keywords:** unorganised, problems, economic

### Introduction

India is known for its huge geographical spread and magnitude of its populations. It has a huge working population of 406 million (based on NSSO Survey of 1990-200). Almost 92 per cent of this workforce is in the unorganised sector. There are numerous occupational groups pursuing economic activities from generation to generation without formal schooling and scattered all over the country with diffused employer- employee relationship. The occupation wise distribution of employment indicates that 62 per cent of the workers are engaged in agriculture, 11 per cent in industry and 27 per cent in the services sector.

Women are represents that the 50% of the population, 30% of the labour force, they are performing 60% of all working hours; receive 10% of the world's income. But unfortunate thing is she own less than 1% of the world's property. Female work participation has always been low at 26% compared to 52% of men. The problem is that women have always been at work, only the definitions of work plan have never been defined or realistic to include their contribution to economy and the society.

Women workers in the informal economy consist of most vulnerable economy working part in the society. They came from a marginalised population whose legal economic and political status limits their ability to demand their rights. These women include domestic workers and home base workers whose social and economic contributions to society are invisible to the public, and to the policies of the country.

Women work for long hours without proper safety and security; they don't get proper over time for extra hours and any leave. There is no social security for women workers in unorganized sector (National Commission for Enterprises in Unorganized Sector, NCEUS, 2004).

### Review of literature

So many studies have been made in the last few decades about the role of women in unorganized sector.

Pant (2005) <sup>[7]</sup> conducted participatory research on multiple citizenship identities of women beedi workers was carried out to explore the interplay of multiple citizenship identities of women beedi workers in Rajnandgaon in Chattisgarh. Citizenship denotes a form of membership and practice. Study broadly aimed to examine the ways the citizenship identities of home based women beedi workers are reproduced through the multiple structural locations they occupy viz, labour market household and locality by focusing on the experiences and meaning that they give to the particular location. Total 50 women workers from Ramnagar ward no 5 and Shankarapura ward no 7 from Rajnandgaon, participated in study. Combination of participatory open-ended methods was used to uncover and understand the perspective of women workers. And in this study the women workers are facing so many problems like potable water, precarious shelter, scarcity of electricity and poor sanitation.

Sudha kumara (1989) has studied the constraints that women face while working in the informal sector. She found that the method of wage payment, retrenchment etc. Are all arbitrary in the informal sector.

Nirmala Banerjee (1976) <sup>[6]</sup> on the basis of empirical study in Calcutta has indicated that women have a target income level, which they try to achieve with a view to survive. She found that over the period of seven years, an increasing number of women were engaging in the informal labour market even though the wage rate remained almost stationary in the sector.

### Objectives of the study

1. To study the work profile of the home based women workers working in unorganised sector in Vijayapur

(Karnataka) city.

2. To study the problem faced by home based women workers working in Vijayapur in following aspects:

- \*Work related problems
- \*Their personal problems

**Research Methodology**

The study based on primary data collected from the women worker in the unorganised sector by the interview, observation method scheduled had been by the questions regarding their

socio-economic factors.25 women workers who are working in different field were selected from vijayapur city (Siddeshwara nagara, swatantra yodhara colony, Ghevarchand colony, treasury colony) by case study and purposive sampling method.

**Scope of the study**

The study mainly focuses the problems faced by women in unorganised sector.

**Data Analysis and Interpretations**

**Table 1: Socio-Demographical profile of the Respondents**

S. No	Socio-demographical factor	Response	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Age	20-30	13	52%
		30-40	08	32%
		40-50	04	16%
Total			25	100%
2.	Education	Illiterate	03	12%
		Primary level	04	16%
		High school level	06	24%
		Degree	12	48%
Total			25	100%
3.	Marital status	Married	08	32%
		Unmarried	12	48%
		Widow	03	12%
		Separated	02	08%
Total			25	100%
4.	Religion	Hindu	17	68%
		Christian	00	00%
		Muslim	06	24%
Total			25	

Source: primary data

The above table 1 indicates that out of 25 respondents 52% of the respondents are between age group of 20-30 years and 32% of the respondents belong to the age group of 30-40 years. Out 25 respondents the majority of the respondents that

is 48% of the respondents are degree holders. And 32% of the respondents are married, and the interesting thing is the majority of the respondents are unmarried. Most of the respondents mean 68% belongs to Hindu religion.

**Table 2: Nature of work**

Nature of work	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Garment factory	16	64%
Vermicelli factory	03	12%
Cloth stitching	06	24%
Total	25	100%

Source: primary data

The above table 2 indicates that out of 25 respondents 64% of the respondents are doing work in garment factory and 24% of

the respondents are doing work in cloth stitching.

**Table 3: Nature of wages**

Nature of wage	No. of Respondents	Percentage
Daily wage	09	36%
Monthly wage	16	64%
Total	25	100%

Source: primary data

The above table indicate that out of 25 respondents 36% of the respondents are taking daily wages. And the majority of the

respondents are doing their work for monthly wages.

**Table 4:** Economic Status of the Respondents

Sl. No.	Economic factor	Response	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Family income	Below-6000	15	60%
		6000-7500	10	40%
		Above-7500	00	00%
			25	100%
2.	Expenditure made	Below-4000	08	32%
		4000-6000	14	56%
		6000-7500	03	12%
	Total		25	100%
3.	Saving habits	Pigmy	05	20%
		L.I.C.	03	12%
		Bank	17	68%
	Total		25	100%

*Source:* primary data

The above table 4 indicates that out of 25 respondents 60% of the respondents belong to the income level of below 6000 category. The 56% of the respondents spent monthly around rupees 4000-6000 for their family expenditure and 68% of the respondents have bank savings. It means the majority of the respondents are saving their money in the banks.

#### Findings of the study

1. Lack of security
2. Deplorable wages
3. women are pillar of the family
4. More women are degree holders
5. Long working hours
6. No paid sick leave
7. Wage difference between men and women
8. Many women are working for to run the day today life.
9. Work discrimination

#### Suggestions

- The Government should be strictly regulate equal pay for equal work.
- There should be at least one day leave with pay.
- Adequate training should be provided to women workers
- Government should focus on gender equality.

#### Conclusions

Women workers have triple responsibility at home and work. There are various reasons for pitiable conditions of women in UN organised sector. That is gender discrimination, poverty, lack of basic knowledge, lack skills lack of employment, ignorance of government, adequate laws which are feeling to prevent them.

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