Problems and Solutions of Vendors – A Case Study

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ABSTRACT: Due to urbanization and industrialization there is a rapid acceleration of migration from rural are to Urban area. So urban centers are unable to provide employment to all workforce, so they have to find other opportunities for the settlement in informal sector. Within this informal sector, vendors sell their goods in competitive market.

So present study is undertaken to find out socio-economic status of the vendors and to suggest possible solutions to the local authorities of Pimpalner Town ( Tal-Sakri, Dist-Dhule). 50 respondent was selected for the present study their age, type, work place amenities, demand for their products, working hours, their bad habits etc was studied. Their numbers and percentage was calculated and added in the analysis. Their problem and possible solutions are also suggested.

KEYWORDS: Vendors, Problems, Solutions, Pension, Facilities Training, Health etc.

I. INTRODUCTION

Vendors are defined from an economic, cultural and legal position, are those people who offer goods or services for sale from public places, primarily streets and pavements[1]. In 1987, Bhattacharya and De[2] studied vendors of Calcutta, he explained that street vendors are those people who do not have a permanent place of their own and who offer goods and services without having proper trade license for sale form public places. The National classification of Occupation 1968 defines street vendors as hawkers, peddler, street vendor, Pheriwala sell articles of daily utility and general merchandise such as vegetables, sweet, cloth, utensils and toys on footpaths or by going from door to door. They normally purchases goods from wholesale market according to his needs and capital (money) available. They load them in basket on an pushcart, wheelbarrow or tricycle and moves in selected areas to effect sales. Many times they announce loudly goods or articles on sale and their prices to attract customers. Some of them may also display goods or articles of sale on footpath and effect and effect sales.

Debate on public and private places was taken forward by Drummond, B.W.[3] stated that appropriation of public space for commercial activities is visibly rampant in the cities and the pavements are lined with small business operating on what is nominally public space cooked food stalls, mobile vendors, vegetable sellers, tea stands etc. The study shows the practices of public and private space in contemporary Vietnam, where the use of the street has operated as a medium for mediation between state and society over these spaces and practices. The question of street vendors and public space was raised lately by Anjaria [4] wherein he tried to explore the essential presence of hawkers in a city required a critical understanding of the functioning of public space. In planning for Mumbais future, it would be worthwhile to take advantage of multifarious uses of public spaces which the city already has before aiming to become a “world-class” city.

According toTiwari [5] bicycles, pedestrian on bus traffic attract street vendors. Often side roads and pedestrian paths are occupied by people selling food, drinks and other articles which are in demand by road users, vendors often locate themselves at places which are natural market for them. Vendors work in free market principles. If their services were not required at those locations, they would have no incentive to be there. Road and city authorities however, views their existence as illegal.
With increasing urban migration and the shrinking formal sector, hawking and street vending have emerged as one of the critical means of earning a livelihood for the urban poor in India. Today, vending is an important source of employment for a large number of Urban poor as it require low skill and small financial inputs. They try to live their life with dignity and self-respect through regular vending activities, Mumbai is having largest concentration of regularly 2,50,000 street vendors which is followed by Kolkata which is having about 2,00,000. The street vendors market many goods which common people use on a regular basis and vegetables is traditionally leading the trade. Other commodities such as cloths and hosiery household goods and food items, manufactured by home based workers who have no other channels of marketing the products that they produce. In Ahmadabad it is estimated to be about 80,000 and half of them are women and organized by some local unions like SEWA. [6]

The Bombay Municipal Corporation Act 1950 do not provide for the erection of any structure or stall on the street which will abstract the passage of the public such a structure is liable to be removed by municipal commissioner. Hawkers are evicted mainly under section 102 and 107 of the act. These sections stipulate that anyone preventing smooth flow of traffic can be arrested and removed. In Mumbai Municipal corporation has granted only 14,000 licenses and stopped granting new licenses. National policy on Urban street vendors have right to carry on trade on business mentioned in article 19 (1) g of the constitution, on street pavements, if properly regulated cannot be denied on the ground that the street are meant exclusively for passing or re-passing and no other use.

We cannot neglect Urbanization and development of a country. The majority of the people migrated from rural to urban for earning their livelihood, good education and recreational facilities etc. India is a developing country and second in human population in the world. India is poised with rapid urbanization [7]. Due to poverty and gainful employment in the rural areas drive large numbers of people to the cities for work and livelihood. This unskilled of low skilled labour getjobs in informal sectors in most of the cities. This sector is an important part of the economy and labour market in many countries, plays a major role in employment creation production, and income generation [8].

The Supreme Court has admitted that it had tried its best and in its directions a National policy on Urban street Vendors was framed in 2004. But question is of regulating conflicting fundamental rights of hawkers and vendors, it could be done only through legislation and not by court directions. The supreme court bench asked the New Delhi Municipal Council and Municipal Corporation of Delhi to regulate having under present scheme till June 30, 2011 by which time the appropriate government “ is to legislate and bring out a law to regulate Hawking”. In 2014 street Vendors, act-protection legitimate street vendors from harassment by police and civil authorities. Declaration of vending zones on basis of “ traditional natural markets”. Proper representation of vendors and women in decision making, establishment of effective grievance and dispute resolution mechanism (source-street vendors act 2014[9]). Therefore present study is undertaken to find out the socio economic status of the vendors and to suggest possible solutions to the local authorities of Pimpalner Town.

