

STATUS OF NOMADIC TRIBES COMMUNITY WOMEN IN THE UNORGANIZED SECTOR

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Abstract

The present study was carried out with Vadar community women's working in Construction workers, domestic helpers working in the unorganized sector. An attempt has been made in the paper to understand the socio-economic condition of Vadar community women's laborers, nature of their work, their working conditions, wage pattern, wage discrimination and other difficulties faced by them at their work place. Multistage stratified random sampling technique was applied to collect data from 100 women laborers from urban area in Pune City.

Findings show that majority of the migrant Vadar community women's were engaged in the construction and were only employed in unskilled and low paying jobs as domestic workers, laborers and helpers. The conditions of work in the unorganized sector were unsatisfactory and the problems confronted by them were acute. And that their illiteracy, poverty and indebtedness forced them to work for lower wages and under unjust conditions.

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Introduction

The term “unorganized” is often used in the Indian context to refer to the vast numbers of Nomadic Tribes’ Community women and men engaged in different forms of employment. These forms include home –based work, self –employment [selling vegetables] employment in household enterprises small units, on land as agriculture worker, Labour on construction sites, domestic work and other forms of casual or temporary employment.

Nomadic tribes’ community known for its slogging work in the scorching sun. It is also recognized as hard working community. These people mainly work in their traditional work. Which were used in the ancient work tradition of this community? But today their constructions are no more required by the society. The principle causes of this conclusion are development in technology and globalization. So this traditional work is diminishing every day in previous time but now electrical and mechanical minister and grinder have replaced them.

Conceptual clarification:

The term “unorganized” is often used interchangeably with the term “informal”, or employment in the informal sector. Strictly speaking, informal is used to denote those forms of enterprise that are not governed by any legal framework. “The unorganized sectors consist of all unincorporated private enterprise owned by individual or household engaged in the sale and production of goods and services operated on a propriety or partnership basis and with less than ten total workers”. All those who are engaged in traditional work activities’. These are people who do not enjoy employment security, work security and social security though they work in organized sector.

Nature of work:

The most majority of rural women in the unorganized sector are landless, they work in the fields, and they look after the animals. They are activity involved in food production forestry. They also participate in construction work in mines and engaged in trade and they have bearing and rearing children, collecting and fetching water, gathering firewood. Cooking and cleaning activities which consume much energy.

Vadar community women’s enter the market as wage earners but occupy secondary position in the labor workforce. Their significance is considered marginal. They enter the labour market only when the economic compulsions force them to supplement the meager family earnings. This perception of women’s work as a supplementing or balancing force in the family

and the nation's work force has made them susceptible to all sorts of discriminatory treatment and exploitation (physically, economically and socially) in the field of employment

The unorganized sector is characterized by the presence of factors viz. long hours of work, wage discrimination of men and women, lack of job security, no minimum wages, lack of minimum facilities at work place, ill-treatment, heavy physical work and sexual exploitation etc.

The laboring women generally work in unorganized sector. They are outside the reach of Protective Labour Laws and Trade Union Organizations. They are not offered fair wages and decent terms of work. There are hardly any opportunities to improve their income because in this sector, females work generally as laborers in unskilled occupations, do traditional work as domestic servants. The process of globalization, export oriented industrialization and relocation of industries from the developed to developing countries also lead to increase in women workers in unorganized sector.

The nature of women's work ranges from wage employment or self-employment, family labour and piece rated work. The prevalence of women workers in urban unorganized sector is significant in number. They are engaged in activities like domestic work, construction work, small trades like brick making, coir and basket weaving, household industries etc. In rural unorganized sector women are engaged in agricultural activities, animal husbandry, dairy, fisheries etc. In the present paper the status of women domestic workers, construction workers and agriculture laborers was studied through an empirical study.

Most of the domestic workers and construction workers are primarily women who have migrated from rural areas for economic gain. The influx of women workers to the cities for non-farm employment has saturated the existing sectors and is one of the main reasons for her extreme exploitation. Hardships of city life, absence of

basic amenities and exploitation of these women by employers have added to their misery. The condition of women agriculture labour in rural areas is no better. Most of them do not have year round employment. They suffer vital disadvantages compared to men in their search for employment opportunities, lower real wages, increased uncertainties and irregularities of employment. There are legal provisions to protect their rights. Such working conditions are a hurdle in their overall development leading to under performance and not allowing them to raise their productive capacity in that very profession also.

