



Challenges And Opportunities For Street Vendors In Coimbatore City

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INTRODUCTION

1.1 INTRODUCTION

An evening walk often leads us to the vendors selling fragrant jasmine flowers, vegetables, fruits, hot Bonda's and Baji's. Street vending has been a part of our culture and tradition. Traditionally, during the time of the festival and seasonal time street vendors mostly in the form of selling different products like fruits, flowers, vegetables, and other eatables on the road side. Street vendors form an important part of the socio-cultural and economic life since time immemorial. These vendors have been a part of our lives, which till date continues.

Nowadays, the employment plays a very important role in the human society. According to 2023 the total population of India is 1,425,775,850. The data shows that around 37% (20, 01,012) was self-employed. All people want to engage in white collar jobs, but the Government and Non-Government Organization is not ready to give job for all the people. So, the individual and the group of people are involving in the self-employment, particularly in the informal sectors. Mainly the people are migrating from rural to urban areas and taking part in the Street Vending.

However, street vendors often face numerous obstacles that hinder their ability to thrive and contribute to the local economy. This study utilizes a qualitative research approach, employing interviews and surveys to gather data from street vendors in Coimbatore City. The findings of this study highlight the need for policy interventions and support mechanisms to address the challenges faced by street vendors. By understanding the specific problems faced by street vendors in Coimbatore City, policymakers, urban planners, and relevant stakeholders can develop targeted strategies to improve the working conditions and livelihoods of street vendors.

Street vendors provide us with practically everything close to our home like eatables, electronics, toys, clothes etc. Urban youth prefer to purchase clothes and other accessories from them because products sold by them are typically cheaper than those found in formal retail outlets. Many of them are migrants from agricultural backgrounds and people who have been displaced by many of the mega development and infrastructure project. They work day and night without hesitating and they never mind the climate and pollution they keep on working for their family it led to poor health. Many vendors are forced to pay monetary bribes result in taking away half their wares.

1.2 STATEMENT OF PROBLEM

In developing countries like India, the informal sector including street vending absorbs the majority of the urban unemployed growing labor force. It creates a wide employment opportunity; it is a means for income generation for the marginalized groups, and the urban poor especially for those who migrate from the rural area. However, despite its increasing importance in the total economy policies, regulations, services, infrastructure facilities and support are not available for the street vending and the environment under which the vendor operate their business are not suitable for their health and wellbeing. In addition to this, there is no proper attention, which is given to street vending by policy makers, decision makers. Currently, there is even strong negative measures and view prevailing against street vending both by the local government and by the formal business operators. In addition, street vendors face many problems in the course of running their activities. It is therefore, the focus of this study is to assess the challenges and prospects of street vending in Coimbatore city.

1.3 OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

The very general objective of the research is to describe the current status, needs and problems of street vendors in Coimbatore. To analyze the socio-economic profile of street vendors in Coimbatore City.

- To identify the key challenges faced by street vendors, including regulatory, financial, and infrastructural constraints.
- To examine the impact of government policies and regulations on the livelihood of street vendors.
- To explore the opportunities for growth and sustainability, including digital payment adoption and formal market integration.

1.4 RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

1. Research Design

This study follows a descriptive research design to analyze the challenges and opportunities faced by street vendors in Coimbatore City. The study aims to understand the socio-economic conditions, regulatory challenges, and potential growth prospects of street vendors. Both quantitative and qualitative approaches will be used to collect and analyze data.

2. Study Area

The research will be conducted in Coimbatore City, covering key commercial and street vending zones, including markets, public spaces, and transport hubs where street vendors operate.

3. Population and Sampling

Target Population: Street vendors in Coimbatore City engaged in selling various goods such as food, clothing, household items, and other products.

Sampling Technique: Convenience sampling method will be used to select respondents due to the informal nature of street vending.

Sample Size: The sample will include 123 street vendors, depending on accessibility and response rate.

Period of study

The period of study for research is between November 2024 to February 2025

Primary Data Collection:

Structured Questionnaire: A survey questionnaire will be used to collect data on demographic details, income, working conditions, regulatory challenges, and business sustainability.

Interviews: Semi-structured interviews with vendors and local authorities will provide qualitative insights.

Observations: Field visits will help document the working environment, challenges, and vendor interactions with customers and authorities

Secondary Data Collection:

Government Reports: Policies and regulations related to street vending in Coimbatore. Academic Papers &

Journals: Previous studies on street vendors and urban informal markets.

