

Problems And Prospects Of Women Street Vendors

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Abstract

Street vending as an occupation has been in continuation in India. In the major cities of Tamil Nadu, the large numbers of urban poor live on by working in the informal sector. Street vendors can be called as small capitalist of the poor who are at the margins termed as but are hugely independent and entrepreneurial. Street Vendors are mainly visible section of the informal market. Street vending is an economic reality that works to the advantage of both sellers and consumers, providing productive employment for many and cheap goods and services for the urban poor. Vending as a profession has been carried out all along in known history and it has been an integral part of both rural and urban culture. Poverty and lack of profitable employment in the rural areas of Tamil Nadu and in the minor towns drive large numbers of people to the capital city for work and livelihood. These people in general possess low skills and lack the level of education necessary for the better paid jobs in the organised sector. Besides, permanent secluded jobs in the organized sector are very low in Tamil Nadu; hence even those having the requisite skills are unable to locate proper employment. For these people, hawking/ street vending is one of the resources of earning a livelihood, as it requires smaller financial input and the skills involved are very low and also no entry level obstacles in this job.

INTRODUCTION

Women Street vending varies in term of scale, timing, location, remuneration; workforce and types of goods sold and services provided. It can be a full-time occupation, a

part-time occupation, seasonal, or occasional. It can be carried out by one person but can also be a franchise of a larger street business. It can be a survival strategy or part of a big business. The incomes of women street vendors consequently vary widely. At the same time, they often sell home-based manufactured products and agriculture products that would otherwise be difficult to market and are as such an essential to the economy. Moreover, because they sell cheaper products, street vendors often cater for the urban poor (Bromley, 2000).

REVIEW OF LITREATURE

Women Street Vending has been an integral part of the tradition and culture of India, since the civilization in India grew up to the nascent trading. Women also, for some reason, take to vending on streets. Women street vendors still face a lot of issues and concerns particularly with respect to; working hours, public toilet facility, awareness about organisations that work for them and particularly membership to these organisations and about their rights on street vending. (Dr. Veena K.N, Prof. Shashidhar, Dr.V.J. ByraReddy and Prof. Amrita Mukherjee, 2006)

The assessment of street peddling sector is to map the peddling activities across trades and across cities and to capture the socio-economic and business profiles the concept is additionally to grasp varied constraints and problems faced by the women Street Vendors and to spot the necessity for biological process interventions (Soumyananda Dinda, 2010)

Street vendors are migrants from rural area where poverty as well as lack of opportunities for gainful employment has pushed them to look for better opportunities in the cities. The hawkers and street vendors are constituting substantial proportion of the urban informal sector and it has accounted two third of urban employment. The around 10 million street vendors existed in India (Bhowmik, 2001)

Lyons, M. and S. Noxell (2005 cited in Ndhlovu. P.K. 2011) opined that street vending is one of the most visible activities in the informal economy and is found everywhere in the world, both in developed and developing countries. For the urban poor, hawking/street vending is one of the means of earning a livelihood, as it requires minor financial input and the skills involved are low. Though the income in the profession is low, the investment too is low and the

people do not require special skills or training. Hence for these people, street vending is the easiest form of earning their livelihood.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY

1. To study the problems faced by the women Street Vendors in the work place.
2. To know about street vending act.
3. To find out the opportunities of women street vendors.
4. To find solution to the problems faced by the women street vendors.

FRAMEWORK OF THE STUDY

The following diagram represents the problems of street vendors.



1. PROBLEMS OF WOMEN STREET VENDORS

1. **INFRASTRUCTURE:** The women street vendors do not have conducive place to operate their trading activity. Those who are having place are not been legalised and recognised. Therefore, there is a variation in owning the

size of place for trading activity among the vendors. They do not have permanent building structure.

2. MIGRATION: Most of the women street vendors are migrants from rural area to urban area where poverty as well as lack of opportunities for gainful employment, agriculture failure or lack of water source for agriculture has pushed them to look for better opportunities in the cities. Their children are not able to attend to school and they do not get any benefits of Public distribution system because of their migration.

