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**A Sociological Study On Construction Workers (With Special Reference to
Chitradurga District)**

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Abstract:

India is a largest growing economies in the world. There are several sectors helps to the expansion of economic growth. Among these sectors construction industry is the main field which leads to the spread of economic activities. Eighteenth century witnessed industrial revolution in England. The term industrialization refers the process which assists to the expansion of economic condition of any Informal or unorganized sector. In India nearly 273 million workers engaged in construction Industry in which 92 % of them are working in unorganized sectors. Undoubtedly the process of industrialization helps every nation for the economic development, simultaneously creates various social problems. Considering the fact, the present study aims to find out the socio- economic condition of construction workers with a sociological point of view in Chitradurga district. Because the construction workers facing perilous condition and leading vulnerable life. Health hazards, economic instability, seasoned job are the main problems of these workers. Nonetheless, the present study tries to explain the difficulty of construction workers in a sociological background.

Key words: 1. Construction 2. Industry 3. Expansion 4. Unorganized.

Introduction

Construction is the largest industry in India with contributing greatly to the economic sector. Million of the people depend on this field for their livelihood. It is estimated that in India 273 million people working in this sector considering one of the largest organization with creating largest employment opportunities. Somehow the poor people of the country feeding their families working in this sector. Before Covid-19 everything was well enough in India . After hit of the Covid 19 a treacherous Pandemic created hatred, vivid situation in India. The impact of the disease spread all over the world very badly. India is a country with second largest population facing hazardous problems due to the pandemic condition. Many segments of the society lost the economic credibility. The Pandemic situation destroyed the back bone of Indian economy. Many people have lost their job due to worse economic conditions. The construction workers also the victim of the bad circumstances.

The Scenario of Construction industries

“The Construction Industry received the second highest FDI in the period 2000-2020. The Construction Industry works across 250 sub-sectors with linkages across sectors. Broadly, it can be divided into real estate and infrastructure construction. The Real Estate Industry in India is expected to reach \$1 Tn by 2030 and contributes to 13% of GDP. Under NIP, India has an investment budget of \$1.4 Tn on infrastructure - 24% on renewable energy, 19% on roads & highways, 16% on urban infrastructure, and 13% on railways. Under the Smart Cities Mission till June 2021, 2,734 projects have been completed of the total 5,956 projects “. (Aishwarya Sri Ram. Building sustainable future, Invest India). The above stats fabricate a fantastic scenario about the construction industry. Development of infrastructure is the main asset to bring GDP to a higher level which contributes 13% of the overall GDP. Keeping all these facts in mind, the present study tries to understand the socio-economic condition of construction workers at the time of the Pandemic.

Importance of the study.

The construction industry of India provides enormous job opportunity to the deprived community of Indian society. Large scale economic growth also gives a lot of chance to needy people. However, the present condition is not well enough. Because of the uncertain and unpredictable disease that spoiled the entire economic structure of India, the inevitable rules or SOP of the government have brought abundant socio-economic change in the entire society. This change creates a vivid situation and the construction workers leading uncertain lives. The continued job opportunity strengthens the economic circumstances of these workers. Family and other dependents were also joyful from the earnings. Yet the treacherous Pandemic phase doesn't furnish a happy life to the workers. Thus, the present research paper brings out the problems and challenges of construction workers in the study area with a sociological background.

Objective of the study

The chief purpose of the present study keeps the following objectives.

- To understand the socio-economic condition of construction workers.
- To analyze the impact of Covid-19 on the construction sector.
- To explain the health status of construction workers.

Study Universe and sample

The present study is a sociological analysis of construction workers of Chitradurga district. In which 20 respondents have been selected in Chitradurga taluk. For the primary data collection, the study used stratified random sampling method. Chitradurga is one of the backward districts of Karnataka state. People of this district are predominantly engaged in agricultural activities and a huge number of people work as construction laborers.

Data analysis

Caste of the respondents

The below table reveals the caste of the respondents. In India, based on the hierarchy of the people based on the caste system, the system divides the upper and lower community in the society. However, the present study would try to bring out the caste background of the construction workers in the study area.