**Objectives**

1. To understand socio-economic status of street vendors.
2. To identify their problems or issues.
3. To find out or to suggest some solution for planning.

**II. METHODOLOGY**

Pimpalner during British Emperor was taluka place but due to heavy rainfall at that time, so migrated taluka place at Sakri(DistDhule). Pimpalner is main treading center, many small villages joined to this town. It belongs to Nashik Division and 80 km away from district head quarter, Dhule and 295 km from Minmbai. The Population of this around 25000 with good market. Therefore, we have randomly chosen sample of 50 vendors within about one kilometer radius in Pimpalner city. Only male vendors are selected. The study used questionnaires and personal interviews as the tool for collecting data. Researcher explained to every one of respondent the objectives of the study and their permission to ask question of questionnaires.
III. RESULT (ANALYSIS)

a) **Age**: Age of respondent was mostly above 25 years. 10% (5) were between 18 to 25 years, 24% (12) were 25 to 35 years, another 32% (16) where between 36-40 and remaining all 34% (17) were above 41 years.

b) **Types of vendors** – Vegetables seller 24(48%), fruit seller 18(36%), others 8(16%)

How long working as street vendors spent more than 8 years as vendors 20(40%), Vendors 6 years 22(44%), 1 to 5 years 8(16%) with reference to above observation the majority of street vendors spent more than 8 years which indicate’s that street vending is their only source of income and there is no alternative employment for them. In that case, it is necessary to improvement and ways to overcome their problems.

c) **Workplace Amenities** – around all street vendors are lacking with core amenities in which without them, staying and working at the market will be challenging

what are the problems encountered at the market?

All the respondent responded this question 36% (18) said there is an adequate space in the market 14% (7) said evictions, 26%(13) said poor sanitation and 14% (7) said there is no proper place.

By this observation their are issues regarding adequate space, poor sanitation at work place.

d) **Demand for their vending material** – 54% respondent said good demand for our products, 36% said average, 10% said very poor. Average or poor demand might be due to low standards and their might be competition of middle class permanent vendors and shops.

All vendors are acknowledge that they receive co-operation from gram panchayat authorities for vending business but lacking facilities.

e) **Working Hours** – 26 (52%) respondent work for 6 hours, 20 (40%) work for 7 to 10 hours, 4 (8%) work more than 12 hours.

f) **Vendors who consume alcohol and smoke**-Beedi/cigarette 36 (72%), Alcohol 10 (5%), None 4 (8%)

g) **Daily/income** 13 (26%) more than 300 rupees, 20 (40%) more than 200 rupees. In between 100 to 200 rupees 18 (33%)

**Problems**

1) The street vendors lead a very difficult life, the mode of travel or their working hours, it providing hardly any time for rest and for relaxation, which creates adverse effects on their health.
2) Increased traffic affects their mobility on main street.
3) Pollution is affecting them in many ways, road widening also effect of street vendors.
4) Harassment from local authorities or from policemen during vending.
5) Uncertainty and insecurity is the basic problem vendors as their profession is considered illegal.
6) Vendors are not protected by government, NGO’s, labour union by any labour laws.
7) They are insecure due to their low income, irregular employment and their sale fluctuation.
8) They are not getting easy financial assistance from bank due to their low income and fluctuation in income.
9) Vendors needs some market amenities such as water toilet, storage or shades, waste desposal.
10) Sanitation and work place security.

**Solutions**

1) Authorities should provide licence to the vendors so that they can be protected by harassment and eviction by local authorities.
2) Some street vendors are food vendors, they have not received formal training as they are less educated while selling ready food. Local authorities should have to provide training to those vendors.
3) Skill training and credit facilities to be made available to the vendors.
4) Scheme like regular health check up or health care and pension should also be extended to vendors.
5) In town their must be a vending committee they should take care of vending issues.
6) Authorities should provide permanent sheds for vendors and minimum facilities such as first aid, drinking water, toilet, garbage collection and solid waste disposal etc.
In Mumbai, where there are 2 lakh hawkers, the Municipal corporation has granted only 1400 licenses for the past two decade [6]. The vendors were issued licenses by the Vadodara Municipal Corporation (VMC) was in 1992, when a national street vendor-licensing scheme was taken up and since then no more licenses have been issued [10]. According to Kulkarni [11] the location map of Ahmadabad city is around 142 natural markets and illustrates that street vending is not related to one specific location in the city. Actually the markets are all over the city. This is because street vendors cater a variety of demands at many diverse locations such as residential, squares, parks and other nodes. The advantage of IT industries in Bangalore city the street vending is not wide spread because of the alternate employment opportunities [12].


V. CONCLUSION

The study may be useful for initial guide line to the local authorities for solving the problems of street vendors.

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