

Living Conditions and Socio-Economic Challenges of Jasmine Flower Street Vendors in Chengalpattu District, Tamil Nadu

OPEN ACCESS

Manuscript ID:
ECO-2024-13018225

Volume: 13

Issue: 1

Month: December

Year: 2024

P-ISSN: 2319-961X

E-ISSN: 2582-0192

Received: 02.10.2024

Accepted: 25.11.2024

Published Online: 01.12.2024

Citation:

Jesu Arul Christella, J.
"Living Conditions and Socio-Economic Challenges of Jasmine Flower Street Vendors in Chengalpattu District, Tamil Nadu."
Shanlax International Journal of Economics, vol. 13, no. 1, 2024, pp. 24-32.

DOI:


<https://doi.org/10.34293/economics.v13i1.8225>



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Abstract

Informal Worker does manual work. More than 90 percent of Informal workforce in India generate nearly 50 percent of national income. Street vending has become a common source of employment for women than for men in India. Street vendors face occupational health issues due to poor working condition and lack safety. Jasmine flower street vending is a viable source of employment for the people of Chengalpattu district in Tamil Nadu. Middle aged men and women in large numbers are involved in the Jasmine Flower Street Vending activity in the road side of Chengalpattu district of Tamil Nadu both female and male jasmine flower street vendors are actively involved. They are less educated and adapted to this kind of informal activity for their survival. The income they earn out of this informal activity is sufficient to meet only food expenditure. Work throughout the day every month for more than two to three decades untiring effort to support their family economically. Migrants from other states of the country after Covid-19 pandemic lockdown moved into this district involved in this activity found difficult to access facility to sell. Migrants live in hut look for assistance from Government, it is displeasure in the urban sector to find large street vendors in the post pandemic covid-19. This business in Chengalpattu District has opened a new avenue of survival to such migrants and income earned is spent on food and other consumption expenditure. Nothing remains in the hands for saving rely on indigenous money lenders to continue the business. They are relatively poor. Jasmine flower street vendors in this study area are socially backward, economically marginalized and very poor in health.

Keywords: Living State, Informal Workers, Street Vendors, Driving Force, Occupational Hazards, Vulnerability in the Living Status, Lower Income Group, Migrants, Covid-19

Introduction

Informal Worker is one who does manual work or physical work in poor working environment or directly in contact with outside environment. More than 90 percent of the work force in India depends on the informal sector. Nearly 50 percent of national income has been generated from this sector over a period of time. Liberalization era opened an avenue for the growth of informal sector in India which helped in reducing age old problem of unemployment in turn helped in eradicating poverty as well.

The Economic Survey of India also authenticates the fact that nearly 93 per cent of the workforce in India comes under the unorganized sector. Street vending type of activity has an attractive employment opportunity for the illiterate, uneducated, unskilled, migrated labour and poorest section of the street vendors in India. Urban informal sector is a driving force to eradicate urban poverty and help in betterment of urban life and improved urban economy. Informal workers who engage in vending type of work contribute to the family income which is useful to meet their food expenditure, payment of children fees and so on. These vendors keep the streets clean and safe for their customers and provide them with a friendly atmosphere to strengthen their regular vending.

Flower vendors such as jasmine flower vendors and jasmine street vendors in particular are vibrant to urban life and in many places considered essential. Though the informal sector in general provides employment and thereby survival to a larger number of poor, illiterate and unemployed people in India, it is displeasure in the urban sector to find large street vendors in the post pandemic covid-19.

Street Vending and Informal Work

Street vending is one of the oldest forms of retail sales in the country. Nearly six decade, street vending was illegal in urban areas. This activity was revived by passing, Street vending Act in 2014. In India most of the people in the cities depend on street vendors for day today need. The pace of urbanization across the country increased and created a new avenue for the street vendors that a more number of street traders will contest for replacement in urban cities, Chengalpattu District in particular.

Street vending has become a more common source of employment for women than for men in India. Women in the street vending business work hard till night. Their dedicated hard work brings small revenue help in changing the fate of their children. In developing countries like India unemployment and underemployment are common features where they incubate the small business in the street, sell fruit, food, and flower and be self-employed. Street vending remains a viable source of employment for nearly 7 million jobless men and women.

Street vending offers a livelihood to people of India, but the earnings are very low but risk is high for many vendors who sell commodities of perishable nature such as fish, fruits, vegetables and flowers in particular. In secured work place is a significant problem for those who are involved in street vending. They face very common issues such as lack of stocks, thefts, and stock being slightly damaged. Moreover, they face other issues such as difficulty in getting licenses and being vulnerable to harassment.