3. EVICTION OF GOODS: Eviction drives are conducted by policemen. The wares and goods of the street vendors are confiscated or destroyed. Section 283 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC) permits action against vendors and such other who cause impediments in the free flow of traffic or obstruction to movements of pedestrians on footpaths. Hawkers are not having a permanent place. They move from one place to another place, so they are not using cold storage of their goods and some safety equipment's.

4. SEASONAL DIFFERENCE: There is seasonal difference in sale and income of the vendors. The demand of the people rises in the first and the second week of every month. The vendors face problem in the rainy season because they are not having a permanent shed. Similarly, they face problem in the summer season because the market starts late in the evening. The vendors sell their goods on seasonal demand.

5. EDUCATION AND SKILL: The literacy rate of women street vendors and performance of the street vending activity are having great significance. They are not aware of formal facilities, benefits and legal protection of the vendors. The level of education can help them to perform better and make them capable to operate activity and learn new managerial skills and techniques. The vendors are not capable to educate their children due to their insufficient income.

6. ACTION BY POLICE: Some of the police man is daily collecting the money from the Women Street Vendors. They buy goods from them for free of cost. Every month, the police men file at least 2 illegal cases against the street vendors. Government officials are harassing and

pressurizing the vendors. The mobile vendors are frequently harassed by traffic officials and they are found to be paying rent and fine and are often taken to the police station. The weekly market vendors need to pay a rent every day to operate their activity without which they will not allow them to sell.

7. LACK OF SANITATION: Women Street vendors work in very poor working conditions. They don't have to access proper lighting, toilet facilities, drinking water, working space, etc. It can be said that there is a decent work deficit in the working life of street vendors. Most of the vendors carry drinking water from their home. The women are experiencing toilet problem more acutely because they cannot use the open place. Even if it is urgent, the local people stop them. The problem of electricity also persists at the working place.

8. POLICIES RULES AND REGULATIONS: No legal recognition and improper regulation of vending: Most of the street vendors operate their business without license. Hence they are treated as illegal. As most of them are not much educated, they are not aware about their rights. They don't understand the legal complexities and don't want to get entangled into complex legal procedures. Street vendors mostly consist of migrant population. As they are not permanent residence of the city, they don't possess documents and proofs required for availing government facilities.

2. THE STREET VENDORS ACT

As we all know in India, street vending constitutes a sizable proportion of the informal economy. For several decades vendors have faced harassment, extortion, and forced eviction at the hands of local authorities and found no relief from the protection of the law.

After 50 years of judicial and regulatory clashes, to legitimize a vendor's right to livelihood and regulate urban streets, the Street Vendors Act was introduced. It was bringing a uniform framework to regulate vending, but also distributing rule-making and decision-making powers to state governments and local authorities. It is not only a legal framework that protects street vendors, as it centres around improving their livelihoods and defending them from evictions and harassment. It also inscribes the values

of democracy and makes the decision-making authorities conduct surveys, issue vending certificates, and safeguard vendors' natural markets and their rights to the city.

2.1 The main breakthroughs of the Street Vendors Act

The act has recognized vendors as an essential piece of Indian urban areas and allowed lawful acknowledgement to them by safeguarding them from evictions. It permitted street vendors to be included in the city planning process by easing up to 2.5 per cent of the city populace to take part in street vending. It has created a framework that is participatory and decentralized, and primarily led by the town vending committees (TVCs). TVCs oversee specifying, recognizing, and distributing vending zones in a city. Each TVC requires at least 40 per cent of its members to be street vendors, with the rest of the committee including representation from local authorities, planning authorities, police, residential welfare associations, non-profits, and market associations. The law has laid out various inclusionary measures for the legal support and promotion of street vending through vendors' welfare, training, and capacity building. It explicitly commands anticipation against expulsion and harassment.

