

## **A STUDY ON PROBLEMS AND PROSPECTUS OF HAWKERS IN TENKASI DISTRICT**

**RESEARCH SCHOLAR: S.SUBHAMANGALA, REG.NO: 20121041012003, DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE, C.S.I JAYARAJ ANNAPACKIAM COLLEGE, NALLUR, ALANGULAM, AFFILIATED TO MANONMANIAM SUNDARANAR UNIVERSITY, ABISHEKAPATTI, TIRUNELVELI**

**GUIDE: Dr.V.ANANDHAVALLI, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE TIRUNELVELI DAKSHINAMARA NADAR SANGAM COLLEGE, VALLIOR, AFFILIATED TO MANONMANIAM SUNDARANAR UNIVERSITY, ABISHEKAPATTI, TIRUNELVELI.**

### **ABSTRACT:**

This paper on problems and prospects of hawkers in Tenkasi district is a research paper that aims to understand the 'working life' of hawkers in keeping with their financial accessibility, social security, occupational well being and the working condition.

India is the second populated country in the world. Providing employment opportunity to the people is the greatest task to the government. Therefore the people develop their entrepreneur skill to earn income for their livelihood. Hawking is one of the entrepreneurship, small in terms of capital and size and easy to start the business. Nonetheless, it is noticed that there has been a phenomenal increase in the number of hawkers leading to an increase in the number of workers in the informal sector in India and Mumbai has witnessed for containing highest hawkers among all major cities in India.

**Keywords:** Hawkers, Problems, Prosperous.

### **INTRODUCTION**

In the era of globalization, the retail sector is the fast growing emerging sector after agriculture in India by providing employment. However, besides formal retail chain, small retailing including hawking has been one of the easiest ways to survive for working poor and is wide spread in the urban informal sector. Hawkers play very important role in urban India by providing employment and income and other aspects. They sell different kinds of goods such as vegetables, fruits, fishes, flowers, fancy products etc. Hawkers also support urban rich and urban poor. Hawkers prop up urban rich to provide daily requirements as available on their doorsteps because some hawkers built up their profession in front of housing complexes. Urban youth

prefer to purchase vegetables and other accessories from them because products sold by them are typically cheaper than those found in formal retail outlets. On the other side, lower income group people are also benefited and spend a higher portion of their income on purchase from hawkers because their goods are cheap and affordable. Thus, they are in fact the solution to some of the problems of the urban woe-stricken people.

### **STATEMENT OF THE PROBLE**

The hawkers in Tenkasi district they face enormous problems. That the problems are basic needs, housing conditions, stress, problems with neighbors, education and unemployment is the all socio – economic problems. It is therefore, the focus of this study is to assess a study on problems and prospectus of hawkers in Tenkasi district.

### **OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY**

1. To identify the major problems faced by the hawkers.
2. To understand the problems faced by hawkers in the working area.
3. To offer suggestions based on the findings of the study.

### **DATA COLLECTION**

- **PRIMARY DATA**

Primary data is collected from face to face interviews were conducted with the respondents in their work places. To measure a study on problems and prospectus of Hawkers in Tenkasi District.60 hawkers are selected in direct interview method.

- **SECONDARY DATA**

Researcher used to collect the secondary data by the following ways as through Internet, Reference, Newspapers, Conference papers, Articles, Journals , from already existing data.

### **LIMITATIONS OF THE STUDY**

1. The study is limited to Tenkasi District and therefore the finding cannot be extended other areas.
2. Lot of hawkers is there but the researcher selected few of them.
3. When we are going to collect the questionnaire most of the respondents in busy in their work so they are not responding properly.
4. A many respondents were illiterate so we explain the questions in to Tamil it leads to wastage of time.

### **PROBLEM FACED BY HAWKERS**

The Hawkers are the most internal working section of human society. But they are facing a lot of problems. Following are the troubles.

#### **(1) Harassment by Police and Local government**

Some of the policemen are daily collecting money from the Street Vendors (Rs.50-100). They buy goods from them for free of cost and then monthly once the book in 2 nuisance cases. Policeman utters bad words against them.

#### **(2) Trading sites too small**

The hawkers have occupied the small place and they are using some different types of equipment (transitory) for their business. When the government announces tender notifications, they are not interested in participating n the tenders.

