

# Quality of Work-Life of Road Side Food Street Vendors in Tiruchirappalli District

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## **Abstract:**

Street vending is a universal phenomenon and is primarily seen in all countries. The people working in this area get low wages, which makes it easy for them to enter unskilled labour and be self-employed. It provides self-employment, removes poverty, and improves the people's standard of living. This study mainly focuses on the standard of living of road side food vendors in the Tiruchirappalli district. The researcher selected 60 sample respondents by using a simple random sampling method. *It is found that there is a significant difference between monthly income and quality life of food street vendors.* It is suggested that the street vendors must register as per the provisions of The Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014.

**Keywords:** Street vendors, Standard of living, Quality of work.

## **Introduction:**

Street vending is a universal phenomenon and is primarily seen in all countries. The people working in this area get low wages, which makes it easy for them to enter unskilled labour and be self-employed. Plenty of people are actively involved in the street vending job. Many of them make money and survive their livelihoods by selling various goods and services on the street. They require higher education and skills to get standard jobs in the formal sector. Street vending provides self-employment to the people, removes poverty, and improves the people's standard of living. The study is based on the economic condition of food street vendors in Tiruchirappalli District, and they are facing many problems like sickness, climatic conditions, pollution, and health problems. This study finds out the problems workers face in the selected study area.

## **Objectives of the study**

- To Probe the current socio-economic Characteristics of road side food street vendors in Tiruchirappalli city.
- To elucidate the quality of work life of road side food street vendors.
- To find out the constraints faced by the road side food street vendors in the study area.
- To suggest appropriate remedial measures for the development of food street vendors.

### Review of Literature:

Dr. Ambati Nageswara Rao (2015) examined the socio-economic condition of street vendors to find out the factors influencing the working conditions and quality of life. The study explained their socio-economic status, various variables covered under the working conditions of street vendors and their quality of life also, and the researchers provided specific suggestions on street vendors revealed special conditions of work life, involving an Heavy workload, meager sales and lower profits, and no guarantee as to safety and security. It is crucial to recognize that street vendors' quality of life and working conditions should be improved.

A.Jogleker and S.Bhoi (2013) found that all the results focused on three main themes that emerged from the demographic data details, personal hygiene and environmental hygiene. The results were shocking as they revealed a lack of awareness about the importance of good hygiene and cleanliness, which could be attributed to low educational status and a lack of commitment to a healthy society. Therefore, educational programs on all aspects of street foods are highly recommended to improve people's hygiene and cleanliness practices.

### Hypotheses of the study

- There is no significance difference between income and expenditure of the food street vendors.
- There is no significance difference between income and quality of life of satisfaction of food street vendors.

### Methodology

The present study has undertaken to find out the Work life balance of food street vendors in Tiruchirappalli District. The study is based on the primary data collected by visiting directly to the respondents shop with the help of an interview schedule which consists of structured questions based on the objectives of the present study. Interview schedule includes social aspects include age, gender, Educational status, Marital status, Size and type of the family and Economic conditions. The data were collected purposively from 60 food street vendors from different places like schools, colleges, bus stops, bazaars, and main roads around the Tiruchirappalli District. It is based on the simple random sample method. Secondary data were collected from the official website of the government of India. The data were tabulated and analyzed with the help of statistical tools like Percentages, Chi-square tests and Discriminatory analysis.