2.2. The unique Challenges Faced by Women Street Vendors

Women street vendors are more likely to experience criminal exploitation, sexual harassment, and abuse. On a day-to-day basis, they face a set of additional challenges compared to their male counterparts. First of all, the issues related to Unpaid Work and Care Responsibilities. The double liability of adjusting paid work and unpaid housework make it difficult for women street vendors to concentrate fully on street vending and thereby earn a living.

Furthermore, In contrast to their male counterparts, Women vendors are more inclined to illnesses due to the shortfall of public latrines. Because of the absence of admittance to public latrines, most women street vendors experience urinary tract infections and kidney problems. This makes the women street vendors more exposed to unreliable circumstances and hampers their capacity to work outside the house to satisfy the needs of street vending.

There is also an issue of credit availability. Most women street vendors have lesser disposable income than male street vendors as they will generally spend a greater amount of their pay on family costs, food, travel, and instruction. It additionally blocks the capacity to save and accumulate assets. Moreover, research shows that Women street vendors depend more on informal sources of credit like moneylenders and wholesalers; The notoriously high rates of interest by informal sources of credit is a huge setback because that pushes the street vendors into indebtedness.

Finally, women vendors are at risk of sexual harassment. Women street vendors must work for long hours and work for extended periods of time and are more defenseless against wrongdoing. They are survivors of sexual outrages executed both by state bodies and non-state elements. In some cases, municipal authorities abuse their power and abdicate their responsibility. This leaves street vendors with no legal recourse.

2.3. The Street Vendors Act Promises Women

The Street Vendors Act, of 2014 was successful in bringing to the mainstream the main problems of street vendors, which is the lack of space and security. However, **the one major setback was that the Act fails to recognize that male and female street vendors have sometimes entirely different sets of needs. It falls short of addressing the special challenges that women street vendors face daily.** Although, there are certain specifications that address needs and issues related to women's street vendors.

The Act provides that one-third of the members representing the street vendors in the Town Vending Committee shall be from amongst women vendors. It guarantees the representation of women by the motive to incorporate them into the system. This is important because women street vendors constitute a significant population affected by the decisions and policies. Participation of women street vendors in the decision-making process will help bring forth the specific women-centered challenges to the mainstream. Moreover, The Act provides that the Town Vending Committee may "give preference to women for issuing vending certificates". **This provision equips the Town Vending Committee with the right of positive discrimination in favour of women.** The

idea behind it is that Women street vendors are in more need of vending opportunities than their male counterparts.

2.4. THE TAMIL NADU STREET VENDORS (PROTECTION OF LIVELIHOOD AND REGULATION OF STREET VENDING) SCHEME AND RULES, 2015

1. Short Title, extent and commencement:

- A) The Tamil Nadu Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood, Regulation of Street Vending and Licensing) Scheme, 2015 shall be the name of this program.
- B) It encompasses the entirety of the Tamil Nadu State.
- C) It will immediately go into effect.

2. Definitions:-

(1) In this Scheme, unless the context otherwise requires

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- A) "Act" refers to the Tamil Nadu Street Vending (Regulation and Licensing) Rules, 2015;
- B) "Rules" refers to the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014 (Central Act 7 of 2014);
- C) "Form" refers to the form attached to this Scheme;
- D) "Government" refers to the Government of the State of Tamil Nadu.
- E) "No vending zone" is a zone under the control of a Town Vending Committee where street vendors are not allowed;
- F) "Time restricted vending zone" is a zone under the control of a Town Vending Committee where vendors are only allowed during specific hours of the day or specific days of the week as determined by the Town Vending Committee;
- G) "Town Vending Committee" is a committee established in accordance with Rule 11 of the Rules.

(2) The definitions given to words and phrases in the act will apply to terms used in this scheme but not defined therein.

3. Survey of Street vendors:-

- A) Only the current street vendors shall be the subject of an in-person poll; no survey shall be conducted by soliciting information from the vendors via public announcements.

B) The Town Vending Committee must conduct a poll of street vendors and must finish it within six months of the date the Scheme is announced.

