



A STUDY ON THE SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITION OF WORKERS WORKING IN INFRASTRUCTURE SECTOR OF WEST SINGHBHUM DISTRICT

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ABSTRACT

A Study on The Socio-Economic Condition of Workers Working in Infrastructure Sector of West Singhbhum District" is the current investigation. 70 respondents were randomly chosen from the infrastructure sector in West Singhbhum District for the sample, and analysis was done to determine the socio-economic circumstances of those employed in the construction industry. The findings highlight the issues facing construction workers, namely their poor pay and lack of steady employment. Data was gathered via a systematic questionnaire, and the findings are reviewed along with suggestions for improving the financial circumstances of construction employees. This essay tries to examine the issues faced by employees in the construction sector. One of the most significant industries for creating jobs and raising living standards in both urban and rural regions is the construction industry. In actuality, the vast majority of people rely on this sector for job and income. It is vital to remember that the foundation for economic growth is an unorganized sector. Because they are socially and economically disadvantaged, construction workers are unable to band together to further their shared interests. This is due to limitations including the sporadic nature of employment, ignorance, illiteracy, a lack of mobility, poverty, a small, dispersed firm size, and a lack of cooperation among the employees. As a result, construction employees deal with a variety of issues, including a lack of job security, poor pay, longer workweeks, and a lack of resources for social and medical welfare. Construction workers often experience financial hardships, health issues, illnesses, accidents, and sometimes fatalities. The absence of social welfare programs, social security, and health benefits also has an impact on construction employees.

Keywords: - Worker, Unorganised Sector, Infrastructure Sector. West Singhbhum.

INTRODUCTION

India's construction sector employs 3.2 crore people nationally, making it big and noticeable. The construction sector is the "principal" source of employment for the majority of these people. Hospitals, schools, townships, offices, homes, and other buildings, as well as urban infrastructure (such as water supply, sewerage, and drainage), highways, roads, ports, railways, airports, power systems, irrigation and agriculture systems, and telecommunications systems, are all part of construction activity. Construction becomes a fundamental component of a nation's socioeconomic growth. Construction workers may be divided into skilled and unskilled groups. Even though it is against the law to use minors for unskilled labor, it happens. The majority of employees in this industry are paid on a casual basis. The main aspects of labor for construction employees include unstable employment/earnings and moving workplaces. Because of the variable labor force needs at each jobsite, employment in the construction industry is often punctuated by spells of unemployment of different length. There are no holidays because of the nature of the job. It is known that female employees often do not get the minimum wage. Construction workers' issues vary from location to location and job to job based on factors including noise, chemicals, tools or equipment, accessibility to safety precautions, height, and atmosphere. However, compared to employees in other industries, construction workers have greater challenges. Therefore, it is crucial to examine the issues facing construction workers, and scholars from all over the globe are interested in doing so. Therefore, the challenges facing construction workers in the Kanyakumari District are also examined in the current research. Construction workers are known to experience a variety of issues, including casual employment, ignorance and illiteracy, wage discrimination, irregular work, lack of social security, uncertain working hours, unsafe working environments, occupational diseases, injuries, improper labor law implementation, a lack of labor welfare programs, bad habits, and exploitation. Other issues include noise, temperature and ultraviolet radiation, excessive vibration, working at heights, and lack of access to safety equipment. Construction employees are subject to current labor regulations that are based on inspection, prosecution, penalties, etc. However, since the legal procedure takes so long, the wronged employee can have be engaged elsewhere or out of a job by the time remedy is provided. He or she is prohibited from leaving the location of their employment and forgoing their daily pay in order to file complaints about legal violations elsewhere. The laws in place do not adequately protect employees from victimization. Trade unions have not yet found a place in the social safety network that is based on family and tradition for construction workers. Contractors may have an authoritarian management style and be paternalistic. A contractor may be frugal when determining payment schedules and may forgo investing in restrooms, urinals, and other amenities on job sites. However, he was kind when a worker asked for assistance in honoring his daughter's marriage, taking care of a family member who was unwell, etc. One of a contractor's legal responsibilities is to pay for and provide employees with living quarters that meet certain requirements. Contractors had complied with their commitment to provide residential accommodations in terms of the legislation' quantitative compliance. All of the respondents who lived on construction sites used public restrooms, drank water from site sources, and relied on site lampposts for illumination.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The objectives of the study are as follows:

- To analyse the socio-economic and working condition of workers in their infrastructure sites.
- To analyse the factors which influences a person to work as a labour in West Singhbhum District.
- To analyse the factors effecting a person to work as labour in West Singhbhum District.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In order to write this paper, both primary and secondary sources were used. The study's primary data came from 70 workers in West Singhbhum who work in the infrastructure industry. A thorough approach was used in gathering data on the risks to employees' health, issues at work, and financial stability. The office atmosphere is often assessed during lunchtime visits with the employees. The International Labour Organization, the Economic Review, official records, academic publications, and novels were some examples of secondary sources. The data were analysed using a straightforward percentage breakdown.

ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

Table 1:- Age group of workers

Age group	Frequency	%
Less than 21 years	12	17.14
21-28 years	22	31.43
28- 35 years	20	28.57
Above 35 years	16	22.86
Total	70	100.00

Sources: - Primary Data

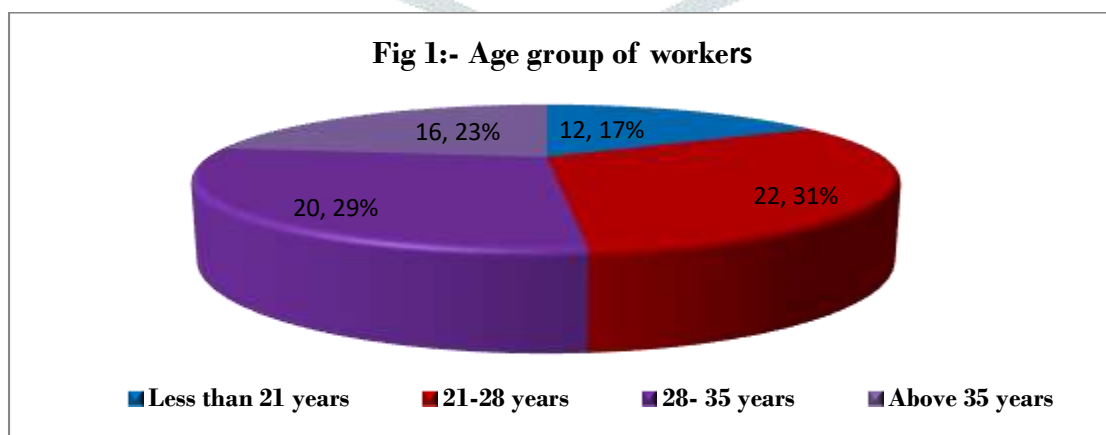


Table 2:-Educational level of workers

Educational level	Frequency	%
Illiterate	17	24.29
Primary	26	37.14
Elementary	15	21.43
Secondary	08	11.43
Higher Secondary	04	05.71
Total	70	100.00