However, street vendors face occupational health issues due to poor working conditions and lack safety as they work outside. Moreover their goods are exposed to sun, heavy rains and extreme heat or cold too. Regarding their work place as it is open

area lack toilets near their workplace inadequate access to clean water were also a major concern of street vendors. Besides, they face other problems such as routine occupational hazards. Street vendors exposed to injury from the unregulated traffic in commercial area, unhygienic street conditions such as insufficient waste removal result in health issues and hatreds of their customers.

Jasmine Flower and Economic Importance

Flowers play an integral part of Indian society, cultural and religious celebrations in particular. Indian women in daily routine use jasmine to offer God, decorate homes and bridal during Marriage. Jasmine flower street vendors sell fragrant jasmine flowers which are a part of our culture. During festive seasons street vendors sell on the roadside in large areas. Jasmine flowers Street vendors have been a part of the social, cultural and economic life of Indians and people of Tamil Nadu in Particular since time immemorial. In urban areas youth prefer to purchase jasmine flowers from roadside vendors that are cheaper than those found in formal retail outlets.

Flowers by nature are perishable. So, required to be marketed as soon as harvesting is over. This is so as for as the jasmine flower is concerned. Jasmine flower vending is well known for its economic importance, aesthetic significance and other social significance. The Government of Tamil Nadu had taken more initiatives to develop the flower cultivation in India in order to help the jasmine flower street vendors.

There are many earlier studies speak on the problems and the growth of floriculture related business, imperativeness and dimensions of labour welfare measures for employees and fulfilments in manufacturing companies, problems of marketing and processing and so on. But the Living state of jasmine flower street vendors of Chengalpattu district, Tamil Nadu is still an unveiled truth in the domain of Socio-Economic research.

In India Flower production continues to bloom. India is an emerging country in the field of Flory culture, second largest grower of flowers around the world. Andhra leads in loose flowers production and west Bengal has emerged as the largest producer

of cut flowers. Further, flowers are useful for their medicinal values. But still the scope of floriculture is next only to Information Technology all over the world and this is just not a business but a main resource of living for many vendors.

Review of Literature

(Selvaraj) found that the price analysis of jasmine flower assumes greater significance not only to the policy makers in formulating development plans but also both producers and consumers as well. He had opined that the main deciding factor of jasmine flower price is supply. It is identified that March and February are considered as peak periods. Fluctuation of prices is a major problem to the jasmine growers. Jasmine flower dealers of this study area have no storage facility so they are forced to sell the flower for an existing price. Jasmine growers pleaded for setting up a cold storage in the study area.

According to (Mou), flower-farming improved the socio-economic condition, employability and also helped in promotion of entrepreneurship in urban and rural areas. This boosts export-trade and helps to earn more foreign currency. This in turn helps in poverty alleviation and sustainable growth in the economy of Bangladesh. This study also found out that if properly nurtured, Bangladesh has potential to claim a better share of the price of global floriculture trade which is a huge industry today.

According to National Association of Street Vendors of India, Mumbai has the largest number of street vendors numbering around 250,000, Delhi falls second numbering 200,000 and Calcutta stands third with 150,000 street vendors.

According to (Mathivanan) opined that flower enterprise is an age-old enterprise in India. There is a growing demand for this field and a concerted effort is needed to develop this field on scientific lines.

(Mishra and Mishra) opined that floriculture provides a great employment opportunity and also help in promotion of entrepreneurship in both rural and urban areas. According to this study, the flower vending type of informal work has a great scope to strengthen the domestic economy particularly the economically marginalized sector. Further the author opined that the vending zone should be given care along with changing time and need of the

vendors particularly in highly populated areas like Bhubaneswar.

(Kaviarasan et al.) opined that jasmine flower cultivation is very popular in the state of Tamil Nadu. The flower production has occupied more than two fifth of the total flower grown in the state. The study highlighted the economies of jasmine cultivation and marketing. It is identified that jasmine cultivation has increased in major district of Tamil Nadu and created employment opportunities for farm family and generated impressive return to the farmers. The jasmine flower farmers face issues such as marketing, price fluctuation, high commercial changes, malpractice by the traders, transport cost, storage issue fluctuation and so on. This study has found that to improve the livelihood of jasmine farmers and farm labour, farmer's cooperation is essential which will help in minimizing production and marketing of the jasmine production system.

