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A STUDY ON THE PROBLEMS FACED BY WOMEN WORKERS IN THE CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY WITH REFERENCE TO COIMBATORE CITY

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Background: Globally, the construction industry is a major employer, arguably second only to agriculture and typically the primary one.

Abstract:
The purpose of this research is to learn about the socioeconomic conditions and issues faced by unorganized women who work in the construction industry in Coimbatore. The researcher uses the convenience random sampling method to carry out the study for its intended purposes. Plan of this study is the overview and spot in the space of expressive examination. The factual populaces of examination are made out of 110 ladies development laborers in Coimbatore. After selecting the sample, a questionnaire with a simple validity percentage for women's workplace issues was used. The current study uses a questionnaire to find out how workers feel about social, economic, and other issues. The majority of workers face wage discrimination, gender discrimination, sexual harassment, lower wages, health risks, and safety issues, according to the study's findings. The purpose of this study is to estimate the financial burden of women working.

Objective:

- To study economic conditions of women Construction Workers
- To make a study of working conditions and its impact on health of women workers
- To verify the awareness about the social security measures available in working area.
- To identify the factors that influences the wages of men and women construction workers
- To recommend measures for improving their quality of life.

INTRODUCTION

To investigate the economic circumstances of female construction workers, to investigate the health effects of women's working conditions, and to verify that workers are aware of the social security options available in the workplace. To determine what influences men's and women's wages in the construction industry and to suggest ways to improve their quality of life. Women account for roughly one fifth of the workforce in India's overall economic activity. The fundamental element of industrial development is building construction. With an annual growth rate of 10%, it is one of the fastest-growing industries in India. Most of the time, women work as unskilled laborers, and they face serious issues with their work, such as low pay, earning, gender and sexual harassment, unhealthy relationships at work, and despite these, the construction industry is extremely popular with female employees. Their abilities are not redesign as they are permitted to perform just a few kinds of work and ordinarily they back of the male work force. India The vast majority of people living in developing nations live below the poverty line. They lack adequate access to basic necessities like health care, education, housing, food, job security, equality, and justice. The most significant issues in developing nations are issues of sustainable livelihoods and vulnerable groups' lack of social and political participation. People's rights

have not been protected by governments at the implementation level. Employment in the Informal Sector While there are numerous definitions of the informal sector, those who work in small scale enterprises are frequently invisible workers who create their own niche of employment. The lives of informal sector worker s are struggling to meet their basic needs, in very poor working conditions where people endure

PROBLEMS AND SOCIO-ECONOMIC CONDITIONS OF CONSTRUCTION WOMEN WORKERS IN COIMBATORE CITY

"Empowering Women is a prerequisite for creating a good nation, when women Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam said, "The construction industry is the backbone of a country because it creates the infrastructure necessary for economic and industrial growth. Empowering women is essential because their value systems lead to the development of a good family, a good society, and ultimately a good nation." The majority of laborers are employed in the construction sector. One third of rural workers in India are women, and they make up the female workforce.

In the construction industry, female laborers are exploited both horizontally and vertically. It is time to address the problems and talk about the kind of policy changes and institutional changes that are needed to free and empower rural female workers. The goal of empowerment ought to be to alter the nature and course of the power structures that disadvantage female laborers.

In major cities like Coimbatore, the majority of women who work in the construction industry are unskilled laborers from states like Odissa, Tamilnadu, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Jharkhand, and Chhattisgarh. They face serious issues with their workplace, including gender and sexual harassment, wage discrimination, lower wages, health risks, and safety concerns Notwithstanding these issues, development industry draws in female specialists. Because they are only permitted to perform certain types of work and typically assist the male workforce, their skills are never upgraded to major skilled jobs in the construction industry like mason, bar benders, carpenters, plumbers, fabricators, or painters, among others.

Coimbatore is quite possibly of the quickest developing city in India and world. To accommodate the ever-increasing population, the Government of Tamil Nadu and the Central Government of India have implemented a number of policies for the construction of infrastructure in Coimbatore. Major real estate, housing, commercial, and infrastructure developments are taking place in Coimbatore to meet the growing demands of the IT and telecommunications industries, which employ a large workforce from across India.

Review of Literature

Dr. I. Pandi Devi (2018) demonstrates in her survey that women workers are required to manage their homes in addition to working outside in violent or non-violent environments. Women choose to look for jobs in unorganized industries to supplement the family's income and maintain their active lifestyles due to a lack of education and low family income. The majority of female workers do not have access to health care benefits or social security.

