

CHANGING SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITION IN CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IN TIRUNELVELI DISTRICT OF TAMILNADU – A STUDY

N. Duraikutty

Ph.D Research Scholar, Department of Mathematical Economics,
School of Economics, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai-21.

Dr. R. Seenivasan

Assistant Professor, Department of Mathematical Economics,
School of Economics, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai-21.

Abstract: India is the second highest population in the world. India's construction industry is large as well as visible and providing employment to 3.2 crore workers nationally. The present study analyses the changing pattern of socio economic condition of construction workers in Tirunelveli District of Tamil Nadu. Also, the researcher attempted to found the socio economic condition, identified the problems of construction workers and working condition and health awareness of construction workers in the study area. This study was entirely based on primary data which were collected from 100 respondents. The samples were selected purposively. The researcher found that three aspect such as the socio economic condition, working condition and health problems of construction workers in the study area. The researcher find out 50 percent of the samples respondents were earned income of between one lakh to two lakhs and 34 percent of the construction workers were earned income of between two lakhs to three lakhs. Remaining 8 percent of the workers were earned below one lakh as well as above three lakhs in the study area.

Index Terms: construction work, population growth, socio economic condition, employment, health status, awareness.

I. INTRODUCTION

Construction is a secondary sector and unorganized sector of an Indian economy. According Tamilnadu welfare Board (TNWB) pointed out more than 25 lakhs construction workers in Tamil Nadu. Construction works making more employment opportunity to poor as well as unemployed peoples. There are two classifications of construction labourer such as skilled labourer and unskilled labourer. First skilled labourer who is well known about this work skilled labourer such as Mason, centering foreman, flooring foreman, plumber, carpenter and fabricator, painter and unskilled labourer like Male and Female helping hands. Lack of adequate protection, non -payment of overtime wages, no leave, unhygienic and unsafe working conditions, vulnerability to various occupational diseases, accidents causing serious injuries, also resulting in death or disablement tendency to devalue the female work contribution, devalue the minimum wage and bring it closer to the poverty line or pauper wage etc. are the other very important unsolved problems faced by women construction workers. Thus, above all and other, so many problems are the permanent headache of female construction workers in the study area as well as outside the study area. All these problems are also applicable (more or less) to the female workers working in unorganized sector in general. The construction workers face a lot of problems such as lack of work security, low wage, more hours of work, and lack of social and medical welfare facilities. Generally construction workers face financial problems, health problems, diseases, mishaps and even loss of life. Moreover, lack of social welfare measures and social security and medical benefits affect the construction workers. The present study was changing pattern of socio economic condition of construction workers in Tirunelveli District of Tamil Nadu – A Study.

II. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The researcher has followed by the specific objectives of the study

- To examine status of socio economic condition of construction workers in the study area.
- To study the current scenario of working condition and health awareness of construction workers in the study area.
- To find out the problems of sample construction workers in the study area.
-

III. METHODOLOGY

The present study conducted in Tirunelveli district of Tamilnadu, south India. This paper is wholly based on primary data. The primary information collected from 100 respondents for the samples selected was purposively. The simple percentage

method was used for analyzed purpose as well as other information collected from various journals and books etc. This study was focused the status of construction worker's income, problems and other activities at micro level.

IV. EVIDENCES OF EARLIER STUDIES

Jeyalakshmi P (2016) study indicates that the socio economic condition of women construction industry in Visakhapatiman. She followed by economic factors such as living condition, wage differentiation, savings, loans as well as problems faced by women construction workers in the study area. She found that 34 percent of the total sampled women workers were demanded for increase in wages as the hike in wage may help them maintain the families. And 19 percent of women workers are demanded sanitation facilities for health protection purpose and remaining 11 percent are demanding safety and security measures at work place and 3 percent are asking precautionary equipment like Helmet, hand gloves shoes and season cloths etc.

Maneesh P and Jasna P T (2017) study explains that socio economics condition of women construction workers in kannur district of Kerala. Their study find out 100 percent of the workers are dealing with health problems and 82 percent of the workers faces financial problem. About 30 percent of the workers are facing other problems such as sanitary facility, drinking water facility, wage problems etc. The main health problems faced by the workers are muscle pain, allergy, cough, asthma problem, etc. About 8 percent of the workers are suffering from all of these problems. The nature of hospital preferred by the construction workers is mainly government hospitals. About 86 percent of the women workers opined that their status in the society has been improved by doing construction work. It is obtained from this study the women workers faced by much more problems in working site in the study area.

V. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The present study analyzed the demography profile, socio-economic status, work place condition and health problems of the sample construction workers in the study area.

5.1. Socio-Economic Condition of Construction Workers

Table: 1 Age of the respondents

Sl. No	Age	No of the respondents	Percentage
1	Below 20 yrs	20	20.0
2	20-30 yrs	32	32.0
3	30-40 yrs	27	27.0
4	Above 40 yrs	21	21.0
Total		100	100.0

Source: Primary data

The above table shows that the majority of 32 percent of the respondents come under the age of 20 to 30 years, 27 percent of the respondents are 30 to 40 years. Further, 20 percent of the respondents come under below 20 years and remaining 21 percent of the workers age of above 40 years in the study area.

Table: 2 Religion of the respondents

Sl. No	Religion	No of the respondents	percentage
1	Hindu	75	75.0
2	Muslim	21	21.0
3	Christen	4	4.0
Total		150	100.0

Source: Primary data

Followed by table (2) explains that the highest 75 percent of the respondents are Hindu, 21 percent of the construction workers are Muslims and balanced 4 percent of the workers are christen worked in the study area.

Table: 3 Educational status of the respondents

Sl. No	Educational status	No of the respondents	Percentage
1	Illiterate	28	28.0
2	Primary	30	30.0
3	High school	20	20.0
3	Higher secondary	14	14.0

4	Degree & above	8	8.0
Total		100	100.0

Source: Primary data

Table 3 implies that the level of educations for construction workers, the majority of 30 percent of the respondent were completed primary education. And 28 percent of the workers were illiterate and 20 percent of the sample respondents were studied higher school in the study area. Besides, 14 percent of the workers studied up to higher secondary level and remaining 8 percent of the construction workers have studied degree and above for same area.

Table: 4 Total family income of the respondents

Sl. No	Total family income (in Rs)	No of the respondents	Percentage
1	Below 1,00,000	8	8.0
2	1,00,000-2,00,000	50	50.0
3	2,00,000-3,00,000	34	34.
4	Above 3,00,000	8	8.0
Total		100	100.0

Source: Primary data

Income is the most important sources of any workers as well as poorest people. Table 4 indicates that the majority of 50 percent of the samples respondents were earned income of between Rs 1,00,000 to 2,00,000 lakhs and 34 percent of the construction workers were earned income of between Rs 2,00,000 to 3,00,000 lakhs. Remaining 8 percent of the workers were earned below Rs 1,00,000 lakhs as well as above Rs 3,00,000 lakhs in the study area. For instance according to prasanna study found that the 53 per cent of construction households has rupees 4000 to 6000 income per month and 34 per cent of construction households getting finance from money lenders, and a eleven per cent from contractors.

Table: 5 Total family expenditure of the respondents

Sl. No	Total family expenditure (in Rs)	No of the respondents	Percentage
1	Below 1,00,000	54	54.0
2	1,00,000-2,00,000	35	35.0
3	Above 2,00,000	11	11.0
Total		100	100.0

Source: Primary data

The table 5 reveals that the annul expenditure was 54 percent of the sample respondents were spent amount of below Rs 1,00,000 lakh and 35 percent of the respondent were spent Rs 1,00,000 to 2,00,000 and remaining 11 percent of the construction workers spent the amount of above Rs 2,00,000 lakh in the location of the study.

Table 6 Total saving sample of the respondents

Sl. No	Total saving(in Rs)	No of the respondents	Percentage
1	Below 10,000	12	12.0
2	10,000-30,000	62	62.0
3	Above 30,000	14	14.0
4	Nil	22	22.0
Total		100	100

Source: Primary data

As follows above table mentioned that the majority 62 percent of the respondents were saved the amount of between Rs 10,000 to 30,000 and 12 percent of the workers were saved amount of below Rs 10,000. In 14 percent of the respondents were saved amount of more than Rs 30,000 and remaining 22 percent of the respondent does not saved in the study area.

Table: 7 Types of saving of the sample respondents

Sl. No	Type of saving	No of the respondents	Percentage
1	Bank	21	21.0
2	Post office	15	15.0
3	Chit fund	23	23.0
4	SHG	19	19.0

5	Self	9	9.0
6	Nil	13	13.0
Total		100	100.0

Source: Primary data

From above the table shows that majority 23 percent of the respondent were saving in Chit fund, 21 percent of the respondents were saving in Bank, 19 percent of the respondents were saving in Self Help Group, 15 percent of the workers were saving in Post office, 9 percent of the construction workers were self saving and remaining 13 percent of the respondents never saving in their life in the study area.