NGO Reports & Media Articles: Information on challenges faced by street vendors and interventions.

1.5 SCOPE OF STUDY

This study is attempted to address the challenges and opportunities of street vendors in Coimbatore state, in general it also serves as a stepping stone to understand work life balance, social impacts, government rules etc. of street vendors in Coimbatore is fruitful.

TOOLS USED FOR ANALYSIS**PERCENTAGE ANALYSIS**

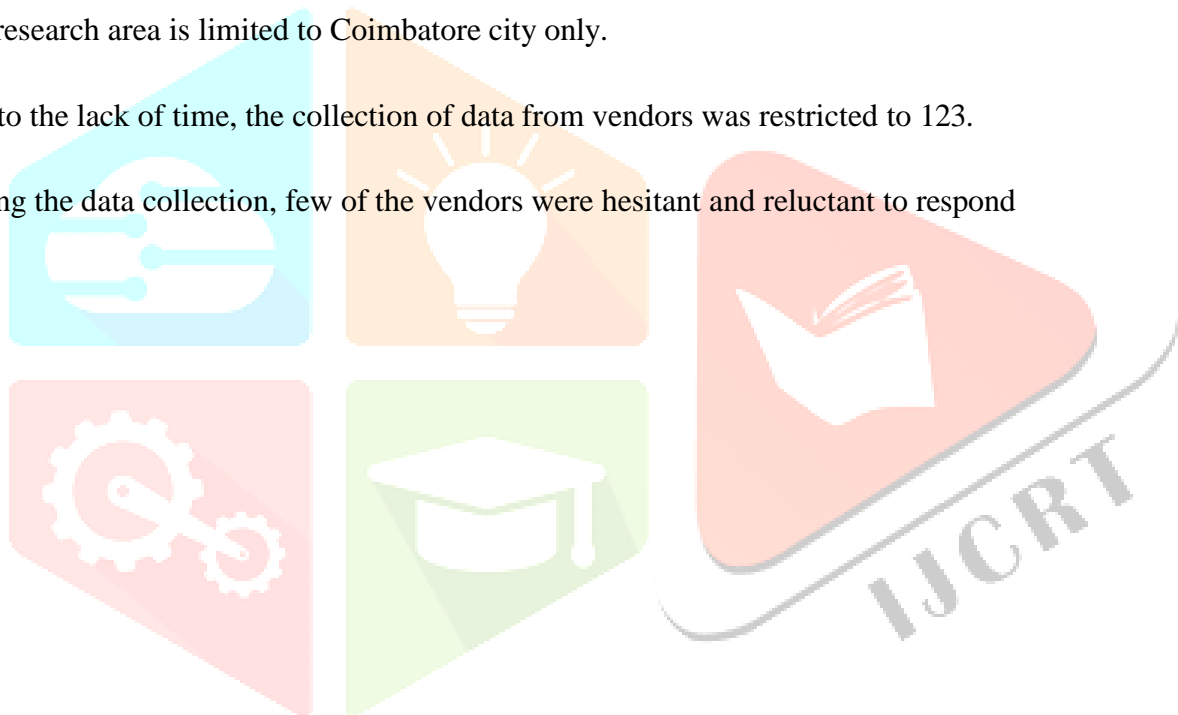
Research questions are always answered with a descriptive statistic; generally, either percentage or mean. Percentage is appropriate when it is important to know how many of the participants gave a particular answer. Generally, percentage is reported when the responses have discrete categories. 4. Data Collection Methods

Both primary and secondary data sources will be utilized:

PERCENTAGE METHOD = NUMBER OF RESRESPONDENTS

1.6 LIMITATIONS

- The research area is limited to Coimbatore city only.
- Due to the lack of time, the collection of data from vendors was restricted to 123.
- During the data collection, few of the vendors were hesitant and reluctant to respond