According to (Senthil Kumar), India is the second largest producer of the flower in the world. Contribution of Tamil Nadu in flower cultivation is more. He opined in his study that the flower cultivation in Pudukkottai district of Tamil Nadu remains constant throughout his study period. He opined that the rewards to the growers should commensurate with the efforts.

(Delprince) opined that small, local growers of flowers can adapt quickly to market changes and cater to the needs of retail florists.

(Suresh et al.) opined that GI registration alone is not sufficient to make commercial gain unless potential of GI was not realized.

From the above previous studies it is observed that flowers have significance in the economy of the state, Tamil Nadu. Capital investment in flower related business has been on increase because of increased demand and profitability. Jasmine flowers in Tamil Nadu assumed greater significance and related farming improved employability, Socio-Economic conditions and entrepreneurship in urban and rural areas. In Tamil Nadu also Jasmine flower cultivation has become very popular. But studies related to Jasmine flower street vendors and their living conditions are less. Moreover Covid-19 hit terribly every sector, Jasmine flower street vendors too. With the base of above literature, this paper

has made an attempt to study the Living Conditions and Socio-Economic Challenges of Jasmine Flower Street Vendors in Chengalpattu District, Tamil Nadu.

Problems

The jasmine flower street vendors in Tamil Nadu face many problems after the Covid-19 lockdown in Chengalpattu district of Tamil Nadu. They face problems such as wastage of flowers due to mishandling, uncertainty of demand, quality of flowers, and change of season, transportation and lack of adequate storage facility as it is perishable by nature, fluctuating price and buyer charges of jasmine agents. In Addition to this, number of migrants who had a new start up in this business created a competitive spirit among the jasmine flower vendors in this district. Despite the problems; Jasmine flower street vending is a viable source of employment for the people of Chengalpattu district in Tamil Nadu. So, an attempt was made to study the living conditions and socio-economic challenges of jasmine flower street vendors and the factors determining their Socio-Economic and Health status of these Vendors through this study.

Objectives

- To study the jasmine flower street vendors in Tamil Nadu.
- To analyse the Socio-Economic and Health status of jasmine flower street vendors in Chengalpattu District of Tamil Nadu.
- To study the condition of Migrants involved in the jasmine flower street vending business in Chengalpattu District of Tamil Nadu.
- To find out the factors determining the standard of living of jasmine flower street vendors in the study area.

Method

This study is basically an empirical work attempting to examine Living state of jasmine flower street vendors in Chengalpattu District of Tamil Nadu. Chengalpattu is one of the 38 districts in Tamil Nadu where the current study is done. At present Chengalpattu district is a residential destination and there is a high demand for housing in the district. Chengalpattu district has developed as a tourist spot

over a period of time. So there was an increasing demand for Jasmine flower which made this vending business a more viable source of employment for female populated Chengalpattu District and an upcoming district endowed with all means of living. There is a good scope for all kinds of business both small and large in size, jasmine flower street vending in particular. So Chengalpattu District is chosen for this study.

Both primary and secondary data are used to realize the objectives of the present study. The secondary data are collected and fitted according to the need of the study. This study has used random sampling with which 50 respondents from the District of Chengalpattu in Tamil Nadu were interviewed. Information given by the jasmine flower street vendors was tabulated and a simple tool of percentage is used to interpret the variables. Data were interpreted and inferences were made.

Data Analysis and Interpretation

Demographic particulars such as age, gender, level of education, religion, size of family of jasmine flower vendors are essential variables in an empirical study of this kind. Gender is an essential tool to study the demographic aspect of ‘jasmine flower street vendors’ while researching their Living status.

Table 1 Gender Composition of Respondents

S. No	Gender	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	Male	25	50
2	Female	25	50
Total		50	100

Among the 50 sample respondents, 25 respondents are female and 25 respondents are male. Both Genders have involved in the jasmine flower street vending activity in the study area. This shows that both the gender are collectively engaged to bear the economic burden of the family.

Table 2 Religious composition of the respondent

S. No	Religion	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	Hindu	41	82
2	Christian	9	18
3	Muslim	-	-
Total		50	100

Among the respondents 82 percent respondents were Hindu and 18 percent respondents were Christian. It is found from the above data analysis that among the respondents Hindus were more in number. This is because; the number of Hindu people is more in India as per the census 2011.