C) The survey will be carried out by the relevant Town Vending Committee with the aid of the staff that has been made available to it by the relevant local government. The Executive Authority of the Local Authority shall assign members of its employees to the said committee to help with this objective.

D) The survey crew will continue to count the street vendors in the designated vending area and will record the information in Form-I.

E) Only those street vendors who are discovered to be actively conducting business on the sidewalks may be listed.

4. Certificate of Vending:-

A) The Town Vending Committee must give the Certificate of Vending to each street vendor identified in the survey within sixty days of the date the survey of street vendors in a Ward or Zone of a local authority was completed. The concerned Town Vending Committee shall give the Certificate of Vending in Form-II.

B) A person may submit a Form III application to the Town Vending Committee if they desire to continue selling goods on the street between two surveys. The Town Vending Committee must respond to the application within sixty days of receiving it.

5. Terms and Conditions for issue of Certificate of Vending:-

The certificate of vending shall be issued to a street vendor, subject to the terms and conditions that, he shall–

A) not have any other source of income aside from street vending;

B) not vend simultaneously in any other location;

C) engage in street vending directly or indirectly through any member of his family

D) They have reached the age of fourteen;

E) It is not lease, rent, or sell the Certificate of Vending to others and shall provide a guarantee to the Town Vending Committee to this effect.

F) It is not be a legal heir of any individual already having a Certificate of Vending within the jurisdiction of the local authority in question.

- G) It is not have previously been prosecuted, convicted, or penalized for any reason or offense associated with vending, such as adulteration, sale of narcotics, etc.

6. Classification of vendors:-

For the purpose of issue of Certificate of Vending, the vendors shall be generally categorized as follows:-

A) Stationary vendors are those who conduct their business of selling articles or goods in a specific location and who, with the help of no more than one person, transport the articles or goods, pallets, or other items they need for their business.

B) Mobile vendors: Individuals conducting a vending operation using hand-cranked or pedal-powered vehicles that are exempt from the Motor Vehicles Act of 1988 (Central Act 59 of 1988) and for which no operating license is necessary under any other current legislation.

C) Mobile vendors using motor vehicles: Individuals conducting vending operations using any type of motor vehicle, the operation or movement of which is subject to the Motor Vehicles Act, 1988 (Central Act 59 of 1988), or any other applicable legislation.

D) Other categories of Vendor: The Town Vending Committee concerned shall also identify other categories of street vendors, such as vendors in weekly markets, heritage markets, festival markets, and night bazaars, who may be operating within the jurisdiction of the said Committee, and shall make arrangements for the integration of such vendors or for a separate facility for such vendors to enable them to continue operating.

7. Identity card:-

Each street vendor must receive an identification certificate in Form-IV from the Town Vending Committee, which can store their biometric information.

8. Criteria for issue of Certificate of Vending :-

The Town Vending Committee, shall follow the following criteria for issuing Certificate of Vending, namely :-

- A) The identity of the street vendor must be listed in the Town Vending Committee's survey of street vendors.
B) The street vendor must be actively engaged in the street vending business; C) Schedule Caste, Schedule Tribe, Other Backward Classes, Women, Persons with

Disabilities, and Minorities shall be given priority when there is a shortage of space for vending;

- C) The Town Vending Committee in question shall identify those vendors who need a preferential grant of Certificate of Vending, after taking into account the following factors: (i) their disability, special or unique nature of business, such as trading craft items; (ii) the special nature of vending or services offered by a class or group of vendors limited to a specific area; or (iii) such other factors that may require a preferential grant of Certificate of Vending in order to preserve
- D) The space's accessibility and the area's storage capability.