REVIEW OF LITERATURE

- **Nazia Dharejo, Hakim Ali Mahesar, and Ashique Ali Jhatial (2022)** explore the role of street hawkers in Pakistan's economy, particularly in Sindh, and the challenges they face. Despite their significant contribution, research on this sector remains limited. Using qualitative methods, the study analyzes the economic impact of street vending and identifies key issues faced by vendors. The findings highlight problems such as lack of legal recognition, financial instability, and inadequate infrastructure. The study suggests that addressing these challenges could improve the conditions of street vendors and enhance their contribution to the economy.
- **Dr. G. Jayanti, Baranipriya. A and Sreeanadan (2020)** in their study examined the "socio economic condition and problems faced by the street vendors" in Coimbatore city. The result reveals that, female's contribution in this sector is lesser than the male respondents and they were facing problems like health issues, wastage of unsold goods, and insecurity in employment. Therefore, the government should take some corrective measures to improve their socio- economic and living conditions of street vendors.
- **Mahfuzur Rahman, Farzana Ahmed Mukta, and Md. Hafezur Rahman (2020)** examine the socio-economic conditions of vegetable street vendors in Dhaka. Most vendors have low incomes, poor savings, and limited education. Women, making up only 11.34% of vendors, face greater challenges, including financial insecurity, lack of union support, and inadequate public facilities, affecting their health and safety. The study stresses the need for better support for women vendors.
- **V. Darling Selvi and K. Veilatchi (2020)** highlight the struggles of women street vendors in Kovilpatti City, emphasizing their low education levels, rural backgrounds, and limited income. Despite being experienced, vendors face challenges such as inadequate finance, poor infrastructure, lack of marketing strategies, and job insecurity. The study finds that vendors primarily seek better infrastructure, garbage disposal, and government support. To improve their livelihood's, sustained efforts are needed in

education, health, and employment. Legal protection, basic amenities, and welfare measures like social security and pensions are suggested to enhance their living conditions.

- **S. Saradhamani, K. S. Kavitha, and K. Sindhuja (2019)** state that street vending provides significant employment opportunities for women. The study examines the demographic factors and challenges faced by women in the informal economy. Women street vendors sell goods on pavements and streets, facing multiple issues beyond earning for survival. They deal with uncertain and insecure working conditions, lack of support, eviction threats, and harassment by local authorities.
- **Doibale, M. K., Mohite, S. D., Sawase, G. B., & Pagadal, P. H. (2019)** in their study of “socio-demographic profile and causes of street vending in an urban area”, Aurangabad, Maharashtra found that one-fourth of the street vendors experience health problems associated with their work. Parikshit Chakraborty, & Samarpita Koley (2018) in their study found that the street vendors working conditions and the working environment is very poor. They also face problems in the absence of shelters and storage space (Kurniawati, W. 2012).
- **Prasad and Begari (2018)** in their study have inspected about the “issues and challenges faced by street vendors” in Telangana. Major constraints in street vending were fear of eviction by municipality officials, lack of hygienic storage facilities, and lack of permanent space for vending, price fluctuation, finance, and competition from other street vendors, organized retail sector.
- **V. Manickavasagam (2018)** highlights that street vendors, mostly from low-income backgrounds with limited education, rely on vending as their primary livelihood. They provide essential goods like fruits, vegetables, clothing, and household items at affordable prices. Removing them from urban markets would severely impact farmers and small-scale industries that depend on them for distribution.

- **According to Dr. V. Jaishankar (2016) [3]**, the present study “Challenges faced by Street vendors” is descriptive by nature. The universe of the study covers whole Tiruchirappalli city as its population. The sampling is selected by using convenient sampling and the sample size is confined as 90. The present study is selected in street vendors who are selling vegetables and home appliances through vehicles. Other category will eliminate due to time and cost constraints. The objective of this paper is to identify the causes behind street vending, challenges faced by street vendors, highlight the importance of street vendors, what measures are taken by the Government to prevent the harassment of street vendors by police and other authorities, improvement in the working conditions, social protection and life skill development to improve the level of profitability.

- **Sharath A.M(2016)** conducted ‘An economic analysis of street food vendors’ with special reference to Durgigudi street, Shivamogga city’ and observed that 56% of Street Food Vendors are having own house, 52% of Street Food Vendors earning annual income of 1Lakh to 2Lakhs and 36% of Street Food Vendors earning annual income of above 2Lakhs. In the study area, the women participation in Food Street Vending is lower than male participation.

- **M. Selvakumar, V. Sathyalakshmi, and K. Siva Murugan (2014)** examine the working conditions of street vendors in Sivakasi, focusing on financial access, social security, and occupational well-being. Street vending, a small-scale entrepreneurial activity, provides a livelihood for many due to limited formal employment opportunities. The study highlights the rapid growth of street vendors in India, particularly in major cities like Mumbai. While vending offers an easy entry into business, challenges such as financial instability and lack of social security persist, emphasizing the need for better support and regulation.