➤ **Occupation**

Gadi Vadars generally work in quarries, extract stones and carry them in carts. Mati Vadars generally keep donkeys and do earth work such as digging of canals, bonding fields etc. Jati Vadars or Patheryats are stone dressers. They prepare jatis or gliding tones, stone mirages and such other articles of tones required or house hold purpose ninety-five percent of these persons still follow their hereditary occupation. Above out five percent is agriculturist. Most of the vadar lead a nomadic life an eve in search of work from village to village, particularly mate vadars and jati Vadars. Gadi Vadars generally camp near quarries and continue to stay there until the work of extracting stones is completed.

Vadars are generally employed by contractors on building and roads. Though this is a very hard working community, their economic conditions are not good because they do not get sufficient and continuous work throughout the year. Now days they are hit hard economically. Their economic condition cannot be said to be satisfactory.

➤ **HOUSING:**

Vadars live in typical small houses. The Gadi Vadar and the Jati vdar generally live in small stone houses without any windows or ventilation. Their localities generally look like slums. The Mati vadar live in small portable huts or grass mats. Their housing condition is very poor.

➤ **EDUCATION:**

This semi-nomadic tribe has not taken sufficient advantage of education, as they have to move from village to village. The Gadi vadars are the most awakened among them and they generally send their children to schools, rest are not very conscious of education.

➤ **Economic condition**

The economic condition of Vadar community is found very weak. Women have to bear the double burden of work both at home and work place. Thus, their economic dependency and fear of double burden keep them public affairs. Women's contribution to stone work, mine work, construction, and domestic work. Whether it is subsistence farming or commercial stone work, mine work construction. When measured in terms of the number of tasks performed and time spent is greater than men.

Families with low economic status often lack the financial, social, and educational supports that characterize families with high socioeconomic status. Poor families also may have inadequate or limited access to community resources that promote and support children's development and school readiness. Parents may have inadequate skills for such activities as reading to and with their children, and they may lack information about childhood immunizations and nutrition. Having inadequate resources and limited access to available resources can negatively affect families' decisions regarding their young children's development and learning. As a result, children from families with low socioeconomic status are at greater risk of entering kindergarten unprepared than their peers from families with medium or high socioeconomic status.

➤ **Long hours of work:**

Women work longer hours and their work is more arduous than men's yet their work is unrecognized. Men report that "women, like children, eat and do nothing" Technological progress in stone work, mine work, construction has had a negative impact on women. In Women's primary employment sector like stone work, mine work, construction, extension services overlook society.

Traditional business by hours of work

Traditional business	Working hours				Total
	8 hours	10 hours	12 hours	Above 12 hours	
No	69	103	156	23	351
	13.2%	19.7%	29.9%	4.4%	67.2%
Yes	60	47	56	8	171
	11.5%	9.0%	10.7%	1.5%	32.8%
Total	129	150	212	31	
	24.7%	28.7	40.6%	5.9%	100.0

It is seen that, 67 percent respondents were not working in traditional business.33 percent of respondent were working in traditional work.

It is also found that, 13 percent respondent were not doing traditional work but these are the working is 8 hours. 20 percent respondent were not working in traditional work but these are the working is 10 hours.30 percent respondent were not working in traditional work but these are the working is 12 hours.4 percent respondent were not working in traditional work but these are the working is above 12 hours.

It can be concluded that most of them 41 percent respondent were working in the 12 hours daily in her life.

Table-7
Side businesses by Wages

Side Business	Get income				Total
	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Anytime	
Goat	0	0	0	129	129
	-	-	-	24.7%	24.7%
Selling vegetable	141	0	0	9	150
	27%	-	-	1.7%	28.7%
Hen	0	0	0	212	212
	-	-	-	40.6%	40.6%
Domestic work	2	29	0	0	31
	.4%	5.6%	-	-	5.9%
Total	154	314	37	17	522
	29.5%	60.2%	7.15	3.2	100

It is seen from the table that, 25 percent respondent were doing goat pet. 29 percent respondents were selling vegetable. 41 percent respondent were doing hen. 6 percent respondents were doing domestic work.