Table 3 Educational Background of the Respondents

S. No	Qualification	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	Primary	36	72
2	Secondary	8	16
3	Degree	-	-
4	No Education	6	12
Total		50	100

From the table, It is also conceived from the data interpretation that 16 percent of the respondents had completed Higher Secondary School (HSC) and entered into this business, 72 percent of the respondent passed Secondary School Leaving Certificate (SSLC) and entered into this business, 12 percent of the respondents were illiterates and no Degree holder has involved in this activity in the study area. People with low level of education are involved in jasmine street vending activity and low level of education may be the root cause for their dependence on jasmine street vending activity.

Table 4 Family size of the Jasmine street vendors

S. No	Family Size	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	Below 4	8	16
2	4	21	42
3	5	10	20
4	6	9	18
5	7	2	4
Total		50	100

Regarding the size of the family of the respondents it is also observed that 16 percent of respondents have below 4 members in their family, 42 percent respondents had the family size of 4, 20 percent respondents had family size of 5, 18 percent respondents had family size of 6 and 4 percent respondents had family size of 7. Thus, it is inferred that most of the respondents have medium family size of 4 persons in a family.

Table 5 Nature of Vendors

S. No	Nature of Vendor	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	Road Side Shop	21	42
2	Roaming	29	58
Total		50	100

As for the nature of jasmine flower street vending activity is concerned among 50 respondents 58 percent of vendors were roaming and selling the jasmine flowers to their customers and 42 percent of the respondents had road side shop to sell jasmine flowers in the study area. This shows that more number of jasmine vendors allotted place in the road side to sell their flowers. Nearly 50 percent of the total respondents attempted to sell the flowers daily by street vending shows their courage to put their maximum effort to sell and earn for their survival.

Table 6 Working Hours of the Respondents per day

S. No	Working Hours	Number of respondents	Percentage
1	6-8 hours	27	54
2	9-10 hours	13	26
3	More than 12 hours	10	20
Total		50	100

Regarding the working hours of the respondents, 54 percent of the respondents were working for 8 hours per day, 26 percent of the respondents were working for 10 hours in a day and 20 percent of the respondents were working for more than 12 hours in a day. Most of the respondents spend more time in this activity. Hence, it is inferred that jasmine flower street vendors work for irrespective of time for their survival.

Table 7 Number of Days per Month the Respondents Work

S. No	Working Day Per Month	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	20-24 days	7	14
2	25 days	5	10
3	26-30 days	38	76
Total		50	100

From the table, 76 percent of the respondents were working for 30 days in a month, 14 percent of the respondents were working for 20 days in a month

and 10 percent respondents were working for 25 days in a month in the study area. Thus, it is identified that more number of jasmine vendors work throughout the month for their survival without rest.

Table 8 Working Experience of Respondents

S. No	Vending Experience	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	1-10 years	11	22
2	11-20 years	15	30
3	21-30 years	20	40
4	Above 30 years	4	8
Total		50	100

As for the year of experience in the field is concerned nearly 8 percent of the respondents had the experience of 30 years and above, 40 percent of the respondents had working experience between 21-30 years, 30 percent of the respondents had experience between 11-20 years and 12 percent of the respondents had 10 years of work experience in the study area and 10 percent of the respondents had involved in this work only after Covid-19. It is found from the data analysis that more number of respondents had involved in this work for two or three decade shows their dependence on this work for their survival. At the same time a considerable percentage of respondents had started this work only after Covid-19 in Chengelpattu district.

Table 9 Migrant Respondents

S. No	Migration	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	From other districts	23	46
2	Same Districts	27	54
Total		50	100

History of the residence of the respondents is an important variable while researching the socio-economic status of Jasmine flower vendors. Nearly 54 percent of the respondents belong to the same district of the study area and the 46 percent of the respondents migrated from different districts to the study area to start this business. It is found from the data that jasmine flower street vending has attracted more number of migrants to involve in jasmine vending in the study area. Nearly half of the respondents have all the way migrated to this district and involved in this activity only after Covid-19.

Table 10 Monthly Income of the Respondents

S. No	Monthly Income	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	Below 10 Thousand	9	18
2	11-20 Thousand	19	38
3	21-30 Thousand	22	44
Total		50	100

From economic dimension the income of the jasmine flower street vendors is important which determines the health requisites of the respondents. Nearly 18 percent of the respondents had monthly income of Rs. 10,000, 38 percent of the respondents had monthly income range between Rs. 11,000 to 20,000 and 44 percent of the respondents were earning Rs. 20,000 and above per month. It implies that majority of the jasmine flower street vendors receive considerable amount of income every month through vending, make them rely on this activity for many years.

