

## Theme 2-B: Urban Poverty Alleviation & Street Vender

### STREET FOOD VENDORS: FOOD SAFETY STANDARDS AND HYGIENE PRACTICES IN INDIA-A STUDY OF SELECT CITIES

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**Abstract:** Indian street food is as diverse as Indian cuisine. Every place has its own specialties to offer. They are described as wide range of ready-to-eat foods and beverages consumed on the streets without further preparation. Street vended foods are appreciated for their unique flavors as well as their convenience. In contrast to these potential benefits, they also provide employment to a large number of street food vendors who are often poor, uneducated, and lack knowledge in safe food handling. There are approximately one crore street vendors and out of them around 20-25 lakh are street food vendors. The quality and safety of street foods is fundamental and is determined by numerous factors. In order to improve the conditions of street food vendors and to make sure that the food sold does not put at risk public health, the first and foremost necessity is to build awareness that food vendors should maintain certain quality standard. In many areas, street foods are sold and food safety issues are not taken into consideration neither on the producer nor on the consumer side. Consumers tend to look mostly at the taste, variety and price and might be already accustomed to the taste of unhealthy meals. Vendors, on the other hand, have a very small margin of profit and are incentivized to keep expenses low by utilizing low quality ingredients and disregarding costly hygienic practices.



To break this vicious cycle, government need to embrace street food vendors as a dynamic economic sector. For the sake of public health, it is important to understand the epidemiology of food borne illnesses because it will help in prevention and control efforts, appropriately allocating resources to control food borne illness, monitoring, and evaluation of food safety measures, development of new food safety standards, and assessment of the cost-effectiveness of interventions. Needless to say, general education levels also play an important role in ensuring safe street foods. The more both vendors and patrons will be educated and the more they will know about issues such as nutrition and food safety, the more they will be interested in having the business as clean and the products as healthy as possible.

The focus of the present paper is to ascertain the level of awareness about food safety and hygiene practices among consumers, analyze the factors that influence consumer behavior towards street food and also to assess the knowledge, and attitudes of food vendors towards food safety and hygiene practices and food safety laws and regulations. The present paper is an outcome of a study undertaken by CCS, IIPA to examine the attitude, taste, preferences and awareness about food safety and hygiene issues and also to assess the level of food safety and hygiene practices among the street food vendors in India. The study also assessed the level of awareness among street food vendors towards food safety laws and regulations. In order to collect information various stakeholders (consumer, street vendors and concerned authorities) were approached to understand the health and hygiene of food and its impact on the consumers eating behavior.

**Keywords:** *Street Food, Quality and Safety, Public Health, Epidemiology*

### **POVERTY ALLEVIATION IN URBAN AREAS IN INDIA WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO RAJASTHAN**

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**Abstract:** India is one of the fastest growing economies. India is considered a potential emerging superpower among the world but before becoming one, a country should focus on alleviating the social, cultural, political and economic problems. Economic Development is one of the major developments through which a country can show its progress report to the world. Urban areas are the country's powerhouse where economic development booms but the scenario of urban areas have been changed to little dysfunctional as the urban poverty takes the charge and it is starkly visible in the megacities. This form of poverty affected not only the particular areas and people around but indirectly impacted the country's future economic conditions. The alleviation of Urban poverty is quite challenging to the Indian administration not only in megacities but each and every city of this country. There are many uncounted challenges administrators are facing to reduce it. This paper is framed for better understanding about urban poverty and its challenges faced by the National and local level administration. It also analyses the measures and the steps taken by Rajasthan Government towards Urban poverty mitigation, supported by the secondary data.