S. Rasheedha Banu (2017) Concentrated on in the article bring up 36 respondents from Coimbatore Region in Tamilnadu that the issues of lady’s development specialist in the work environment are one of the significant issues in the contemporary social issues. The majority of women working in the construction industry face a number of challenges, including a lack of social security, low wages, sexual harassment, and gender discrimination, among other issues. They are working in an unsafe work environment or culture,

According to S. Rasheedha Banu (2017), who examined 36 respondents from Coimbatore District in Tamilnadu and found that one of the most significant contemporary social issues is the problem of women construction workers at work. The majority of women working in the construction industry face a number of challenges, including a lack of social security, low wages, sexual harassment, and gender discrimination, among other issues. They are working in an unsafe workplace or culture.

According to a 2017 study by Sarika Patel and Rameshwari Pandya, women's social and economic conditions are bleak. These female workers experienced frequent and recurrent periods of unemployment, which increased their vulnerability and hampered their prospects for social and economic advancement. These women are almost always offered low-paying, physically and mentally unhealthy, demeaning, and unsecure jobs. There are many restrictions on how women workers live and work.

M. Keerthana, Dr. J. Godwin Prem Singh (2014), "This is the time to give awareness about the problems of women construction workers rather than organized workers." They faces a crushing work burden of work for income, work for subsistence, work for the household, and work for children and the elderly. Problems will automatically be reduced when these levels of factors are equalized. Betterment life will also raise their standard of living. The research was carried out in the Coimbatore District, where construction work was taking place.

A study on 300 female construction workers in the Coimbatore District was conducted in 2015 by Dr. K.A. Rajanna. The Indian government ought to grant both sexes equal rights and opportunities. Furthermore, there are explicit arrangement for assurance and government assistance of working ladies a significant number of the work regulations. Women need to be made more self-reliant and confident as a result of the socioeconomic and cultural development, which should give them more options and the ability to control their own future.

Sandhya and co. al. (2015) found that women working in the construction industry in the Coimbatore District were subjected to sexual harassment and gender bias at work. Numerous interventions result in fewer opportunities for these women workers, as well as numerous health risks and social and cultural ramifications.

According to Dr. B. Ravi Kumar's research from 2013, the study reveals that, in comparison to men working in the construction industry, many women are illiterate, widows, or the only earning members of a depressed class or low-income families

RESEARCH & METHODOLOGY

Population and Sample: The population that was chosen for this survey is from Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu. The method that was used is the questionnaire followed by an interview. The sample size was 155.

Area of study: Numerous ancient kingdoms ruled the Coimbatore region, of which it is an important part.

Data collection: Primary sources were used to collect the data for this study. 155 respondents were surveyed using a straightforward interview and multiple-choice questionnaire schedule, with a straightforward random sampling strategy.