Table 1
Caste of the respondents

Caste	Frequency	Average
Madiga	05	25.00
Nayaka	04	20.00
Golla	01	05.00%
Chalavadi	03	15.00%
Lambani	03	15.00%
Lingayath	01	05.00%
Others	03	15.00%
Total	20	100.00%

The above table reveals that the caste of the respondents. In which 25% of the respondents belongs to the Madiga , 20% of respondents belongs Nayaka 5% of the respondents belongs Golla, 15 % each belongs Chalavadi and Lamabani, 5% belongs Linagyath and 15% of the construction workers belongs others. The data have shown that the deprived community of the society usually working in construction industry, among them the Madiga, Chalavadi, Golla, Lambani Caste are predominantly working in this sector.

Health awareness among construction workers

Health is a inevitable to every members of the society. It is also a fundamental need. The environment of the construction industry generally considered a dirt and à filthy. The construction labor working in the grimy condition.To find out would they maintain good health is the primary question of the present research. The following table would provide the answer for this.

Table- 2
Health awareness

Health awareness	Frequency	Average
Yes	27	85%
No	03	15%
Total	20	100%

The above table shows that the health awareness among the construction workers. The question was not only related general health, but also related covid-19. It is very fortunate that the construction workers are able to know the bad impact of health issues. Specially covid -19 is the most dangerous for them. 85% of the respondents stated that that have heath awareness. Interestingly the awesome regarding Covid-19 is more than other disease. Only 15% of the respondents stated that they do not worry about their life.

Impact of Covid-19

The aim of the present study is to find out the main impact of Covid-19 on construction workers at Chitradurga. The pandemic creates uncertainty everywhere in the world. Especially the economic zone lost its credibility. Decrease of job opportunities made economic insecurity of the people. Construction workers are also facing the similar condition in India. Keeping this mind the present study looks forward to asses the impact of covid-19 on construction workers of Chitradurga

Table 3
Impact of covid -19

Impact	Frequency	Average
Impact on income	15	75.00%
Impact on children education	03	15.00%
Impact on social life	01	05.00%
Impact health	01	05.00%
Total	20	100%

The above table shows that the impact of covid 19 on various sectors. In which 75% of the respondents stated that the impact of pandemic on their income. As stated earlier the construction works are going smoothly, there is no obstacle to get certain income from construction industry to these workers. Nonetheless, the duo lockdown, strict rules of the government made the workers life bit horrible. Before pandemic these workers get minimum 20 working days in a month. Income was also satisfied to full fill their families. After treacherous pandemic the working days reduced drastically. Hence, the economic condition of these workers is not so well. Rest 15% of the respondents stated that the children education badly influenced by the Covid-19. Another 05% of the respondents reveals that the social life of these workers changed by the pandemic. These are the main impact of Covid-19 on construction workers.

Conclusion and findings

- The present research finds that the large number of construction workers is lower caste people, especially Madiga, Chalavadi, Nayaka, community workers have been working in the construction industry.
- As concerning health awareness 85% of the respondents opined that they have health awareness at the working. It is very important in pandemic time. According to them the disease is not good for the society. It spoiled all the joy and happiness among the.
- The main aim of the research is to find out the impact of Covid -19 on these construction workers. In which 75% of the respondents revealed that their income has reduced due to pandemic. Earlier their income generally enough to meet their family requirements, but now the situation is entirely changed. 15% of the respondents stated that their children education is in uncertain condition, they can't afford mobile phones and internet facilities to their children.

Undoubtedly the construction industry is the major sector with providing lot of job opportunities to the poor people of this country. Many workers engaged enormously in this sector to feed their families. Yet the present situation is not favor to them. The working days have been reduced, and strict rules of the government is also main reason for the uncertainty. The social life of construction workers is in difficult condition. Many workers have lost their jobs due to dual lock down. Undoubtedly the construction workers leading a critical life. Hence the government and other concerned authorities have come forward to make necessary help and provide financial assistance to this deprived community of the society.

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