It is also found that, 25 percent respondent were doing goat pet and any time get money 29 percent respondent were doing selling vegetable and get money in daily and 2 percent respondent were get money anytime .41 percent respondent were pet in hen and get money in anytime. 6 percent respondent were doing domestic type of work and get money in weekly.

It can be concluded that most of them 41 percent respondent were pet hen and get money anytime.

Problems created due to conditions at job

There are suffering problem	The condition on the job setup			Total
	Good	Better	Ok	
Other pressure	199	22	16	242
	38.1%	5.1%	3.1%	46.4%
More Time	145	55	21	221
	27.8%	10.6%	4.0%	42.3%
Low wages	22	11	7	40
	4.2%	1.5%	1.3%	7.7%
Mental stress	9	5	5	19
	1.7%	1.0%	1.0%	3.7%
Total	375	93	49	522
	71.8%	17.8%	6.9%	100

It is seen from that table, 72 percent respondent were good condition on the job setup. 18 percent respondents were better condition of the job setup. 7 percent respondents were ok condition on the job set up.

It is also found that, 46 percent respondent were other pressure suffering problem on the job.42 percent respondent were more time suffering problem on the job. 8 percent respondents were low money suffering problem on the job. 4 percent respondents were physical money suffering problem on the job.

➤ **Educational**

A factor affecting the capacity to earn a living is education. In general the extremely poor also have the lowest level of education, most often they are illiterates extremely poor. Gender inequality is also marked in acquiring educational and vocational skills. In spite remain large and a slow rate of progress of women education of noted with a virtual stagnation in the area of technical education.

A majority coming of the education strategy has been that worker in poverty striker groups of landless farmer's marginal's workers in unorganized sector.

➤ **Social condition**

A second factor, social conditions are also closely related to living condition. The nomadic tribe's community in general, tends to constitute high proportion in the lowest rungs of the ladder and of the poor and the Vulnerable in the aggregate. Although women work for longer hours and contribute substantially to the family income, they are not perceived as workers by either the women themselves or the data collection agencies and the Government as all of them does not recognize the multidimensional function of women which included their production and reproduction labour.

➤ **Lack of decision making:**

While Nomadic Tribes community women are guaranteed equality under the constitution, legal protection has little effect in the face of prevailing patriarchal traditions. Women lack power to decide who they will marry, and are often married off as children. Legal loopholes are used to deny women inheritance rights. Though this is a very hard working community and they do continuous work throughout the year, their economic conditions are not as good as they do not earn sufficient. Now days they hit hard economically but still the economic conditions cannot be said to be satisfactory.

➤ **The role of women in family development:**

In the ancient time women of Nomadic Tribes community were neglected by the family but now a day's attitude of the society has been changed. Nomadic Tribes community women are

most important part of the family women are the backbone of the Nomadic Tribes community family. They give good treatment to the family. They are the home minister of the family. They manage the family by saving money and develop family, so they are the most valuable person in the family. Nomadic Tribes community women play a dual role in their life. She is daughter, granddaughter, wife, mother, sister, sister in law and other relationships. She is perfectly handling all these roles according to her responsibilities.

Conclusion

The study was conducted in the Pune city in the state of Maharashtra. This city is famous for education, culture & Industries but the women of Nomadic Tribes community are so away from all these developments because, it has been observed by the researcher that the literacy rate of the women respondents is very poor and most of the families are below poverty line.

More than families migrated to Pune city for their livelihoods from rural areas of Maharashtra state during last five decades and residing in the joint family system. It was found that the main occupations of respondents are working in unorganized sector and they are working independently. The study has found the poor and unhealthy socio – economic status of women of ‘Nomadic Tribes community’. The economic status of the respondent’s family is found to be very poor.

Nomadic Tribes community Women participating in the social activities & also attending social & traditional programmes. Most of the society and families were giving the good treatment within the family.

It is observed by the researcher that around maximum respondents are following the traditional rules & regulations and preserving traditional system in their life. Nomadic Tribes community was not aware of the government facilities and schemes regarding health.

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