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PROBLEMS OF WOMEN WORKERS IN CONSTRUCTION SECTOR: CITY GULBARGA SOCIOLOGICAL ANALYSIS

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Abstract:- The plans and programmes, in eradicating social evils against women, through different plan periods have come and gone, but the problems of the women remained intractable. Women are the doves, remaining within the four walls of the house, articulating with their own position, realized that the harassment could become more stringent, in reasserting locus stands in the contemporary social structure-being patriarchal and patri-potential in nature. Women form about a large portion of the world's populace, yet their voices are not heard in the passages of force. They have been influenced by absence of chances and offices emerging from the natural separation predominant in many social orders. Women don't have an equivalent status with men. They are moderately frail with little choice making power.

Keyword: Construction Sector, Sociological Analysis, Problems of Women Workers.

OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The present study is made by considering the following objectives.

- To know about the socio-economic aspects of the women construction workers.
- To study the Problems of Women Construction worker.

INTRODUCTION:

Work Force Participation or Labor Force Participation is a critical calculate the investigation of improvement methodology. The participation rates may change by district, by sex, and by time. Changes may be created by demographic components like ripeness, mortality, movement, and so on., by financial elements like the development of the economy, government vocation programs, extension of occupation opportunities in the private part, and so forth., furthermore by the development of training, aptitudes improvement, professional preparing open doors, and so on (PullaRao, 2007).

Contrasted with the sorted out or formal area, the women are assuming a critical part in casual segment or disorderly division. The Unorganized part is portrayed by no altered hours of work, lower wages, unreliability of work and occupation, separation, segregation, shamefulness, abuse, badgering, and so on. By and large women working in disorderly part are ignorant people and under-instructed, the wages they have been paid are biased, to a significant degree they are being abused by their proprietors, their economic wellbeing is likewise low, as they are from ordinary and uneducated gang. Work of couple of ladies laborers in this area is occasional. The ladies working in chaotic division are poor and have less monetary power and status in the general public. It is stressed that the ladies working in the disorderly and casual division are confronting misuse and inappropriate behavior from the proprietors or from male specialists. The women working in sloppy division will do work, for example, development work, horticultural workers, local and family hirelings, domestic and household servants and so forth.

The 51st round survey of NSSO reveals that the number of women regular employees in urban area is 10 times those in rural areas. Also the regular women work force in urban area has been increased by 15 per cent over the period from 1977 to 1995 (NSSO, 2002). It shows the rapid process of urbanization led to such an increase in the number of urban work force.

There is no exaggeration in saying that the backbone of Indian work force is the unorganized sector. According to 1991 census, the total women work force of 87.77 million, their share in the organized sector was only 4.2 per cent while the rest of

95.8 per cent were in the unorganized sector where there are no legislative safe guards even to claim either minimum or equal wages along with their male counterparts. Thus the unorganized sector in India is the women's sector (Sathyasundaram, 1996). The present section discussed the unorganized sector in general and women construction workers in particular.

WOMEN IN INFORMAL SECTOR:

The term 'informal sector' was introduced into development studies literature only quite recently (1971). Before that, till the late 1960s, there was an implicit belief in the 'trickle-down theory' whereby the so-called benefits of development, which were perceived to be cornered by a small section of the people, would gradually but surely reach sections that were toiling for it. The international crises of the late 1960s put an end to such hopes or theories that were being propounded (Gothoskar, 2003).

Women workers doing informal work include all those women who work and who do not have any legal or social protection. These would include at least (Gothoskar, 2003):

1. Agricultural workers
2. Forest workers
3. Fish workers
4. Rag-pickers
5. Construction workers
6. Home-based workers
7. Domestic workers or helps
8. Street vendors or sellers
9. Casual or temporary workers
10. Contract or dispatch workers
11. Workers in very small enterprises
12. Part-time workers

Actually, the division of work among men and women is deep rooted in our societies with patriarchal outlook. It is centuries old tradition that women everywhere have primary responsibilities for non-market (unpaid) house work and caring jobs, which leads to family constraints on their choice in terms of labour force participation and their access to paid employment, both formal and informal (Beneria, 2003). So, when non market work becomes more important, women frequently have less paid work experience often leading to lower earnings, low paid, unstable and poor quality employment. Sometimes it is argued that the 'care time' is a temporary phase in the life of a woman worker and its impact can be mitigated in the long period. But equal strong is the view that even short period gender inequalities can have long term consequences on economic growth and human development (Ranis, et al, 2000), so it would be crucial to give gender dimension to the employment analysis.