- **Neera Shrestha (2013)** highlights that street vending in Kathmandu provides livelihood opportunities for rural migrants with limited skills. While men rely on it as a primary income source, women engage in vending to supplement household earnings. Despite gaining financial independence, women face multiple responsibilities and

limited control over their income. Changing social norms have led to more diverse participation in vending, though health issues remain a concern.

- **John Walsh (2010)** founded that the “common problem faced for vendors” involved excess of stock (especially perishable items like fruits and vegetables) at the end of the day. He also pointed out that since some of the goods being traded are seasonal in nature, therefore there is threat of the vendors falling below the poverty line in out of season periods, unless suitable alternatives can be identified and sourced.
- **Brata (2010)** in their study “Issues and challenges faced by street vendors” looked into the vulnerability of street vendors in Java since the time when Java was hit severely by the economic crisis in 1997/1998 and found that food vendors are more vulnerable than non-food vendor or street vendors who provide services. Brata opined that high vulnerability will decrease the ability of street vendors to preserve their survival ability.
- **Channamma K C (2010)** in her study “Problems faced by Women street vendors” found that women vendors are mainly engaged in fruit, vegetable and flowers vending which are perishable bring loss if left unsold. Women constitute about forty per cent of the total street vendors and thirty per cent of them are the sole earning members of their family.
- **Saha, (2009)** in his study “Problems faced by street vendors” stated that the street vendors are typically treated as encroachers of public space and are considered as unlawful face the harassment of police and enforcement authorities.
- **NarumolNirathron (2006)**’s paper titled ‘**Fighting Poverty from the Street**’ – A Survey on Street Food Vendors in Bangkok’ was based on 744 street vendors and 385 buyers of street food from Klogtoey and Dindaeng districts in Bangkok Metropolis. The study revealed that about 88% of the vendors were migrants. Food vending was not the first occupation of most vendors. Many of them were previously engaged in other occupations like farming, manual labour and monthly wage work. About 56% were engaged in street vending as individual operators and 44% were family operators. About 48% got into food vending only because of need for more income. Around 22%

street vended with a desire for autonomy The main advantage found was convenience (70.1%) and main disadvantage was, it caused obstruction for pedestrians (53.5%).

- **Shari Bhowmik (2005), in his investigation ‘Street Vendors in Asia’:** A Review inspected the road sellers in Asian nations in particular Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bangkok (Thailand), Singapore, Kuala Lumpur, Manila, Hanoi, Cambodia, Seoul and India. The investigation dissected the greatness of road distributing in various nations. The appraisal found that the quantity of road sellers in the nations was on an expansion. The number expanded in view of contracting of occupations in formal part and with absence of work in provincial zones.



COMPANY PROFILE

OVERVIEW:

Empower Street is a social enterprise dedicated to addressing the challenges faced by street vendors across urban areas. We recognize the vital role that street vendors play in the economy, providing affordable goods and services while contributing to the vibrancy of local communities. However, these vendors often encounter numerous obstacles in their daily operations, ranging from legal issues to lack of access to resources and infrastructure. Empower Street aims to empower these vendors by providing them with the necessary support, resources, and advocacy to thrive in their businesses. Here is an overview of the key problems faced by street vendors:

CATEGORIES OF STREET VENDORS

Street vendors may be stationary in the sense that they occupy space on pavements or other public or private spaces or they may be mobile in the sense that they are moving from one place to another place.

- 'Mobile Vendors' includes those vendors carrying baskets, hung on balancing poles on their shoulders, bicycle, tricycle, and motorcycle, as well as trucks or vans selling commissioned food stuffs such as vegetables, blankets and ice creams.
- 'Semi-Mobile' vendors include those selling from carts, which may be stationary or moved from one site to another.
- 'Stationary' vendors may sell their foods from permanent structures at certain points in the city or even in front of shops, providing tables and chairs for immediate consumption.

DEFINITION OF STREET VENDORS

Section 2(1) of Street Vendors Act, 2014 “Street vendors” means a person engaged in vending of articles, goods, food items or merchandise of everyday use or offering services to the general public, in a street lane, pavement, footpath, or any other public place or private area, from a temporary built-up structure or by moving from place to place includes hawker, peddler, squatter and all other synonymous terms which may be local or region-specific; and the words “street vending” with their grammatical variations and cognate expressions, shall be constructed accordingly. The mobile vendors move from place to place and sell their goods and commodities. The static vendors remain in a fixed place and sell their products to the public.