#### **(3) Problems with site allocation systems**

They have no particular site for vending. So some of the hawkers occupy their area in the early morning and it leads to a quarrel between the hawkers. Sometimes these problems have been taken to the court.

#### **(4) Lack of facilities (e.g. shelters, storage)**

Hawkers are not having a permanent place. They move from one place to another place, so they are not using cold storage and some safety types of equipment (umbrella, water,etc...).

#### **(5) Lack of access to credit:**

The hawkers are not able to invest a lot of money (capital) for their business because they do not have sufficient income. It is very difficult for their savings in the future.

## REVIEW LITERATURE

**Karthikeyan.R and R.Mangaleswaran (2014)** in their paperwork on “A Study on Socio-economic Conditions and Working Patterns of hawkers in Tiruchirappalli City, Tamil Nadu and India” studied the working patterns in Tiruchirappalli City. The researchers selected 32 respondents through convenient sampling and descriptive methods. It is found that 50% of male vendors and 37.5% of female vendors knew well about the street vending policy. The remaining 12.5 % of the male vendors are not interested to know about the policies of street vending. The study suggested that the government should conduct an awareness program about the street vendors' policies to hawkers in Tiruchirappalli City<sup>1</sup>.

**Balasubramanian.B, Srinivasan.R and Vaidhyasubramaniam .S (2013)** in their paper on ‘Being powerless’ or ‘To be empowered’: A Case of Women Street Vendors at Tiruchirappalli, Tamil Nadu” take a sample of 68 women street vendors in Tiruchirappalli. Correlation and regression analysis were employed on the data for the analysis. The study on women in the hawking profession at Tiruchirappalli reveals the poor economic condition of women engaged in Street Vending. The study suggested that there is a possibility to see some good to this community if they follow with certain regularization as suggested in the National Policy on Urban Street Vendors, 2009<sup>2</sup>.

**Ritajyoti Bandyopadhyay (2016)** explained the politics of archiving of hawkers and pavement dwellers in “Politics of archiving: Hawkers and pavement dwellers in Calcutta”. This study analyzed how the success of the street vendors in claiming the footpath is tied to the marginalization of the claims of the pavement dwellers that have (a) homogenized the representation of the footpath as only used by pedestrians and street vendors and (b) led to the

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Karthikeyan.R and R.Mangaleswaran (2013). A Study on Socio-economic Conditions and Working Patterns of Street Vendors in Tiruchirappalli City, Tamil Nadu, India. International Research Journal of Social Sciences. 2 (12), pp. 54-68<sup>1</sup>.

B.Balasubramanian, Dr.R.Srinivasan and Dr.S.Vaidhyasubramaniam (2013) Being powerless' or 'To be empowered': A Case of Street Vendors at Tamil Nadu. International Journal of Physical and Social Sciences. Vol.2 (9). Pp.240-250<sup>2</sup>.

elision of the pavement dwellers as a governmental category. The study revealed that though the direct link between the street vendors and the manufacturers have become weak, street vendors still rely, to a great extent, on local supplies and cater to the needs of the poor and lower-middle-class buyers by selling those goods for a considerably cheaper rate. The survey asserted that street vendors are micro-entrepreneurs who rely more on market forces than on the state<sup>3</sup>.

## DATA ANALYSIS

**TABLE 1.1**

### AGE OF THE RESPONDENTS

SL.NO	AGE	NO.OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Below 20	12	20%
2	21 – 40	30	50%
3	41-60	10	17%
4	Above 60	08	13%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Primary data

The above Table 1.1 shows that out of 60 respondents, (20%) of the respondents lay down in the age group of below 20 years, (50%) were in the age group of 21-40 years, (17%) were in the age group of 41-60 years, and the remaining (13%) were in the age group of above 60 years. The researcher had found that the most of the hawkers belongs to the age group of 21-40 years.

**TABLE 1.2**

### PROBLEMS FACED BY THE RESPONDENTS

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Ritajyoti Bandyopadhyay (2016). Politics of archiving: hawkers and pavement dwellers in Calcutta. *Dialect Anthropol.* Springer. 35:295–316<sup>3</sup>.