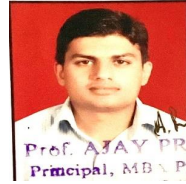


**Key Words:** *Social Inequality, Social Development, Urban poverty and Mitigation*

## HOLISTIC SKILLING FOR SMART PRACTICES, LIVELIHOOD AND SUSTAINABLE CITIES

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**Abstract:** The Smart Future brought with it the idea of smart cities. These cities in a phased manner would be the inspirational growth story of the country. When we talk about smart work culture, we literally introduce it with technology plus human skills. These skills are fundamental building blocks to improving economy of an individual, positive behavioural changes, judicious use of resources, capacity building for efficient management of issues like migration and enhancing abilities to deal with the adverse situation for administration and thus strengthening constitutional values of the Municipalities- making them better managers for the day- to -day affairs of urban life. The paper is based on the observations and insights from different reports .It uses sector based case approach to skill, up-skill and re-skill different stakeholders of city living culture and thus bring ease in the lives of all. It could be phenomenal in introducing citizen centric ideas integrated in the Transformation of Future of our cities. The paper also advocates for collaboration, coordination and convergence of dynamic strategies with the stakeholders to impart the idea of cities into Liveable, Livelihood centres and Sustainable cities.



**Keywords:** Behavioral Changes, Collaboration, Coordination, Convergence, Sustainable Cities

## PROTECTING URBAN POOR AND DESTITUTE: STUDY OF MUKHYAMANTRI BHIKSHAVRITI NIVARAN YOJNA (MBNY), BIHAR

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Destitution and beggary are major concerns across India warranting urgent attention and intervention in view of the increasing numbers, especially of children and women. According to 2011 Census, there are 4,13,670 beggars/ vagrants in India. Poverty, landlessness, unemployment or underemployment, calamities or famines, and other conditions of destitution are some of the problems driving people to beggary. Most states followed the Bombay Prevention of Begging Act, 1959 which prescribes penal action against beggars. However, the judiciary took a more humane stance and Delhi High Court decriminalised begging in 2018. The Supreme court of India observed that criminalising begging “violates the fundamental rights of some of the most vulnerable



people". To tackle this issue, the state of Bihar came up with a programme "Mukhyamantri Bhikshavriti Nivaran Yojana (MBNY)" in 2011-12 with an aim to protect and promote the rights of beggars by ensuring their care, protection, development, and socio-economic and cultural empowerment by enabling policies and programs. According to the Saksham Portal, 6740 persons have been rehabilitated from begging in Bihar.

This research aims to present a critical analysis of the MBNY scheme and is based on secondary data. Besides, data is also collected through observation and interviews of select NGOs and government officials associated with this scheme. Recently, the Government of India has addressed the persisting problem of destitution and beggary and formulated a comprehensive scheme of SMILE-75 (Support for Marginalised Individuals for Livelihood and Enterprise) which includes a sub-scheme of comprehensive rehabilitation for persons engaged in begging.

Though these legislations are welcome, the authors state that a multi-pronged approach involving sensitizing and integrating police, encouraging active participation of civil societies and religious institutions, transforming rehabilitation centres, skilling the identified people and giving a bigger role to panchayats and municipalities is imperative.

Keywords: Urban Poor, Destitute, Beggary, Marginalised, Livelihood, MBNY, Bihar

## URBAN INFORMAL STREET VENDING: WOMEN VENDORS IN MANIPUR

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**Abstract:** Urbanisation has led to an unprecedented increase in the urban informal sector in developing countries including India. There is a large migration of labour force from rural to urban areas in search of livelihoods. Since the sector has easy entry, it is considered to generate employment for unskilled and semi-skilled workforces which have no job prospects in the formal sector. And street vending, a prominent part of the informal sector, is a very common activity among women workforce contributing to household income. In the context of the above, the present paper tries to understand the working condition of informal women street vendors in urban centres of North East Region with a special focus on women vendors of Khwairamband Keithel in Imphal. Also, an attempt has been made to examine the roles of institutional policy and intervention in the working of street vending and their level of empowerment among licensed women vendors of Khwairamband Keithel and unlicensed women street vendors working around the market. The paper is based on primary data collected from



the field and also secondary literature including acts, rules and regulations on the street vendors and Khwairamband Keithel in particular. The study reveals that women street vendors working in Khwairamband Keithel through licensing have better working environment, means of livelihood and high degree of empowerment and spatial negotiating capacity compared to unlicensed street vendors working on the roadside around Khwairamband Keithel. Their negotiating ability increased because of their collective cooperation, state sociocultural factors, years of exposure, and the establishment of a registered organisation. As a result, they became more visible in the state's urban environment and political economy.