Table 11 Job Satisfaction of Respondents

S. No	Job Satisfaction	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	Satisfied	43	86
2	Not Satisfied	7	14
Total		50	100

Job satisfaction is another important tool to study the involvement of the respondents in this work. 86 percent of the respondents were satisfied with the nature of job in which they were involved in the study area. Out of 50 respondents only 14 percent of the respondents were not satisfied with the job as they had only less number of years experience in this field. Because they started this business only after Covid-19. Thus, it is observed that majority of the respondents do the work happily with job satisfaction. For others this activity has opened a new way of earning for their survival.

Table 12 Monthly Expenditure Pattern of the Respondents

S. No	Monthly Expenditure	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	5-10 Thousand	9	18
2	11-20 Thousand	22	44
3	21-30 Thousand	13	26
Total		50	100

While examining the economic status of the Jasmine flower street vendors in the district of Chengelpattu, monthly expenditure pattern of the respondents is an important variable to be identified. Among the 50 respondents, 18 percent of the respondents spend a monthly expenditure of less than Rs. 10,000, 44 percent of the respondents spend a monthly expenditure of Rs.20,000 and the monthly expenditure of 26 respondents were between 21,000 to 30,000. It is inferred that moderate expenditure pattern is adopted by the jasmine vendors in the study area.

Table 13 Consumption Expenditure of the Respondents

S. No	Major Area of Expenditure	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	Food	30	60
2	Rent	5	10
3	Education	5	10
4	Medical	5	10
5	Repayment of Loan	5	10
Total		50	100

Among the 50 respondents 60 percent of respondents spend on the food consumption, 40 percent of the respondents spend on rent, Education, Medical and repayment of loan, respectively. It is identified that food expenditure occupies a major share in the consumption expenditure of the respondents. Thus, it is found from the study that Jasmine flower street vendors depend on vending work for their daily living and it is more of in the case of migrants who had taken up this work.

Table 14 Savings Pattern of the respondents

S. No	Savings	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	Commercial Banks	17	34
2	Co-operative Banks	0	0
3	Post Office	9	18
4	No Savings	24	48
Total		50	100

Again it is pertinent to study the saving habit of the respondent while researching the living state of the jasmine flower vendors in the study district. Among 50 respondents, 26 respondents were able to save from their monthly income in the study

area. 34 percent of respondents have account in the commercial banks, 18 percent of the respondents were saving from the part of their income in the post office. Nearly, half of the respondents that is, 48 percent do not save at all as their income is insufficient to meet even their basic need. Among them 18 percent of the migrants have no saving for the reason they spend their entire earning to establish in this field in the study area. Thus, it is inferred that nothing remain in their hands to save after meeting their daily food expenditure.

Table 15 Source of Borrowing

S. No	Sourcing of Borrowing	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	Banks	5	10
2	Co-operative banks	4	8
3	Friends	12	24
4	Money Lenders	22	44
5	Neighbors	7	14
Total		50	100

As their income is insufficient to meet their need, 10 percent of the respondents had borrowed loan from the Banks, 8 percent of the respondents borrowed from the co-operative banks, 24 percent of the respondents borrowed from their friends, 44 percent of the respondents borrowed from the money lenders and 14 percent respondents borrowed from their neighbours to run the vending business in the study area. It is inferred from the data that a more number of respondent rely on the indigenous money lender to run the vending business. Again, it is the migrants who involved in Jasmine flower street vending business found difficult to access loan facility due to non availability of residence proof and bank account.

Table 16 Housing Status

S. No	Housing Status	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	Own	28	56
2	Rent	22	44
Total		50	100

Nature of house in which the respondents live is an important variable to study the living state of the Jasmine flower street vendors in the study district. The data reveal that out of 50 respondents 20 percent

of the respondents were living in the Hut. As they are migrated from other places yet to establish their residence in the study area.

Table 17 Type of Housing Status of Respondents

S. No	Types of Houses	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	Hut	10	20
2	Tiled	23	46
3	Concrete	17	34
Total		50	100

From the table, 46 Percent of the respondents were living in Tiled houses and 34 Percent respondents were living in the concrete houses. It is observed that a majority of the respondents are living in tiled type of houses, followed by concrete type of housing. This conveys that they are in a decent living status.