CONTRIBUTION OF STREET VENDORS

Street vending is an important source of employment for many unskilled men and women from rural to urban backgrounds (Tshuma and Jari 2013). It is a boon for the rural poor to generate employment (Mishra, 2011). Street vending will be increasing and the demand for space will also expand in future (RamanathJha, 2016). According to the Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation, there are approximately 10 million street vendors in India (2019, September 27) (Bhowmik, 2001) RamanathJha. (2018) reports that the statistical estimation of street vendors is different and conflicting as “The Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014” calculates a maximum of 2.5 percent of a city’s population as street vendor

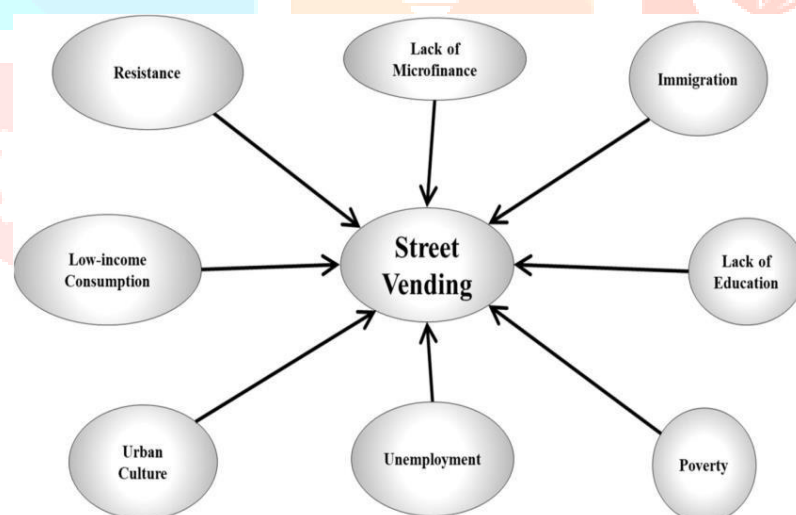
STREET VENDORS AND URBAN ECONOMY

The total employment provided through street vending becomes larger if we consider the fact that sustains certain industries by providing becomes markets for their goods. A lot of the commodities are sold by street vendors, such as the clothes, fruits, plastic items, flowers, books, newspapers, leather and household wares manufactured in small scale or cottage industries. These industries employ a huge number of workers and they rely mainly on street vendors to market their products. In this way street vendors provide a valuable service by helping sustain employment in these industries. Street vendors are mainly those who are unsuccessful or unable to get standard jobs. This section of the urban poor tries to solve their problem through their own meager income. Different other sections of the urban residents they

do not demand that government create jobs for them, or hold in begging, pinching or extortion. They are trying to live with dignity and self-respect through hard work.

SOME OF THE CHALLENGES INCLUDE:

- The street vendors lead a very difficult life, the mode of travel or their working hours, it providing hardly any time for rest and for relaxation, which creates adverse effects on their health.
- Increased traffic affects their mobility on Main Street.
- They are deprived by laws made by government in respect of labor union.
- The Street vendors always suffer competition with other street vendors because of fluctuation in market prices, insecure and irregular employment. Their incomes are often minimal and their sales fluctuate.
- Street vendors are usually associated with encroachment of public spaces, causes traffic, inadequate hygiene, and poor waste disposal. Safety of food has been increasingly become a concern in regard to street vendors.



1. Lack of Legal Recognition and Protection:

- Many street vendors operate in legal grey areas, facing harassment, fines, and confiscation of goods due to lack of proper permits and licenses.
- Inadequate legal recognition and protection leave vendors vulnerable to exploitation and abuse by authorities and other market actors.

2. Limited Access to Markets and Customers:

- Street vendors often struggle to access prime locations with high foot traffic, limiting their visibility and sales opportunities.
- Competition with formal businesses and other vendors for space and customers further exacerbates this challenge.

3. Financial Constraints and Limited Access to Credit:

- Lack of access to formal financial services, such as credit and savings accounts, makes it difficult for vendors to invest in their businesses and cope with financial emergencies.
- High interest rates and collateral requirements from informal lenders pose additional barriers to accessing credit.

4. Infrastructure and Sanitation Issues:

- Inadequate infrastructure in vending zones, including lack of clean water, sanitation facilities, waste management systems, and shelter from the elements, jeopardizes the health and safety of vendors and customers alike.
- Poor infrastructure also detracts from the aesthetic appeal of public spaces and contributes to environmental degradation.