9. Vending Fees:-

- A) The vending fees for various categories of vendors shall be as mentioned in the table below:

Sl No.	Category of Street Vendors	Area	Vending Fee
1)	Stationary vendor(Full time)	Upto 10sq.ft	1% of the Guideline value subject to minimum of Rs 750/-per annum
		From 10 to 25 sq.ft	2% of the Guideline value subject to a minimum of Rs1500/-per annum
		More than 25sq.ft	3% of the Guideline value subject to a minimum of Rs3000/-per annum
2)	Stationary Vendor(Part Time or time sharing)	Upto 10sq.ft	0.5% of the Guideline value subject to a minimum of Rs 375/- per annum
		From10 to 25sq.ft	1.0% of the Guideline value subject to a minimum of Rs 750/-per annum
		More than 25sq.ft	1.5% of the Guideline value subject to a minimum of Rs1500/- per annum.
3)	Mobile vendor(with motor vehicle)	Upto 10sq.ft.	Rs.750/-per annum
		From10 to 25sq.ft.	Rs.1500/-per annum
		More than 25sq.ft.	Rs.3000/-per annum
4)	Mobile vendor(vehicle without motor)	Upto 10sq.ft.	Rs.375/-per annum
		From 10 to 25sq.ft.	Rs.750/-per annum
		More than 25sq.ft.	Rs.1500/-per annum
5)	Mobile vendor(head loads)	-	Rs.250/-per annum

- B) The vending charge must be updated at least once every three years and posted on the local authority's notice board.

10. The validity of the Certificate of Vending:-

The Certificate of Vending is valid for five years from the date of issuance or, if it expires sooner, until the time of the subsequent enumeration of vendors.

11. Renewal of Certificate of Vending:-

At least sixty days before the Certificate of Vending's expiration date, an application for its renewal must be submitted to the relevant Town Vending Committee. The renewal cost will be Rs. 100. (Rupees one hundred only). A five-year renewal is required for the Certificate of Vending.

12. Cancellation or suspension of Certificate of Vending:-

- A) If a street vendor's Certificate of Vending was obtained through fraud or misrepresentation, or if the vendor fails to pay any fees associated with the Certificate of Vending to the local authority or any other dues to any authority under the Act or any other applicable law, or violates any other laws, bye-laws, rules, or directives, the Town Vending Committee concerned may cancel or suspend the vendor's Certificate of Vending.
- B) No Certificate of Vending may be cancelled unless the holder has received a notice providing him or her 15 days to respond to the allegation on which the proposed cancellation is based. The 15-day window will begin to run once the vendor receives the notice or it is delivered to his last-known location.
- C) A Certificate of Vending may be suspended for a predetermined amount of time if any of the Certificate's terms are broken and can be remedied during the suspension period; however, in cases where the suspension is for a shorter amount of time less than seven days to prevent the commission of an act that endangers public health and order, no prior notice is necessary.
- D) The Town Vending Committee may suspend a vendor's certificate of vending if legal action has been taken against him for violating the law, creating a safety danger for the public, failing to pay taxes.

13. Relocation of street vendors:-

- 1) In case of relocation of street vendors under subsection (1) of section 18 of the Act, it shall be subject to the following conditions, namely:-
 - A) The relocation must be carried out with the relevant Town Vending Committee's approval.
 - B) The vendors will, whenever feasible, be given locations in nearby areas with equal or comparable nature and importance to the initial location.
 - C) The vendor density in the new area must be kept as high as feasible.
 - D) The relocation must take place, to the greatest extent feasible, in the same locality or region that is easily recognizable.
- 2) If it is impossible to comply with the aforementioned requirements, the relocation must be done with the Town Vending Committee's approval, with the causes for the deviation from the aforementioned requirements being noted.
- 3) If the vendors in question, either individually or collectively, refuse to move or relocate, the Town Vending Committee in question may offer them vending locations in other parts of the ward, zone, or city, and a new Certificate of Vending will be issued to them. This happens if the relocation is not possible under the conditions stated in sub clause (1). Under this Scheme, these merchants will create a unique category of preferential vendors.
- 4) The public interest or purpose associated with the relocation of vendors under this Scheme must be independently determined based on whether or not such relocation will be for the benefit of the general public, including or excluding street vendors. The significance of the project for which they are displaced and the consequent benefit to the general public shall be compared when evaluating the livelihoods of the street vendors against the public purpose for which they are asked to be relocated. Projects like building new road infrastructure, crossing over or under bridges, widening sidewalks, creating pedestrian plazas, installing bus stops, building car parks, and other similar activities will be considered public purposes for which the vendors may be moved. For the purposes of moving street vendors, any additional objectives that the relevant Town Vending Committee determines to be in the public's best interest are also to be taken into

consideration.