Table 18 Major Health Issues

S. No	Major Health Issues	Number of Respondent	Percentage
1	Back Pain	19	38
2	Heart Problem	2	4
3	Knee Pain	15	30
4	Other Health Issues	14	28
Total		50	100

Health issues are very common among the employees of informal sector and this is more likely among Jasmine flower street vendors as they are closely exposed to road side environment. Among the 50 respondents, 38 percent of the respondents were suffering from back pain in the study area, 4 percent of respondents had heart problem, 30 percent of respondents are suffering from knee pain and 28 percent of the respondent were facing other related health issues in the study area. It is inferred that Jasmine street vendors do the vending activity either on their foot or sit in the shop for a long time throughout the day. So, a majority of the respondents have said that they have back pain and knee pain as they walk for a long distance on their foot and sell jasmine flowers.

Summary

A majority of the jasmine flower street vending respondents in the study area are Middle aged Male and Female. Hindus in more number have involved

in this business. Almost all caste categories of people are involved in jasmine flower street vending activity. People with a low level of education living in medium size families are involved in this activity.

Jasmine flower street vendors are allocated a place in the road side of Chengalpattu District to sell their flowers. Despite some Jasmine flower street Vendors move to other streets on foot to sell flower. Jasmine flower street vendors work irrespective of time to earn for their survival. They work throughout the month for their survival without rest and involved in this work for two and three decades.

There are also migrants involved in this jasmine flower street vending work in study area who emerged only after Covid-19. Jasmine flower street vendors receive a considerable amount of income every month from this activity which makes them rely on this activity for many years. They work happily with job satisfaction and the Migrants as well.

Jasmine flower street vendors depend on vending work for their daily living. Food expenditure occupies a major share in the consumption expenditures of the respondents. Nothing remains in their hands to save after meeting their daily food expenditure. Jasmine flower vendors in the study area rely on the indigenous money lenders to run the vending business. They live in their own tiled houses. But those migrants taken up this business still battle to establish their living in the study district. Live in hut, looking for the help from the government. They have back pain and knee pain as they walk for a long distance on their foot and sell jasmine flowers.

Conclusion

The study on Living Conditions and Socio-Economic Challenges of Jasmine Flower Street Vendors in Chengalpattu District, Tamil Nadu has found that middle aged men and women in large numbers are involved in the Jasmine Flower Street Vending activity in the road side of Chengalpattu district of Tamil Nadu. Irrespective of gender disparity both female and male jasmine flower street vendors are actively involved in this activity. They are from Hindu families and belong to different caste categories. They are less educated, they have adapted to this kind of informal activity for their survival.

As their family is small in size of four members, the income they earn out of this informal activity is

sufficient to meet only food expenditure. They work throughout the day every month for more than two to three decades which shows their untiring effort to support their family economically. Most of them are migrants, moved from various parts of the country after Covid-19 pandemic lockdown and involved in this activity which shows that jasmine flower street vending activity in Chengalpattu District has opened a new avenue of survival to such migrants. They are still struggling to establish their life in study district.

The income they earn is spent on food and other consumption expenditure, but nothing remains in the hands for saving. So they rely on indigenous money lenders to continue the business. Despite most of the respondents living in their own house, tiled type of houses in Chengalpattu District shows that they are relatively poor and hence belong to lower income group (LIG). Though they are dependent on this particular informal activity income earned through this activity with which they could meet only need for the survival of their family. Jasmine flower street vending type of informal activity did not help them to improve their Socio-Economic and Health status.

The study on the Living Conditions and Socio-Economic Challenges of Jasmine Flower Street Vendors in Chengalpattu District, Tamil Nadu has concluded by stating that, jasmine flower street vendors in this study area are socially backward, economically marginalized also very poor in health.

Economic downturns created vulnerability in the living status of street vendors of jasmine flowers. The covid-19 crisis has terribly affected the vendors in general and jasmine flower street vendors in Chengalpattu district of Tamil Nadu in particular. Their ability to earn a livelihood was much affected due to covid-19. As Jasmine flowers are inseparable from the social fabric of human life, jasmine flower vendors continue to survive even after Covid-19 by attracting many migrant workers to this field which has given a new start up.

Suggestion

It is suggested that the state government can take necessary steps to make registration of jasmine

flower street vending activity mandatory in order to streamline this particular informal activity.

It is also recommended that the Districts Social welfare authorities conduct inspections periodically and ensure the awareness and reach of all government welfare programs to jasmine flower street vendors in Tamil Nadu and Chengalpattu district in particular.

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