### Data analysis:

**Table: 1 - Socio-Economic Conditions of Food Street Vendors**

Variables	No.of.Respondents	Percentage
<b>Age</b>		
20-30	6	10
31-40	19	32
41-50	19	32
51-60	12	20
61-70	4	6
<b>Gender</b>		
Male	34	57

Female	26	43
<b>Educational Status</b>		
Primary Level	3	5
Secondary Level	49	82
Higher Secondary Level	8	13
<b>Marital Status</b>		
Married	53	88
Unmarried	6	10
Widow	1	2
<b>No. of. Members in the family</b>		
2 to 5	53	88
Above 5	7	12
<b>Family Type</b>		
Nuclear	60	100

Source: Primary data

**Observation:**

The table 1 shows that majority of the respondents (32 percent) in the age group of 31 to 40 and another (32 percent) of the respondents are in the age group of 41 to 50 years. The (20 percent) of the respondents belongs to the age group of 51 to 60 and only few respondents (6 percent) belong to the age group of 61 to 70. The majority of the respondents (57 percentage) are male and (43 percentage) of the respondents are female. The majority of the respondents (82 percent) have completed their education up to secondary level, 13 percent of the respondents completed the education up to higher secondary level and only 5 percent of the respondents completed the education up to primary level. 88 percent are married and few respondents (10 percent) are unmarried. 48 percent have the four members in a family and 23 percent have the 5 members in a family and 2 percent have 7 members in a family. All of the respondents (100 percent) live in a nuclear family.

**Table:2 - Economic Conditions of the Respondents**

<b>Investment of the Respondents</b>		
100-200	12	20
201-400	29	48
401-600	14	23
601-800	5	8
<b>Income of the Respondents (in a day)</b>		
300-600	26	43
601-900	21	35
901-1200	9	15
1201-1500	3	5
1801-2000	1	2
<b>Expenditure of the Respondents (in a day)</b>		
100-150	27	45

151-200	26	43
201-250	1	2
251-300	6	10
<b>Savings of the Respondents (in a day)</b>		
100-200	51	85
201-300	8	13
301-400	1	2
<b>Monthly Income of the Respondents</b>		
9000-15000	14	23
15001-30000	37	62
30001-45000	6	10
45001-60000	3	5
<b>Number of years of stationary of the respondents</b>		
2 to 10	39	65
11 to 20	15	25
21 to 30	3	5
<b>Number of years of mobile vendors of the respondents</b>		
Nil	56	94
3	2	3
4	2	3
<b>Rent paid by the vendors of the respondents</b>		
600-700	4	7
701-800	4	7
801-900	11	18
<b>Money paid to run shop in the locality of the respondents</b>		
600-800	8	13
801-1000	14	23
1000-1200	1	2
<b>Money paid to owners of the respondents</b>		
Police	22	37
Corporation	16	27
Land Owner	11	18
Municipality	11	18
<b>Sources of the Respondents</b>		
Savings	33	55
Loan from bank	25	42
Money Lenders	1	2
Self-Help Group	1	2
<b>Purpose of loan of the Respondents</b>		
Nil	34	57
Shop	11	18
Children Education	9	15

Shop and Children	6	10
<b>Locality of the Respondents</b>		
SRC college	6	10
Periyasamy tower	5	8
Kaliyamankovil street	6	10
Theppakulam	6	10
Butterworth Road	5	8
Nandhikovil street	5	8
Chathram bus stop	5	8
Anna Salai	6	10
Near colleges,schools and bus stop	5	8
Schools,colleges and main road	1	2
Big Bazar and Centre of the trichy	4	7
NSB Road and Indian overseas bank opposite	2	3
Vanapattarai Road	3	5
Thaila silks road	1	2
<b>Experience of the Respondents</b>		
2 to 10	40	67
11 to 20	16	27
21 to 30	4	6
<b>Reason to select the location of the Respondents</b>		
College, Schools and bus stop	23	38
Main Road	21	35
Market	16	27
<b>Type of Vending site of the Respondents</b>		
Spread on the cart, table and chairs	56	93
Cycle	4	7
<b>Other sources of family income of the respondents (in month)</b>		
5000-15000	33	55
15001-30000	24	40
30001-45000	3	5
<b>Preparation of food by the Respondents</b>		
Prepared by the seller	56	93
Prepared by the family members	4	7
<b>Major Expenses of the Respondents</b>		
Health	7	12
Education	12	20
All	41	68
<b>Previous Experience of the Food Street Vendors</b>		
Agriculture	17	29
Domestic Workers	5	8