**Keywords:** *Informal Sector, Urban Centre, Empowerment, Women Vendor, Spatial Negotiating Capacity*

### **EMPOWERING GIRLS FROM SANITATION WORKER/MANUAL SCAVENGING COMMUNITY TO ADDRESS HEALTH HAZARDS THROUGH ENTERPRISE PROMOTION**

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**Abstract:** UNFPA and Patna Municipal Corporation entered into partnership in 2018 for planning and developing Patna into a socially smart and sensitive city. The partnership focused on empowering the Sanitation Workers of Patna Municipal Corporation on their health, safety and leadership as well as empower the women and children of the sanitation worker community across 20 slums of Patna on their health and gender rights and break the vicious cycle of caste-based occupation of manual scavenging. Given the successes of the interventions and some significant results, Patna Municipal Corporation requested UNFPA to further strengthen the Citizen's engagement aspect under the project with support from Patna Municipal Corporation and expanded the scale and scope of the project to 110 slums of Patna Municipal Corporation.



**Key words:** UNFPA, Municipal Corporation, Slums and Sanitation

## SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS AND ROLE OF RAG PICKERS IN SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT: A CASE STUDY OF DISTRICT GHAZIABAD.

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Research Scholar

**Abstract:** In addition to biodegradable garbage, municipal waste includes inorganic materials including glass, metal, rubber, plastic, and other random items that can be recycled. The contribution of a non-organized sector made up of rag pickers, scrap dealers, and waste traders to recycling, which together helps move waste to processing facilities. Rag pickers collect the recyclable and reusable garbage from landfills, dustbins, and roadside drains and sell it to nearby scrap dealers to pay for their daily necessities. Rag collectors work in a dangerous and unsanitary environment. They are constantly vulnerable to acquiring infectious infections, getting cuts, accidents and injuries etc. Their socio-economic situation is also terrible. These people lack sufficient knowledge, experience, and guidance to do anything else. This study was conducted to evaluate the rag pickers' socio-economic condition and their function in the management of municipal solid garbage in Ghaziabad district, Uttar Pradesh. The study was carried out on hundred rag pickers comprising of male and female in Gaupuri village, Pratap Vihar, Ghaziabad. A questionnaire survey that includes questions about age, sex, education, diseases, the type and weight of waste collected, distance travelled, etc. was used to conduct the research. Study shows that rag pickers live and work in filthy and vulnerable conditions. There is high prevalence of disease and occupational hazards among rag pickers. Their role is frequently not formally acknowledged, and they are paid poorly and are regarded as having a low social rank by the broader public. Instead of rag pickers being a very ignored and avoided component of our society, it is crucial to learn and respect their contribution to the hygiene and sanitation of our towns.



Keywords: Rag pickers, Socio-economic status, Solid Waste Management, Ghaziabad

## AN ASSESSMENT OF PM-SVANIDHI SCHEME

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Street vending has been an important source of livelihood for a vulnerable group in the informal economy, especially in the urban areas. They supply goods or services at affordable rates at either doorstep or nearby. But with increasing urban complexities, the vendors are facing challenges at several levels like municipal laws,



urban congestion, inferior quality of goods, behavioral issues, police harassment, etc. Street vending is regulated by Urban Local Bodies (ULBs), but the issues of street vendors started attracting the attention of policymakers at the national level since early 2000s and led to National Policy on Urban Street Vendors, 2009 and subsequently Street Vendors Act, 2014. While there were still many issues unresolved, the COVID-19 struck and street vendors were one of the most vulnerable groups having been hit adversely by it. State responded by launching PM-SVANidhi scheme, a Central Sector Scheme, to provide working capital to the street vendors in urban areas. The scheme is running into its third phase presently. ULBs and the financial lending institutions have a very important role to play into its implementation. More than 3 million street vendors benefited from the scheme in the first phase itself across 4604 ULBs. However, given the size of the urban population in the country, the number seems to be small.

This paper is an attempt to examine the efficacy of the scheme and also to assess as to what extent it has been able to achieve one larger objective of this scheme to help formalize the street vendors through digital interface at various levels, for which it has been designed accordingly. The analysis includes assessment of institutionalization of certain activities carried out under the scheme, which may have implications for the state in support to the vendors from the sustainability perspective.

**Key words:** *Street Vendors, Covid19, Sustainability and PM-SVANidhi*