14. Manner and method of eviction of vendors, seizure and disposal of goods:-

- A) A street vendor who violates the terms of section 10 of the Act, violates the terms of his certificate of vending, violates the terms of a no-vending zone, or violates any of these conditions is subject to immediate eviction from his location and seizure and retention of his goods for sale by the local authority.
- B) These street vendors' items and products must be seized in accordance with a proper inventory, which must include the street vendor's signature. The sanitary officer, sanitary supervisor, or sanitary inspector of the local authority in question must attest the inventory in addition to the attestation of the authorities seizing the items if the vendor declines to sign it.
- C) The local authority will dispose of the articles and goods it has confiscated by holding an open auction if the vendor does not request their return after 24 hours in the case of perishable goods and after 15 days in the case of non-perishable goods. The proceeds of such a sale shall be applied to the fees and fines, if anything that the vendor is required to pay under the rules or the Scheme, as well as the costs associated with holding the auction. If there is a balance, it must be stored in a separate account and paid to the street vendor upon request.
- D) If a vendor or his legal heirs do not claim the remaining sum under clause (3) within three months, the local authority will forfeit the money and place it in its general account.

15. Social Audit:-

The concerned Town Vending Committee shall, as soon as practicable following each survey of street vendors, conduct a social audit of its operations with a focus on the way it conducts business with respect to the street vendors operating within its jurisdiction, the various types of businesses carried out by them, changes to the area's vending profile, the street vendors' financial well-being, and shifts in the demand for the goods or services they provide. This social audit must be released and made freely accessible to anyone who requests it. The local government shall receive a copy of the said audit.

16. Restriction of private places for being used as vending zones and the bar on using private lands for vending and restricted vending:-

Private locations under the control of a Town Vending Committee may not be used as a vending zone due to the relocation of street vendors required by this Scheme and the Act, unless express approval is given for that purpose by the Town Vending Committee in question. If the Town Vending Committee is satisfied that such zones are absolutely essential, it will approve private locations as vending zones. The welfare of the local market vendors should be the main consideration when doing this. No private vending area shall be permitted if it will adversely impact the local street vendors. However, private vending spaces must be permitted to support street vendors who must be relocated or removed from public areas. Only if the combined number of vendors in such private vending zones and the local street vendors does not surpass 2.5% of the population of that vending zone, region, or location will permission for such private vending zones be granted. The Rules and the Scheme shall govern the density of vendors, sanitation, ratios of various businesses, and infrastructural amenities of such locations.

17. Maintenance of cleanliness and charges payable to the Local Authority:-

- 1) Each street seller in a vending zone is accountable for maintaining the cleanliness of the area that is assigned to them.
- 2) Every street vendor must gather and dispose of the refuse produced by his operation in accordance with the local authority's instructions.
- 3) Every year, as determined by the local government, each street vendor is required to pay the vending fee mentioned in clause 9 of this agreement.
- 4) Every street vendor must also pay the maintenance fees to the appropriate local government as and when they are assessed against the other shops.

18. Nodal Officer:The State's nodal official for coordinating all issues involving street vending shall be the Commissioner of Municipal Administration.

19. Maintenance of registers:-

In order to make it easier to collect data for use in the

future, every Town Vending Committee is obligated to keep track of the details of each Certificate of Vending that it issues to street vendors. These details include the name of the vendor, the location for which the Certificate is issued, the type of business permitted, the time of business, and any other particulars.