Unemployed	38	63
<b>Members of the SHGs of the Respondents</b>		
Yes	22	37
No	38	63
<b>Management of Business During Holiday</b>		
Somehow Manage	14	23
Same level as like working day	46	77
<b>Holiday of the Respondents</b>		
Yes	13	22
No	47	78
<b>Number of Holiday taken in a week of the Respondents</b>		
Nil	10	17
Number of days in a week	17	28
Number of hours in a day	21	35
Sunday	12	20
<b>Replacement of the Respondents in Business</b>		
From the family	8	13
Outside the family on the payment	1	2
No replacement	51	85
<b>Reason for choosing business of the Respondents</b>		
Entrepreneur	38	63
Not aware about the other job	22	37
<b>Time Duration of the Respondents</b>		
7 am to 11 pm	12	20
8 am to 11 pm	29	48
10 am to 8 pm	19	32
<b>Satisfaction of Married Life of the Respondents</b>		
Happy	27	45
Very happy	33	55
<b>Satisfaction in business life of the respondents</b>		
Happy	22	37
Very happy	38	63

**Source: Primary data**

**Observation:**

Table 2 depicts that the majority of the respondents (48 per cent) of them invested Rs. 201 to 400 daily in the purchase of raw materials for the food street vending, because they run a food street shop selling snack items like Bajji, Panipoori, vadai, Samosa and (23 per cent) of the respondents, are invested their money of Rs 401 to 600 because they sell Panipuri, idly. (8 per cent) of the respondents have invested Rs 601 to 800 because they have fast food shops on the roadside and require more investment than the other food street vendors. Forty-three per cent of the respondents earn a daily income of Rs 300 to 600 because they sell snacks items like Bajji, Pani Water and 35 per cent of the respondents are earning their

daily income of Rs 601 to 900 because they sell Panipuri, idly. 2 per cent of the respondents earn their daily income of Rs 1801-2000 by selling fried rice, noodles. Forty-five per cent of the respondents spent money to buy the raw materials for the business ranging from Rs100 to 150 on daily bases, and 10 per cent of the respondents spent money to buy raw materials for the business ranging from Rs 251to300, and 2 per cent of the respondents spent money to buy raw material is Rs 201to 250 daily for the business. Eighty-five per cent of the respondents have money of Rs 100to200 on daily bases. Seventy-three per cent of the respondents have two earning members in the family. Sixty-two per cent of the respondents earn a monthly income of Rs.15000to30000. Sixty-five per cent of the respondents have had a stationary food shop for over 2 to 10 years. Ninety-four per cent of the respondents are not moving from one place to another place for the sale of food. Eighteen per cent of the respondents pay the amount of Rs 801to900 to the vehicle owner.

### Findings:

- Out of 60 sample respondents, nearly two- third of the respondents are 31-50 years old.
- 57 percent of the respondents are male.
- Nearly three - fourth of the respondents have completed their education up to the secondary level.
- 88 percent of the respondents are married.
- 48 percent of the respondents have four members in a family.
- Nearly one-third of the respondents are dependent children.
- All (100 percent) of the respondents live in nuclear family.
- Nearly one-third of the respondents, 48 per cent of them, invested Rs 201 to 400 daily in purchasing raw materials for the food street vending.
- 43 per cent of the respondents earn a daily income of Rs 300 to 600.
- 45 per cent of the respondents spent money to buy the raw materials for the business, ranging from Rs100 to 150 daily.
- The majority of the respondents have 85 per cent money of Rs 100 to 200 and their income on a daily based.
- Nearly two-thirds of the respondents are earning a monthly income of Rs15000 to30000.
- The majority of the respondent, 65, per cent have had a stationary food shop for more than 2 to 10 years.
- The 18 per cent of the respondents pay the amount of Rs 801to900 to the vehicle owner.
- The majority of the respondents, 23 per cent, paid money of Rs 801to1000 to run the shop in that location.
- Nearly half of the respondents have saving money in their hands.
- The majority, 42 per cent of the respondents, paid the interest of Rs 1000 to 3000.
- Nearly half (57 per cent) of the respondents do not have the loan from banks or others.
- The majority 10 per cent of the respondents to sell food in this location are Anna Salai, Kaliyamman Kovil Street, and Theppakulam, SRC College.
- Nearly two-thirds (67%) of the respondents sell food in this location for 2 to 10 years.
- 38 per cent of the respondents to selected their location as colleges, schools and bus stops.
- Most respondents (93 per cent) sell food on spread on the cart, table and chairs.
- Nearly half of the respondents (55 per cent) earn from 5000 to 15000.