Sources: - Primary Data

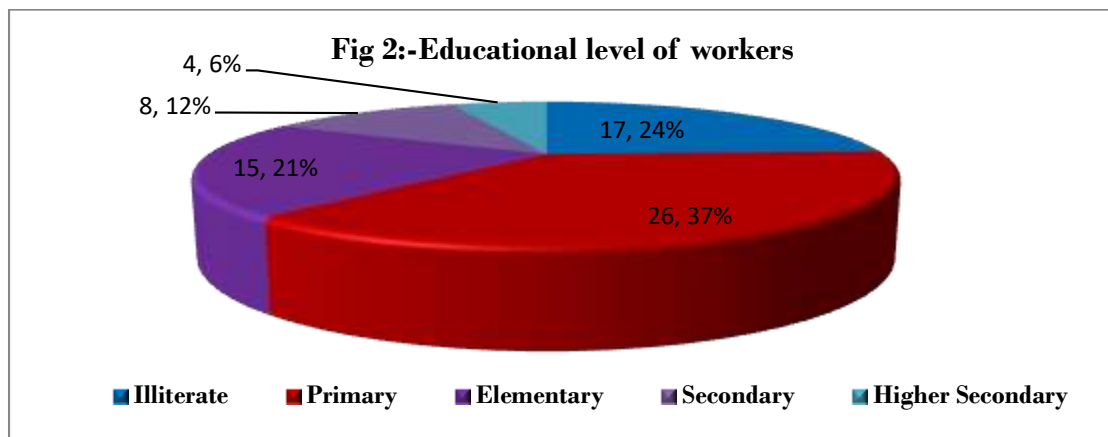


Table 3: - Marital Status of workers

Marital Status	Frequency	%
Married	45	64.29
Single	25	35.71
Total	70	100.00

Sources: - Primary Data

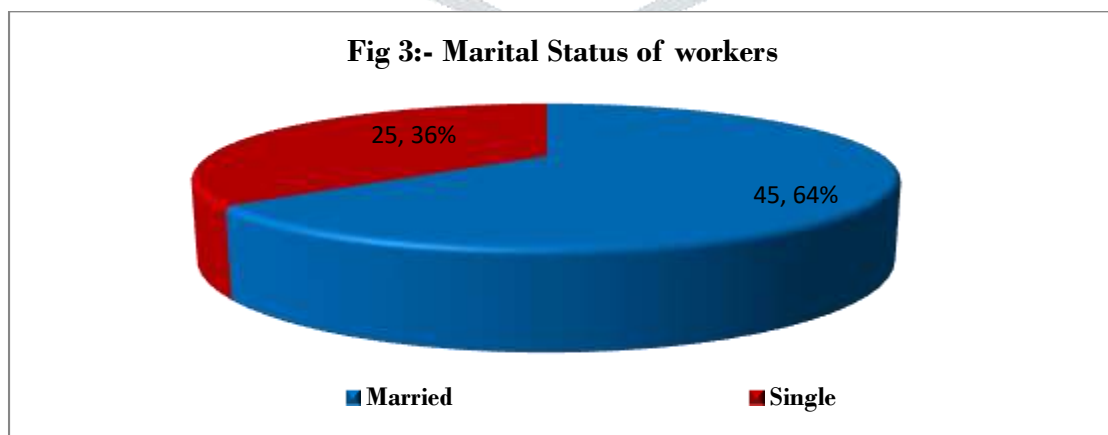


Table 4: - Monthly Income of workers

Marital Status	Frequency	%
Below ₹ 7,000	08	11.43
₹7,000-₹11,000	26	37.14
₹11,000-₹15,000	20	28.57
More than Rs. ₹15,000	16	22.86
Total	70	100.00

Sources: - Primary Data

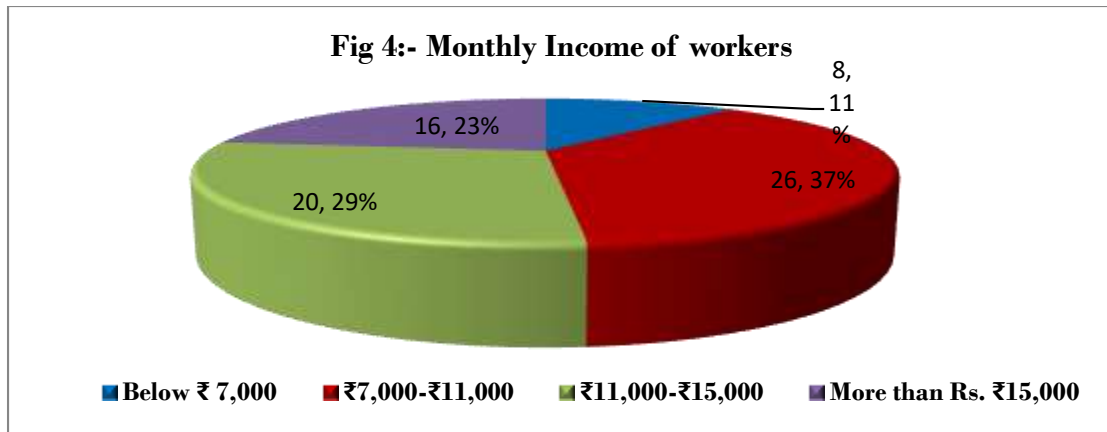
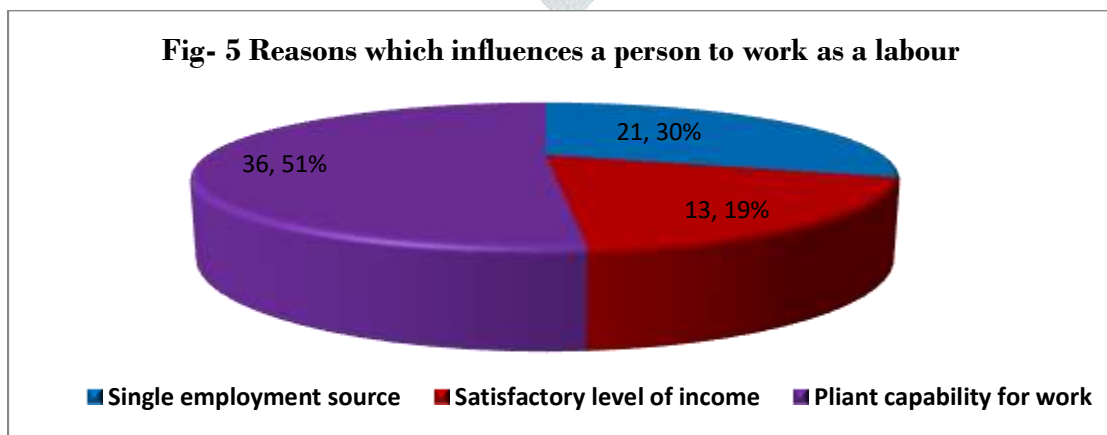


