

# Socio-economic conditions of Women Workers in Construction Industry

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## Abstract:

**Background:** The construction industry is a major source of employment worldwide, arguably the second largest after agriculture, and generally the primary one in urban areas.

## Objective:

- To study economic conditions of women House Construction Workers
- To make a study of working and living conditions and its impact on health of women workers
- To recommend measures for improving their quality of life.

**Keywords:** Building construction workers, working condition, Health effect.

## I. INTRODUCTION

In India, women-workers constitute about one-fifth of the total work force in the overall economic activity. Building construction is the basic of industrial developments. In India it is one of the fastest growing industries with an annual growth of 10%. Women are mostly unskilled labourers and they face serious problems related to work like earning, gender and sexual harassment, unhealthy job relationship, lower pay; despite these constructions industry over whelming attracts female workers. Their skills are not upgrade as they are allowed to perform only some types of work and usually they back of the male work force. India is one of the fastest growing economies of the world.

## II. LITERATURE REVIEW

Despite the mountain of funds available, one keeps seeing women workers carrying babies at their waist even as they struggle to carry basins of mud on their head due to the lack of day-care centres for their children at most work-sites. Worse, one reads about workers' kids falling fatally into open sumps or into construction pits.

Across towns and cities in India, it is not uncommon to see women like cleaning building sites, carrying bricks and or shovelling gravel - helping construct the infrastructure necessary for the country's economic and social development. They help build roads, railway tracks, airports, and offices. They put cables for telecommunications, pipes for clean water supplies, and burrow the drains for sewage systems. But although women make up at least 20 percent of India's 40 million construction workers, they are less recognized than male workers with lower pay and often prone to safety hazards and sexual harassment. Unorganized workers (UW) in India have increased many folds post independence. Around 52% of UW's are engaged in agriculture & allied

sector and they constitute more than 90% of the labour work force. UW also contributes 50% to GDP (according to National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganized Sector i.e NCEUS). So it is of utmost importance to look into the plight of this poverty-stricken and downtrodden class of India.

As per "Ministry of Labour and Employment " definition : Unorganized sector means an enterprise owned by individuals or self-employed workers and engaged in the production or sale of goods or providing service of any kind whatsoever, and where the enterprise employs workers, the number of such workers is less than ten.

India's Ministry of Labour, in its 2008 report, classified the unorganised labour in India into four groups. This classification categorized India's unorganised labour force by

- occupation,
- nature of employment,
- specially distressed categories
- service categories

According to 2001 Census, India had 12.6 million children, aged 5–14, who work either part-time or full-time. Of these over 60 percent work in unorganised agriculture sector, and the rest in other unorganised labour markets. Poverty, lack of schools, poor education infrastructure and growth of unorganised economy are considered as the most important causes of child labour in India.

## III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Sample size: We have administered the interview schedule with 100 samples from different sites. Samples were randomly selected from different work sites.

Results are showing below:

Table: 1

Gender	frequency
male	64
female	36

Table 1 show male and female frequency in house construction workers.

Table:2

Age	frequency
Less more 20	10

20-29	38
30-39	27
40-49	23
50 and above	2

No of house construction working women according to age are shown in table 2

Table: 3

Education	frequency
Above 10th Class	10
Below 10th Class	38
Illiterate	52

From table 3, About house construction women worker education, above 10th class 10, below 10<sup>th</sup> class 38 and Illiterate 52

Table:4  
Health status

Parameters	Workers
Health Complaints	N=100
Diarrhea	3
Malaria	13
Teeth ache	3
Fever, cold, head ache	24
Skin problem	5
No complaints	52

We are taking 100 workers and see regarding the health issues, Workers suffering with Fever, cold, head ache were 24. The slide positivity rate for the malaria was 13.

#### IV. AWARENESS ABOUT GOVERNMENT SCHEMES AND SUGGESTIONS

The workers are happy with the situation, yet unknown about their rights. The workers were not aware about the schemes that are available for the construction workers. Neither their contractor nor the supervisor mentions them about their rights from government.

Suggestions are given below.

- Awareness about different Govt. Schemes for construction workers.
- Savings to be deposited in banks, post offices but not in chit funds.
- Awareness may be create on bank account opening for saving money.
- Improve leaving quality for better health.

#### V. CONCLUSION

In this paper we studied about health, lifestyle of house Construction women workers in India and unorganised

labour. How they are facing problem? The working conditions along with their health have lots of scope for improvement. It is very necessary to all workers to know about Government Schemes.

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