5. Social Stigma and Discrimination:

- Street vendors often face social stigma and discrimination based on their occupation, ethnicity, gender, or socioeconomic status, which affects their dignity and sense of belonging in the community.
- Discriminatory practices by authorities and customers further marginalize vulnerable groups of vendors, such as women, migrants, and people with disabilities.

6. Limited Skills and Business Development Support:

- Many street vendors lack formal education and training in business management, marketing, and financial literacy, hindering their ability to optimize their operations and adapt to market changes
- Limited access to capacity-building programs and mentorship opportunities constrains vendors' entrepreneurial potential and innovation.

7. Insecurity and Vulnerability to External Shocks:

- Street vendors operate in an unpredictable and often volatile environment, facing risks such as theft, vandalism, natural disasters, and fluctuations in consumer demand.
- Lack of social protection mechanisms and insurance coverage leaves vendors financially vulnerable in times of crisis.

Addressing these multifaceted challenges requires a comprehensive and collaborative approach involving government agencies, civil society organizations, private sector actors, and the vendors themselves. By recognizing the rights and contributions of street vendors and implementing supportive policies and programs, cities can create more inclusive and vibrant urban spaces where all residents can thrive.

HISTORY OF STREET VENDORS

The history of street vendors dates back thousands of years, evolving alongside the development of human civilization and urbanization. Street vending has been a fundamental aspect of commerce and cultural exchange in societies around the world. Here's an overview of the history of street vendors:

1. Ancient Civilizations:

- Street vending can be traced back to ancient civilizations such as Mesopotamia, Egypt, Greece, and Rome. In these societies, vendors sold goods such as food, textiles, pottery, and other everyday items in marketplaces, along streets, and at communal gatherings.

2. Medieval Period:

- During the Middle Ages in Europe, street vending flourished in bustling market towns and urban centers. Vendors played a vital role in supplying goods to urban residents, travelers, and pilgrims. Markets became central hubs of economic activity and social interaction.

3. Colonial Era:

- The era of European colonialism brought significant changes to street vending in regions across the globe. Colonial powers established marketplaces and trading posts to facilitate the exchange of goods, often displacing indigenous vendors or integrating them into colonial economies.

4. Industrial Revolution:

- The Industrial Revolution of the 18th and 19th centuries transformed urban landscapes and the nature of commerce. While the rise of factories and mass production led to the decline of traditional artisanal crafts, street vending persisted as a means of livelihood for urban populations, especially immigrants and marginalized communities.

5. Modern Urbanization:

- The 20th century witnessed rapid urbanization and demographic shifts, leading to the proliferation of street vending in cities worldwide. Economic changes, such as globalization and neoliberal policies, have both facilitated and challenged the livelihoods of street vendors, with many operating in the informal sector due to limited access to formal employment opportunities.

6. Regulatory Responses:

- Governments have historically grappled with regulating street vending, balancing the interests of vendors, consumers, and urban development. Policies regarding licensing, zoning, health and safety standards, and public space management have varied widely across different contexts, often reflecting social, political, and economic dynamics.

7. Social and Cultural Significance:

- Street vending has long been intertwined with the cultural fabric of communities, serving as a platform for culinary traditions, artistic expression, and social interaction. Street vendors contribute to the vibrancy and diversity of urban life, offering unique products and experiences that reflect local tastes and preferences

Contemporary Challenges and Innovations:

- In the 21st century, street vendors continue to face various challenges, including gentrification, urban redevelopment, competition from formal businesses, and regulatory crackdowns. However, advancements in technology and social entrepreneurship have also opened new avenues for street vendors to reach customers through online platforms, food trucks, and mobile applications.
- Despite the evolving landscape of urban economies and governance, street vending remains a resilient and integral component of urban life, reflecting the ingenuity, adaptability, and entrepreneurial spirit of individuals striving to make a living in the public realm.
- NASVI began as an initiative in Patna in 1998 and grew into a nationwide movement that resulted in the adoption of a Central Law in 2014 as well as the nationwide Policy in 2004.

National Association of Street Vendors of India



NASVI

BENEFITS OF JOINING NASVI:

Promoting the financial inclusion policy of the government of India, NASVI promotes linking of street vendors with the banks by opening the bank accounts and also helping them to access loans. Remittances are the transfer of money by migrant workers back to their family and friends staying in another country.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission at Empower Street is to empower street vendors by addressing the systemic challenges they face and creating opportunities for their sustainable growth and prosperity. We strive to build inclusive and resilient urban economies where street vendors are recognized, respected, and supported.