Table 5: - Reasons which influences a person to work as a labour

Particulars	Frequency	%
Single employment source	21	30.00
Satisfactory level of income	13	18.57
Pliant capability for work	36	51.43
Total	70	100.00

Sources: - Primary Data



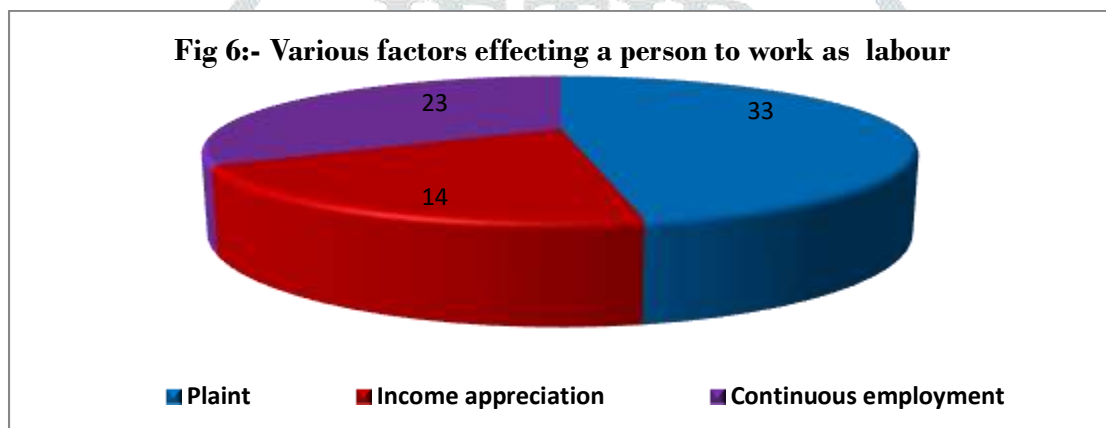
Family problems and job problems are the two main categories of problems that affect workers. Workers must provide for their families financially. People choose to work as laborers when they are unable to find adequate employment. Five criteria that were relevant to choosing this employment were examined in the

table above. Out of 70 workers, 21 or 30% claimed that labor is their only source of income, 13 or 18.57% claimed that they chose this job because it provides a comfortable level of income, and 36 or 51.43% claimed that they chose to work as labor because of Pliant's capabilities. The analysis unmistakably shown that the majority of participants in this research study persuade individuals to work as laborers because of their flexible job capacities.

Table 6: - Various factors effecting a person to work as labour

Particulars	Frequency	%
Plaint	33	47.14
Income appreciation	14	20.00
Continuous employment	23	32.86
Total	70	100.00