- The majority (68 per cent) of the respondents has spent money on electricity, health, education, and family functions.
- Nearly two- third (63 per cent) of the respondents do not have any job before coming to street vending.
- The majority of the respondents, 63 per cent, are not members of the Self Help Groups.
- The majority of the respondents, 68%, do not participate in the chit-fund.
- Two-thirds (63%) of the respondents chose their business based only on Entrepreneurship.
- The majority of 48 per cent of the respondents’ time to starts 8 am to 11 pm wide up.
- The majority of 47 per cent of the respondents take in Medical insurance.
- The majority of 45 per cent of the respondents spend money on insurance policies, Rs 20000 and 30000.
- Nearly two-thirds of 63 per cent of the respondents are very happy in their business life due to getting more income from the business owner of the business.

**Hypothesis I:**

*Null Hypothesis:* There is no association between monthly income and the quality of life of food street vendors.

**Table No 3: Chi-square test for association between monthly income and the quality of life of food street vendors**

Monthly Income			
	Observed N	Expected N	Residual
9000-15000	14	15.0	-1.0
15001-30000	37	15.0	22.0
30001-45000	6	15.0	-9.0
45001-60000	3	15.0	-12.0
Total	60		

Happy in your business life			
	Observed N	Expected N	Residual
Very Happy	22	30.0	-8.0
Happy	38	30.0	8.0
Total	60		

Test Statistics		
	_monthly income	How much are you happy in your business life
Chi-Square	47.333 <sup>a</sup>	4.267 <sup>b</sup>
df	3	1
Asymp. Sig.	.000	.039



The Chi square value is 47.333, and it is significance. There is significant difference between monthly and quality life of food street vendors.

**Hypothesis II:**

*Null Hypothesis:* There is no association between daily income and daily expenditure of food street vendors.

- Dependent variable : Daily expenditure (Y)
- Independent variable : Daily Income(X)
- Multiple R value : .595
- R Square value : .353
- F value : 31.711
- P value : <0.001\*\*

**Table.4: Variables in the Multiple Regression Analysis**

Variable	Un standardized co-efficient	SE of B	Standardized Co-efficient	t value	P value
Constant	72.756	18.135	-	4.012	<0.001**
X <sub>1</sub>	.125	.022	.595	5.631	<0.001**

Note: \*\* Denotes significant at 1% level.

The multiple correlation coefficient is 0.595 measures the degree of relationship between the actual values and predicted values of the daily expenditure. The predicted values are obtained as a linear combination of Daily Income (X) and Daily Expenditure (Y), the coefficient value is 0.595 indicates the relationship between daily income and daily expenditure is quite strong and positive.

The value of R square is 0.353 means that 35.3% in the daily expenditure is explained by the daily income and R square value is significant at 1 % level.