SERVICES:

- **Legal Assistance:** We offer legal support and advocacy to help street vendors navigate regulatory frameworks, licensing requirements, and disputes with authorities.
- **Financial Services:** Empower Street provides access to microfinance, savings programs, and financial literacy training to help vendors manage their finances and invest in their businesses.
- **Market Access:** We connect street vendors with market opportunities, including festivals, events, and online platforms, to expand their customer base and increase their sales.



- **Training and Capacity Building:** Our organization offers training workshops and skill development programs to enhance the business acumen and entrepreneurial skills of street vendors.
- **Infrastructure Development:** We collaborate with local governments and stakeholders to improve infrastructure in vending zones, including sanitation facilities, waste management systems, and security measures.
- **Advocacy and Representation:** Empower Street advocates for the rights and interests of street vendors at the local, national, and international levels, lobbying for policies that support their livelihoods and promote their inclusion in urban planning processes.

IMPACT:

- Through our comprehensive approach, Empower Street has made significant strides in improving the lives of street vendors:
- Increased income and economic stability for vendors.
- Enhanced social and economic inclusion of marginalized communities.
- Strengthened partnerships with government agencies, NGOs, and other stakeholders.
- Improved urban environments with vibrant and inclusive public spaces.
- Empowerment of women and youth vendors through targeted programs and support.

FUTURE GOALS

- Scaling our services to reach more street vendors in urban areas globally.
- Deepening our engagement with policymakers and stakeholders to advocate for supportive policies and regulations.
- Fostering innovation and entrepreneurship among street vendors through technology and market-based solutions.



- Strengthening partnerships with corporate sponsors, philanthropic organizations, and academia to sustain our programs and initiatives.
- At Empower Street, we believe that by empowering street vendors, we can create more inclusive, equitable, and resilient cities for all. Join us in our mission to support the unsung heroes of urban economies and build a brighter future for communities around the world



PERCENTAGE ANALYSIS

TABLE 4.1. shows the age wise classification of respondents:

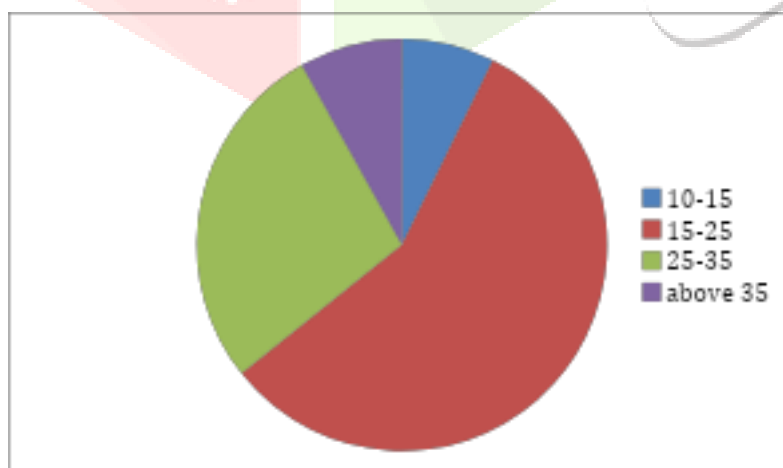
S.NO	AGE	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONDENTS
1	10-15	9	7.3
2	15-25	70	56.9
3	25-35	34	27.6
4	35 and above	10	8.1
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table shows that out of 123 respondents, 7.3% of respondents are aged between 10- 15 , 56.9% of respondents are aged between 15-25 ,27.6% of respondents are aged between of 25-35 and 8.1% of respondents are above 35 years of age.

CHART 4.1 shows the age wise classification of respondents:



INFERENCE:

The majority 56.9% of the respondents are aged between 15-25.