Sources: - Primary Data



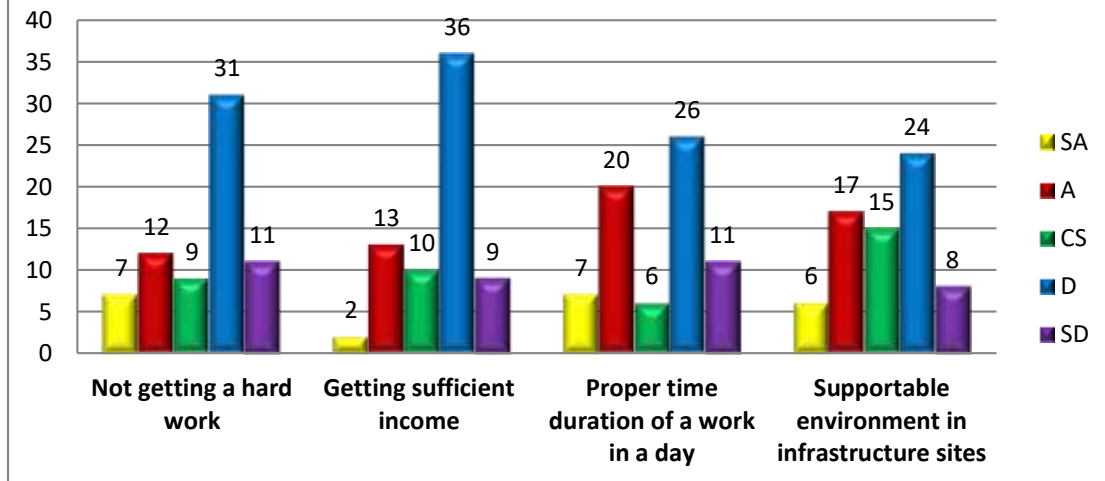
The worker was required to do varied tasks for several reasons. According to the polling data, out of 70 employees, 33 (or 47.14%) chose this occupation because of its straightforward character, 14 (or 20%) did so because of the potential for income growth, and 23 (or 32.86%) did so because it required continuous employment. The study clearly demonstrated that the majority of employees for these research investigations were affected by complaint-related elements while considering whether to work as laborers.

Table 7: - Opinion towards working condition of workers in infrastructure sector

Particulars	SA	A	CS	D	SD
Not getting a hard work	07	12	09	31	11
Getting sufficient income	02	13	10	36	09
Proper time duration of a work in a day	07	20	06	26	11
Supportable environment in infrastructure sites	06	17	15	24	08

Sources: - Primary Data

Fig 7:- Opinion towards working condition of workers in infrastructure sector



The table details the working conditions that are offered to employees at infrastructure construction sites. The four declarations have decided to highlight the working environment for employees. Analyzed is the claim that "Not getting a hard work" is. According to the results of 70 Worker, 42 (11 strongly disagree and 31 disagree) said that working as a laborer at different building sites is becoming more tough for them. 9 Workers said that it is sometimes tough and other times easy to work as a laborer in infrastructure sites, while 19 Workers (12 agree and 7 strongly agree) claimed that it is simple for them to work in infrastructure sites since they are doing simple tasks. According to the research, most employees believe that working on infrastructure projects is becoming more difficult. Analysis is done on the claim "Getting sufficient income". According to the polled data of 70 workers, 45 (including 9 strongly disagree and 36 disagree) workers said they are not satisfied with the money they make, 10 workers said they are occasionally satisfied and occasionally unsatisfied with their income, and 15 (including 13 agree and 2 strongly agree) workers said they are satisfied with the money they make. According to the research, more than half of employees feel unsatisfied with the amount of money they make. The phrase "Proper time duration of a work in a day" is examined. According to the polled data of 70 employees, 37 employees (11 strongly disagree and 26 disagree) said that their working time is less than 6 hours means they are not working throughout the day, 6 Workers said they work some of the day and are off at other times, and 27 Workers (20 agree and 7 strongly agree) said they work 8 hours or more per day. According to the research, more than half of employees work throughout the day. The phrase "Supportable environment in infrastructure sites" is examined. According to survey results of 70 workers, 32 (24 disagree, 8 strongly disagree) said that their infrastructure sites did not offer a supportive environment, 15 said that it was sometimes supportive for them and other times it was not, and 23 (17 agree, 6 strongly agree) said that it was. According to the research, more than half of workers at infrastructure sites do not have a supportive workplace.

CONCLUSION

The current research looks at a variety of issues that affect employees in the construction industry. The issues such as casual employment, a lack of social security, a lack of labor welfare programs, erratic work schedules, unsafe working conditions, occupational diseases, injuries, wage exploitation and differentiation, noise, working at heights, a lack of raw materials availability, labor mobility, a lack of cohesion and satisfaction, and bad habits have an impact on the workers and lower their labor productivity in the construction industry. To preserve the health and wealth of the construction workers, efforts should be made to mitigate or eliminate such difficulties. In actuality, everyone has the right to work hard and enjoy life. Therefore, it is the government's duty to provide the facilities that safeguard construction workers and enhance their quality of life in every way.

To enhance the workplace, however, is not only up to the employees. Together, employers, employees, and politicians must address this.

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