20. Identification of vending zones:

- 1) Within six months of the date this Scheme was published, the Town Vending Committee shall designate "vending zones" and "No vending zones" for street vending, and shall publicize the information in the notice board of the relevant local authority.
- 2) A) The "vending zones" and "No vending zones" shall be determined based on the width of the street, the amount of traffic and the number of pedestrians passing through the street, as well as any other factors that may be relevant to determining the said zones in a manner that causes no or the least amount of inconvenience to the general public using the street, as well as to the residents of the street and traders conducting business from the private properties adjacent to such street.
B) The Traffic Police or Police with authority over the area in question must be consulted when identifying the vending zones. The local authority in question may accept, alter, or reject the suggestions made by the police with good cause and may designate a location as a vending zone as it sees fit.
C) Anyone who feels wronged by the designation of the vending zones in a particular area has the right to make a complaint to the Town Vending Committee concerned. The Committee will review the complaint and make a decision within fifteen days of the date it was received, or at the Town Vending Committee's subsequent meeting, whichever comes first.
- 3) The Town Vending Committee must examine the designation of vending zones and no-vending zones once every five years in the same manner outlined in clause (2), paying particular attention to changes in traffic and other developments in the area.

21. Preparation of Street Vending Plan:-

- 1) A street vending strategy must be created by the town

vending committee. 2.5% of the ward, zone, or city's population, as applicable, shall be the maximum that any given locality's street vendors may possess.

- 2) The Town Vending Committee shall identify the vending areas based on the holding capacity, space available, number of vendors, etc., and formally designate that area as a vending zone while taking into consideration all other pertinent regulations.
- 3) The Town Vending Committee may choose to conduct a lottery in order to award a Certificate of Vending in a specific location designated for vending. The unsuccessful applicants will receive priority rights for transfer in accordance with the Plan.
- 4) The Town Vending Committee shall develop strategies to allow the relocation of street vendors to other population centers in areas with high vendor density and low resident population, as well as in areas where there are adjacent vending areas with high vendor density and low resident population, in order to avoid unequal vendor concentration, heavy traffic flow, and the inconvenience of people traveling to such high density vending areas.

22. Vending on time sharing basis:-

The Town Vending Committee in question shall establish Time Restricted Vending Zones where the vendors shall be issued Certificates of Vending specifically stating the hours or days or such other periods of business when it is necessary and expedient to accommodate a greater number of vendors or in cases where the nature of businesses requires that the vendors carry on their vending only during certain hours of the day or certain days of the year, month, or week. The aforementioned limitations shall be a component of the Certificate of Vending's fundamental requirements. Any violation of it that has a negative impact on the suppliers.

3. OPPORTUNITIES OF WOMEN STREET VENDORS

Women street vending is a significant source of income and employment for many women in developing countries, providing them with opportunities for economic empowerment and self-sufficiency. This entrepreneurial activity offers several advantages, particularly in terms of low barriers to entry and flexible working conditions. In this article, we will explore the various opportunities available

to women street vendors and discuss how these avenues contribute to their overall success and growth.

1. Less Amount of Investment:

One of the key advantages of street vending is the relatively low amount of investment required to start and operate the business. Women street vendors can begin their ventures with minimal capital, making it an accessible option for those with limited financial resources (Roever & Skinner, 2016). This low investment requirement enables women to enter the market quickly and generate income, contributing to their economic empowerment and poverty alleviation.

2. Cutting of Cost:

Street vending businesses often have lower operational costs compared to brick-and-mortar establishments. Women street vendors can save on expenses such as rent, utilities, and formal employment costs, enabling them to maximize their profits (Bhowmik, 2005). This cost-cutting potential allows women street vendors to invest more in their businesses, supporting growth and sustainability.

3. Not Avaricious of More Profit:

Women street vendors often prioritize the needs of their customers and communities over excessive profit-seeking. This focus on providing affordable goods and services can contribute to customer loyalty, increased sales, and a positive reputation (Chen, 2012). By balancing profit with social responsibility, women street vendors can foster strong community ties and contribute to local economic development.