Table: 8 Amount of debt in the sample respondents

Sl. No	Amount of debt	No of the respondent	Percentage
1	Below 20,000	9	9.0
2	20,000-30,000	17	17.0
3	30,000-40,000	39	39.0
4	Above 40,000	11	11.0
5	Nil	24	24.0
Total		100	100.0

Source: Primary data

From above the table shows that majority 39 per cent of the respondents were debt between rupees 30,000-40,000 per annum, 17 percent of the respondents were debt between rupees 20000-30000 per annum, 11percent of the workers were debt rupees above 40,000 per annum, 9 percent of the respondents were debt as below 20,000 per annum and remaining 24 percent of the construction workers were not indebted in the study area. The construction workers were received from debt in various sources such as money lender, bank loan, friend circle, Self Help Group, other government society etc.

Table: 9 Hours of work per day

Sl. No	Hour of work	No of the respondents	Percentage
1	Below 8 hours	28	28.0
2	8-10 hours	58	58.0
3	Above 10 hours	14	14.0
Total		150	100.0

Source: Primary data

It is observed from above table majority of 58 percent of the respondents were working hours between 8 to 10 hours and 28 percent of the construction workers were worked below 8 hours in the study area. Remaining 14 percent of the same workers worked in more than 10 hours in the same study area.

Table: 10 Membership in construction workers union

Sl. No	Member	No of the respondents	Percentage
1	Yes	42	42.0
2	No	58	58.0
Total		100	100.0

Source primary data

The table (10) displayed that 58 percent of the construction workers joined as a member of in the board and remaining 42 percent of the workers does not member in the board for same study area.

Table: 11 Overall health statuses of construction workers

Sl. No	Health status	No of the respondents	Percentage
1	Good	10	10.0
2	Fair	25	25.0
3	Poor	65	65.0
Total		100	100.0

Source: Primary data

Followed by the above table the researcher found that the majority 65 percent of the construction workers were affected health problems in the study area. In 25 percent of the respondents were said that fair which is little bid affected in problems and

remaining 10 of the worker said that good scenario which is no problems of in this work in the study area. Mostly the construction workers were affected problems was body pain, injury, asthma and breathing, skin problems, eye problems and etc. hence among 100 construction workers to aware of problems to construction work majority of 48 percent of the respondents know about that problems and remaining 52 percent of the respondent did not know about the problems of this work in the study area.

VI. CONCLUSION

Construction workers get employment continuously only when they cooperate with the owners or contractors and work to their satisfaction. The socio-economic status of the workers showed that they were poor. They are daily wage earners and maintain their family with small income with difficulty. The researcher was noted that the most of them were worked 8 to 10 hours in working place. The study indicates that among hundred respondents 23 percent of the workers have been saving in chit fund and 21 percent of the workers have been saving in Bank. And 58 percent of the respondents are member in the thozhilalar sanham in the study area. They were not aware of the different social security schemes. Awareness programmes including individual/separate counseling was essential for overall upliftment. Hence, it is the responsibility of the government to provide those facilities which protect the construction workers and improve their life in all respects.

REFERENCES

- [1] Guddi Tiwary (2012) "Socio-economic status of workers of building construction industry", Indian J Occup Environ Med. 2012 May-Aug; 16(2): 66-71.
- [2] Jeyalakshmi P (2016) "Socio-Economic conditions of women in construction industry- A study in Visakhapatnam", International Journal of Humanities and Social Science Research; Volume 2; Issue 9; September 2016; Page No. 55-58.
- [3] Maneesh P and Jasna P T (2017) "Socio-economic condition of women construction workers in Kannur district, Kerala", Indian Journal of Economics and Development, Vol 5 (8), August 2017, pp. 2-10.
- [4] Ramakrishna Sahu (2018), "Socio Economic Conditions of Construction Workers In India: Issues And Challenges", International Journal of Advanced Technology & Engineering Research (IJATER), Volume 01, March 2018 175
- [5] Prasanna P and Anu Bhardwaj (2016) "Socio-Economic Conditions Of Building construction Workers In South India" ISSN (Print):2394-3408,(Online):2394-3416,Volume-3,Issue-4, pp.37.
- [6] Ponnaian K and Iyappan T (2016) "Problems of Building Construction Workers in Kanyakumari District of Tamil Nadu", International journal of management and economics invention, Volume 2 Issue 11 Nov-2016, Pages-1104-1106.
- [7] Tamilnadu Social Welfare Board (TSWD).