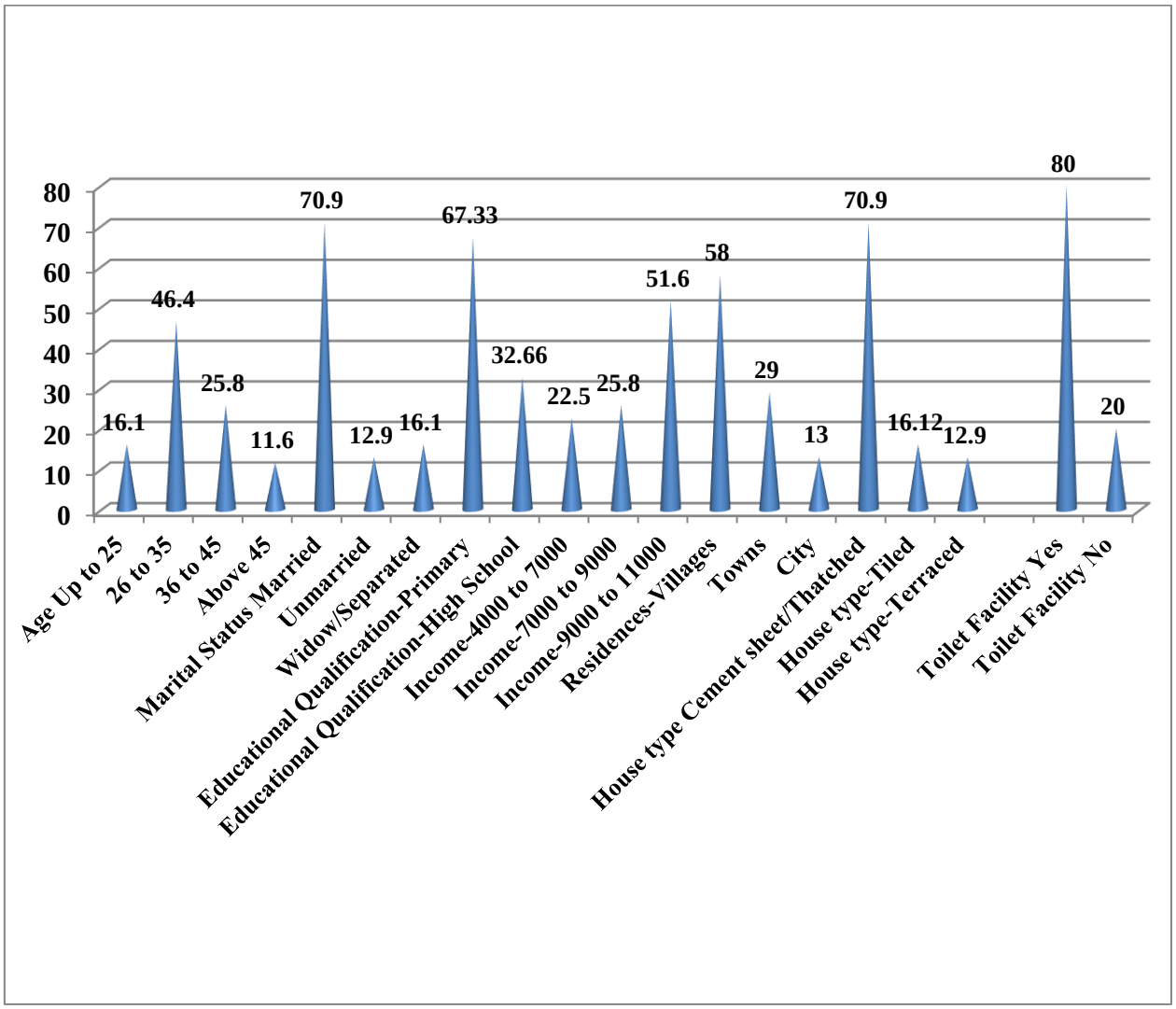
Analytical tools: The socioeconomic conditions and issues faced by unorganized construction women laborers in Coimbatore were examined using a percentage analysis test.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSIONS

Table: 1 Sample Distribution of the Respondent

S.No.	Factors Particulars	Percentage (%)
1	Age Up to 25	16.1
	26 to 35	46.4
	36 to 45	25.8
	Above 45	11.6
2	Marital Status Married	70.9
	Unmarried	12.9
	Widow/Separated	16.1
3	Educational Qualification-Primary	67.33
	Educational Qualification-High School	32.66
4	Income-4000 to 7000	22.5
	Income-7000 to 9000	25.8
	Income-9000 to 11000	51.6
5	Residences-Villages	58
	Towns	29
	City	13
6	House type Cement sheet/Thatched	70.9
	House type-Tiled	16.12
	House type-Terraced	12.9
7	Toilet Facility Yes	80
	Toilet Facility No	20

EXBIT 1:



Source: Primary Data:

As shown in the table above, 46.4% of the women who responded are between the ages of 26 and 35, and 36 and 45 percent are between the ages of 36 and 45. This indicates that the economic circumstances of the respondents force them to continue working at this age.

70.9 percent of respondents are married, while 25 percent are widows or divorced from their husbands. The fact that more than half of the respondents have only completed primary and secondary school indicates that they did not place a high value on it.

Approximately 58% of respondents live in a village.