4. Circulation of Product:

Street vending allows for the rapid circulation of products, as women street vendors can easily adjust their offerings based on customer demand and market trends. This flexibility enables them to minimize inventory costs, reduce waste, and maximize profits (Bromley, 2000). Additionally, the ability to quickly circulate products can contribute to a vibrant and diverse market, offering customers a wide range of goods and services.

5. Liberty of Allotting Working Hours:

One of the main attractions of street vending for women is the flexibility to determine their own working hours. This

liberty allows them to balance their professional and personal responsibilities, such as childcare, household chores, and other commitments (Roever & Skinner, 2016). This flexibility can contribute to increased job satisfaction and overall well-being among women street vendors.

6. Free from Rules and Regulations:

Street vending often operates outside the formal regulatory framework, providing women street vendors with more freedom and autonomy in their businesses (Bhowmik, 2005). While this lack of regulation can present challenges in terms of legal protection and social security, it also enables women street vendors to be more innovative and adaptive in their business strategies, contributing to their overall success and growth.

7. Highly Decisive:

As independent entrepreneurs, women street vendors have the opportunity to make their own decisions regarding their businesses, including product selection, pricing, marketing, and customer relations (Chen, 2012). This autonomy and decision-making power can contribute to increased self-efficacy, self-reliance, and personal growth among women street vendors.

8. Free from Rent:

One of the most significant cost-saving advantages of street vending is the absence of rent for physical premises. This cost reduction enables women street vendors to allocate more resources to other aspects of their businesses, such as product quality and customer service (Bromley, 2000). Additionally, being free from rent can increase the accessibility of street vending as an entrepreneurial option for women with limited financial resources.

Women street vending offers a range of opportunities for economic empowerment, self-sufficiency, and personal growth. The low barriers to entry, cost-saving potential, and flexibility in terms of working hours and decision-making provide women with the opportunity to succeed in their businesses and contribute to their communities. By understanding and leveraging these advantages, women street vendors can overcome challenges and maximize their chances of success in the marketplace.

4. Prospects of street vendors:

Municipal Authorities need to provide basic civic facilities in Vending Zones / Vendors' Markets which would include:

- 1) Provisions for solid waste disposal
- 2) Public toilets to maintain cleanliness;
- 3) Aesthetic design of mobile stalls/ push carts;
- 4) Provision for electricity;
- 5) Provision for drinking water;
- 6) Provision for protective covers to protect wares of street vendors as well as themselves from heat, rain, dust.
- 7) Storage facilities including cold storage for specific goods like fish, meat and poultry.
- 8) Parking areas.
- 9) Provide for creches, toilets and restrooms for female and male members.
- 10) Street vendors, being micro entrepreneurs should be provided with vocational education, training and entrepreneurial development skills to upgrade their technical and business potentials so as to increase their income levels as well as to look for more remunerative alternatives.

CONCLUSION:

The Informal sector plays a vital role in rural and urban areas providing employment and income security. The street vendor is one of the important part of the informal sectors. This study examines the problems faced by street vendors to operate their activity. The study found that they do not have adequate infrastructure facilities at their working place and their the lack of sanitation is being affected by women. The government supports to encourage their activity and does not treat this occupation as an illegal activity. The street vendors working long hours in a day and are affected by some diseases and their health condition are getting deteriorated day by day due to skin allergy and stomach diseases. The social security programs of the government do not reach them properly and they were not aware of those programmes. The rural people are being migrated to the urban area because of seasonal variation, lack of agriculture, and poor work life of the street vendors. As they are harassed by police and municipality authority, the government should legalise and organise the vending activity. Then, they will be given a formal credit social security and dignity of work. Most of the street

vendors are selling their goods nearby bus stand which is an air polluted area. Therefore, they have to use the safety equipment's like covers, stored water and frame glass in order to preserve the products. This would improve the street vendor's livelihood and their working patterns. So, the municipal corporation and the other respective department from NASVI will consider their problems behind street vendor and make prompt action and to conduct the awareness campaign to street vendors in the city.

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