Considering the complexities involved in defining the nature of informal sector and also in view of the fact that it is continuously changing its form to include more and more occupations/activities, it is difficult to pinpoint a watertight definition of the informal sector and state its characteristics. However, based on the various studies done on its coverage and the parameters taken for collecting data on the sector, some characteristics can said to be typical of this sector:

- Informal sector enterprises usually employ fewer than ten workers, mostly immediate family members.
- The informal sector is heterogeneous: major activities are retail trade, transport, repair and maintenance, construction, personal and domestic services, and manufacturing.
- Entry and exit are easier than in the formal sector.
- Capital investment is generally minimal.
- Work is mostly labour intensive, requiring low-level skills.
- Workers learn skills on the job.
- The employer-employee relationship is often unwritten and informal with little or no appreciation of industrial relations and workers' rights.
- The informal sector works in conjunction with, rather than in isolation from, the formal economy. It has increasingly become integrated into the global economy.

REVIEW RELATED LITERATURE

Kurami and Tataji (1998) describe seasonal migration of women workers, both independent & associational, in Andhra Pradesh, India, with attention to patterns & process of migration & working conditions of migrants. The consequences of migration for the migrants & their households are also discussed.

Lindberg (2001) examined women workers' identity & class consciousness, drawing principally on in-depth interviews with three generations of female factory workers in Kerala, India. Extremely unequal power relations between capital & labor

are insufficient to explain the more pronounced exploitation of female workers over males. In spite of these women having the potential for collective power, their factory lives have been characterized by treatment in constant violation of labor laws. Low-caste female workers have gone through a process of feminization, which has acted to curb their class identity & limit their scope of action. In the process of caste & class emancipation, the question of gender has been neglected by trade union leaders & politicians. The radicalism of males is built on women's maintaining of the families, a reality that strongly contradicts hegemonic gender discourses & confuses gender identities.

Srivastava (2001) assessed the awareness level of women workers with respect to workplace policies & related welfare provisions, examines the socioeconomic & occupational correlates of awareness, & emphasizes the need for the creation of legal awareness among women workers. The study is confined to the substantially large, female-dominated, private-sector industries of Delhi with active trade unions.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

The present study began with the literature search. The researcher was referred Sociological Abstracts, leading regional, national and international journals and books published in the fields such as women studies, women professionals, working women, women employment, women in unorganized sector, women construction workers, etc.

Sample

The researcher used Simple Random Sampling method for selecting the respondents working in these areas by making survey of available women construction workers randomly. The researcher interviewed about 150 women construction workers for collecting the information for the present study.

Data Collection

Primary Data and Secondary data, Method of collecting Primary Data The Survey Method is one of the most popular data collection methods in Social Sciences. The Interview Schedule will be composed using different scales like dichotomous, multiple choice, descriptive and rating. In addition to this, the researcher adopted personal observation technique to ascertain the information on the nature of the activities of the Self Help Groups, economic and social status of the illiterate women, etc. The primary data collected through the Interview Schedule is represented in the form of Tables. The tables are analyzed with the percentages, so as to make analytical study and also help for comparison of different kinds of the data. Further, on the basis of collected data certain generalizations were stated as findings and conclusion.

Socio-economic Status of Women Construction Workers

The researcher interviewed total 150 women construction workers working in different construction areas such as Jayanagar, Pooja Colony, Annamma Nagar, Basaveshwar Nagar, Brahmapur, GDA Layout, Sangameshwar Colony, Venkateshwar Nagar, etc in Gulbarga city. Among the total 150 (100%) respondents covered under the present study, 28.67% are between the age group of 19 to 25 years, followed by 27.33% are between the age group of 41 to 55 years, about 25.33% of the respondents are between the age group of 26 to 40 years, about 10.67% of the respondents are of below 18 years and the remaining only 8.00% are of above 55 years of age. It is worth to emphasize that even though the Government is passing laws and policies to curb child labour, the present study revealed that about 10.67% of the women construction workers are minors. The educational background of the respondents revealed that 42.00% of the respondents are illiterates, followed by 20.67% completed lower primary education, 19.33% are completed higher primary education, about 14.67% are completed secondary education and the remaining 3.33% are studied education above secondary level. Very interestingly it is noted that even though educated about 20% of the respondents are engaged in unskilled work that is construction work.