SL.NO	PROBLEMS FACED	NO. OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Not enough space	13	22%
2	Noise from neighbors or outside	18	30%
3	Lack of heat	19	31%
4	Leakage in roof	04	07%
5	Window grills and doors	06	10%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Primary data

The above Table (1.2) shows that out of 60 respondents, (22%) of the respondents had felt that they don't have enough space, (30%) of the respondents suffered due to the noise created by their neighbors, (31%) of the respondents felt that there was lack of heat, (7%) of the respondents had leakage in the roof and remaining (10%) of the respondents had problem in windows grills and doors. The researcher had found that most of the respondents were suffered due to the problem, lack of heat.

**TABLE 1.3**

**NATURE OF BUSINESS**

SL.NO	NATURE OF BUSINESS	NO. OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Part-time	22	37%
2	Full time	38	63%
	<b>Total</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Primary data

The above Table (1.3) shows that out of 60 respondents, (37%) of the respondents were doing part-time business, and (63%) of the respondents were doing their business as a full-time business. The researcher had found that most of the respondents were doing full-time business.

**TABLE 1.4**

**SOURCES OF FINANCE**

SL.NO	SOURCES OF FINANCE	NO. OF RESPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Self-finance	17	28%
2	Loans from the relatives	07	12%
3	Loans from institutions	25	42%
4	Any other sources	11	18%
	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>60</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Primary data

The above Table (1.4) Shows that out of 60 respondents, (28%) of the respondents are having enough finance to carry out their business,, (12%) of the respondents had loans from their relatives do carry out their business, (42%) of the respondents had got loans from the financial institutions, and (18%) of the respondents had used some other sources to get finance for their business. The researcher had found that most of the respondents got finance through loans from financial institutions.

**CHI SQUARE TEST****TABLE 1.6****NATURE OF BUSINESS AND SOURCES OF FINANCE**

Sl.No	Nature of Business	Self-finance	Loan from Relatives	Loan from Institutions	Any other source
1	Part Time	10	3	10	4
2	Full Time	7	4	15	7

Degree of freedom = (c-1) (r-1)

$$= (2-1) (4-1)$$

$$= (1) (3)$$

$$=3$$

$$X^2= 1.46$$

Calculated Value is = 1.46

Table value for 2-degree freedom at 5% level of significance = 7.815

Since the calculated value was less than the table Value, the null hypothesis was accepted and the alternative hypothesis was rejected, which reveals that the nature of business of the respondents have no relationship with the sources of finance.

### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

- It was found that 50% of the respondents belong to the age group of 21-40 years.
- It was observed that 31% of the respondents had faced the problem of lack of heat.
- It was observed that 63% of the respondents were doing full-time business.
- It was found that 42% of the respondents had gathered the needed finance for their business through loans from financial institutions.

### **FINDINGS ON HYPOTHESIS**

#### **HO 1**

- There is no relationship between the nature of business and sources of finance.

The null hypothesis was accepted. The nature of the business of the respondents has no relationship with the sources of finance.

### **SUGGESTION**

They should inculcate the habit of savings to improve their economic conditions. The common people can provide good ideas and suggestions to improve the quality of goods. Their psychological health and physical health are seemed to be taken care of and the business that they expanded with their environmental factors, and social relationship to develop their standard life. The hawkers must join any one of the vendor's associations. This is helpful during the



accident time. The hawkers should use storage facilities for the preparation of goods. The hawking organization should conduct a meeting and discuss the hawkers problems in a particular district with the collectors or corporation commissioner.

The common people should avoid bargaining with the hawkers. The Government should give proper ID cards to the hawkers and should provide a commercial building to hawkers for monthly rent and open in some eminent streets. The government should take some action against those people; harass them in their life (especially police personnel). Their working patterns are very dangerous to their body (due to climate conditions). Hence, the government should provide special Health schemes, Welfare schemes, and Livelihood programs for hawkers. The social media and newspapers are keenly concentrating on the hawker's protection measures. So, the municipal corporation has to conduct an awareness campaign for hawkers in the city. The vast majority of the respondents are doing the business for a whole day, so the local government can suggest uniforms for the hawkers.

## CONCLUSION

Hawkers form a very important segment of informal sector. Hawkets offer goods and services for sale without having a permanent built up structure to satisfy the demands of urban poor's and urban youth. They ensure the distribution of benefits in favour of the disadvantaged group. The objective of this paper is to identify the causes behind hawking, challenges faced by hawkers, highlight the importance of hawkers, what measures are taken by the Government to prevent the harassment of hawkers by police and other authorities, improvement in the working conditions, social protection and life skill development to improve the level of profitability.

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