The regression equation is  $Y = 72.756 + 0.125 X_1$

**DISCRIMINANT ANALYSIS FOR SEX AND ISSUES FACED BY FOOD STREET VENDORS**

**Table 5: F tests of Equality of Group Means**

Issues	Wilks' Lambda	F	P Value
Bribery	.931	4.287	0.043
Harassment by Police	.823	12.449	<0.001**
Harassment by Municipality	.954	2.788	0.100
Harassment by Politician	.771	17.234	<0.001**
Harassment by others	.873	8.461	0.005
Sickness	.999	.053	0.820
Holiday	.698	25.133	<0.001**
Pollution	.941	3.639	0.061
Climate	.848	10.383	0.002
Fight with other vendors	.978	1.315	0.256

The above test displays the results of a one-way ANOVA for the independent variables using the grouping variable as the factor. According to the results in the table, out of 10 variables, the three variables are significant. P value is less than 0.01.

<b>Canonical Discriminates Function Standardized Coefficients</b>	
<b>Issues related to food street vendors</b>	<b>Function Coefficient</b>
Bribery (X <sub>1</sub> )	-0.141
Harassment by Police (X <sub>2</sub> )	-0.367
Harassment by Municipality (X <sub>3</sub> )	0.453
Harassment by Politician (X <sub>4</sub> )	-0.346
Harassment by others (X <sub>5</sub> )	0.440
Sickness (X <sub>6</sub> )	-0.224
Holiday (X <sub>7</sub> )	0.178
Pollution (X <sub>8</sub> )	0.039
Climate (X <sub>9</sub> )	0.434
Fight with other vendors (X <sub>10</sub> )	.032

<b>Table.6 - Wilks' Lambda</b>				
Test of Function(s)	Wilks' Lambda	Chi-square	df	Sig.
1	.512	35.483	10	.000

**SUGGESTIONS:**

- Government have been introduced many schemes of informal sector especially for street vending.
- Government makes to arrangement in redressed grievances forum and give resolution of disputes arise for street food vendors.
- Government should give proper ID cards to street food vendors.
- Government should take some actions against those people who harass them in their life.
- Vendors should wear clean attire and head co.
- Street vendors can be trained in food preventions methods and they can be provided with a common chilling warehousing to preserve their unsold articles.
- A market place can be allotted specially for street vending where the street vendors may be changed a very nominal rent.
- Free education can be given to the children’s of street vendors and a quota system can be implemented to the children of the street vendors in higher education.
- The street vendors are working in the open places; hence they are affected by more health problems, so they must have monthly checkup in the hospital.
- The working patterns of the food street vendors should be improved using the various types of safety equipments that are helpful for their business.
- Commercial lands should be provided by government to street vendors for appropriate rental and open in some eminent streets.

- Government should take necessary action against those people, who harass them in their life. Their working patterns are very dangerous to their body (Due to climatic conditions).
- The government should offer special health care schemes, welfare measures and livelihood programs for the food street vendors.
- They must be inculcating the habit of savings to improve their economic conditions.

### Conclusion:

Street vendors, often overlooked and marginalized, are the backbone of many economies around the world. These individuals work tirelessly on the streets, often in challenging conditions, to provide essential goods and services to the public. Despite their significant contribution to the economy, they face numerous challenges, including lack of job security, meager profits, and little access to social protection. This vulnerable population is often at the mercy of harsh weather conditions, theft, and harassment in their daily work. In the event of illness or injury, they are left without any safety net or support system to fall back on. It is crucial for society to recognize the vital role that street vendors play and to provide them with the necessary assistance and resources to improve their quality of life and working conditions.

To address the pressing needs of street vendors, various stakeholders, including government agencies, non-profit organizations, and communities, must come together to develop comprehensive support systems. This could include providing access to affordable healthcare, financial assistance during emergencies, and training programs to enhance their entrepreneurial skills. Additionally, there should be a focus on raising awareness about the rights and responsibilities of street vendors, including the importance of legal registration under relevant regulations. By empowering street vendors with the necessary knowledge and resources, we can help create a more inclusive and supportive environment that promotes their well-being and economic stability. Ultimately, investing in the welfare of street vendors not only benefits them but also contributes to the overall development and prosperity of society as a whole.

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