Working Role of Women leads Conflicts and Quarrels:

The working women have dual roles to play in the society. That is to work outside the family as well as to work as housewife in the family. Under such circumstances, there is possibility of conflicts and quarrels in the family. It was asked to the respondents whether the working role of women leads to conflicts and quarrels in the family and the following table presented the collected information:

Table No. 1 Working Role of Women leads to Conflicts and Quarrels

Particulars	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Agree	78	52.00
Disagree	38	25.33
Don't Know/ Can't Say	34	22.67
Total	150	100

The above table made it clear that about 78 (52.00%) of the respondents are agreed that the working role of women leads to conflicts and quarrels in their families, followed by 38 (25.33%) are not agreed to the same and the remaining 34 (22.67%) are not knowing and not expressed their opinions on the same.

Table No. 2. Working Women fulfill Socio-economic, Psychological and Sexual Needs of Husbands

Particulars	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	105	70.00
No	45	30.00
Total	150	100

The above table shows that 105 (70.00%) of the respondents are agreed that working women can fulfill socio-economic, psychological and sexual needs of their husbands, whereas 45 (30.00%) are not agreed to the same. Majority of the respondents are agreed that working women can fulfill socio-economic, psychological and sexual needs of their husbands, which shows that their extent of satisfaction of marital life.

Table No. 3. Women working outside affect the Family Life:

As discussed already working women have to play dual role at their work place as well as in their family. Hence, it is believed that the family life of working women is affected. The following table presented the collected information on whether the women working outside affect their family life.

Table No. 3. Women working outside affect the Family Life

Particulars	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Yes	91	60.67
No	59	39.33
Total	150	100

It is noted from the above table that 91 (60.67%) of the respondents are agreed the family of the women gets affected, if they are working outside, whereas the remaining 59 (39.33%) are not agreed to the same. Even though majority of the respondents are agreed that their marital life is satisfactory, about 60.67% of the respondents are agreed that women working outside affect the family life.

Table No. 4. Effects of Working Women on Family

It was noted from the above table that 91 (60.67%) of the respondents are agreed that the family life of the working women is gets affected. It was asked to these respondents to furnish such effects and the collected information is tabulated as under.

Table No. 4. Effects of Working Women on Family

Particulars	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Children do not get proper attention	48	52.75
Peace of Mind gets disturbed	18	19.78
Husband and Other members not well cared for	68	74.72
Personal Health is affected	52	57.14
It becomes difficult to maintain the Joint character of the family	16	17.58
Total	91	100

It is observed from the above table that majority of the respondents chosen more than one effect on their family due to women working outside the family. Particularly, majority that is 68 (74.72%) of the respondents are agreed that husband and other members are not well cared for, followed by, 52 (57.14%) are agreed that their personal health get affected, about 48 (52.75%) are stated that their children do not get proper attention, about 18 (19.78%) are expressed that their peace of mind gets disturbed and the remaining 16 (17.58%) of the respondents are expressed that it becomes difficult to maintain the joint character of the family. Due to the working women their family members are get affected and are not well cared for as expressed by majority of the respondents.

CONCLUSION

According to 1991 census, the total women work force of 87.77 million, their share in the organized sector was only 4.2 per cent while the rest of 95.8 per cent were in the unorganized sector where there are no legislative safe guards even to claim either minimum or equal wages along with their male counterparts. Also the regular women work force in urban area has been increased by 15 per cent over the period from 1977 to 1995 (NSSO, 2002). By and large women working in disorderly part are ignorant people and under-instructed, the wages they have been paid are biased, to a significant degree they are being abused by their proprietors, their economic wellbeing is likewise low, as they are from ordinary and uneducated gang.

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