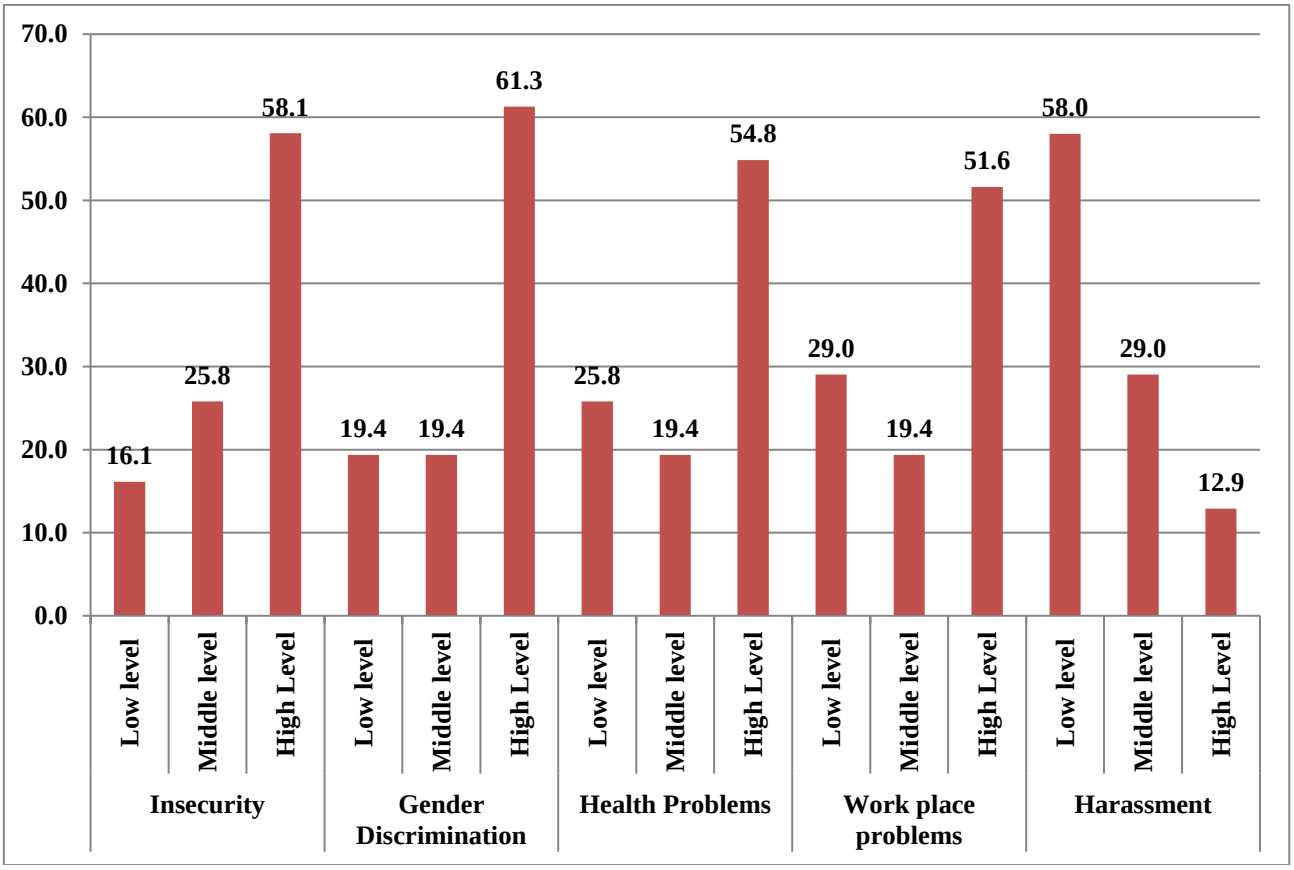
51.6 percent of respondents earn between Rs. 9000 and Rs. 11000.

Approximately 80% of respondents have access to a toilet, and 70.9% live in thatched or cement sheet homes.

Table 2 Opinion of Respondents

SNO	FACTORS	PARTICULARS	NO OF REPONDENTS	PERCENTAGE
1	Insecurity	Low level	25	16.1
		Middle level	40	25.8
		High Level	90	58.1
2	Gender Discrimination	Low level	30	19.4
		Middle level	30	19.4
		High Level	95	61.3
3	Health Problems	Low level	40	25.8
		Middle level	30	19.4
		High Level	85	54.8
4	Work place problems	Low level	45	29.0
		Middle level	30	19.4
		High Level	80	51.6
5	Harassment	Low level	20	58.1
		Middle level	45	29.0
		High Level	90	12.9

EXBIT 2:



Source: Primary Data

The above table states the problems faced by the women workers in the construction sector as five major problems regarding the categories of low, middle and high level of distribution. Regarding the high level of problem faced by the women workers in the construction sector shows that the insecurity factor 58.1%, gender discrimination factors are High level of 61.3; health issues factor is high level of 54.8%. Work related accidents and Occupational hazards and Health Issues are high level of 51.66% and lastly harassment is low level of 58.66% construction women labours in Coimbatore.

VII. CONCLUSION

In this study examined the socio-economic conditions and problems of women who are working in construction sector in coimbatore. It is found that women are facing so many problems like in security, gender discrimination, health issues, work related accidents harassments etc. So, Government should take necessary action on women construction unorganized issues.

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