TABLE 4.2 shows the qualification of respondents:

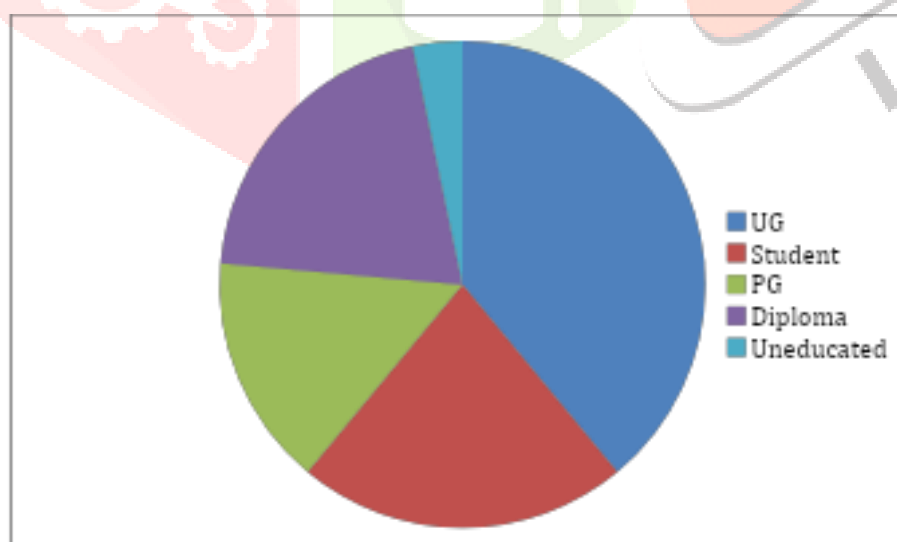
S.NO	EDUCATIONAL STATUS	NO OF RESPONSE	PERCENTAGE
1	UG	48	39
2	Student	27	22
3	Diploma	25	20.3
4	PG	19	15.4
5	Uneducated	4	3.3
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table shows that out of 123 respondents, 39% of respondents are pursuing UG, 22% of respondents are Students, 20.3% of respondents are pursuing Diploma and 15.4% of respondents are pursuing PG, 3.3% of respondents are Uneducated.

CHART 4.2 shows the qualification of respondents:



INFERENCE: The most 39% of the respondents are pursuing UG.

TABLE 4.3 shows the marital status of respondents:

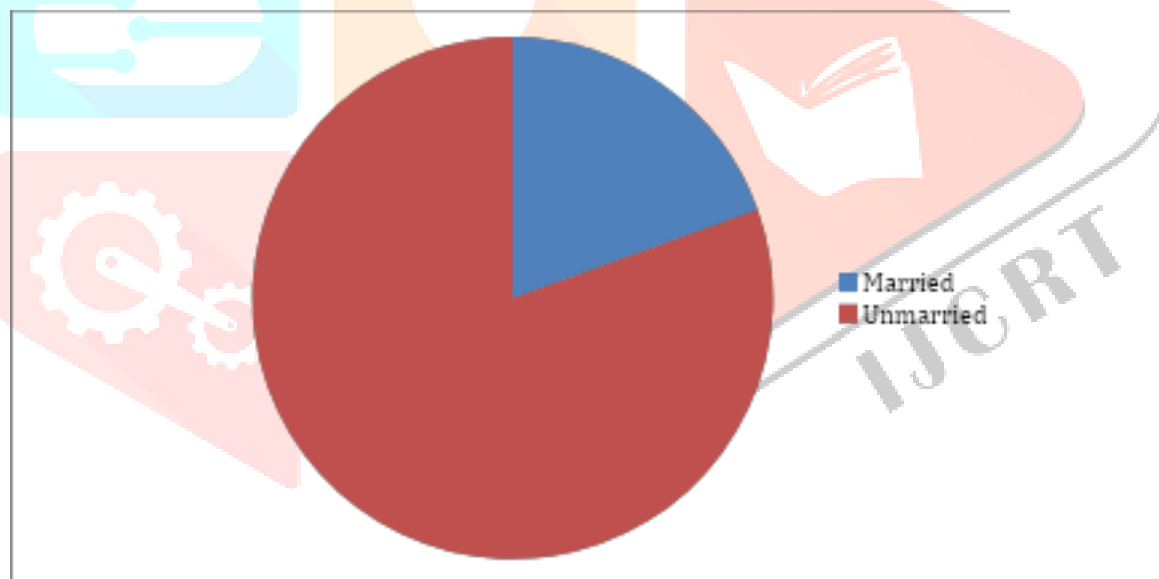
S.NO.	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONSE	PERCENTAGE
1	Married	24	19.5
2	Unmarried	99	80.5
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table shows that out of 123 respondents, 19.5% of respondents are married and 80.5% of respondents are unmarried.

CHART 4.3 shows the marital status of respondents:



INFERENCE:

The majority 80.5% of respondents are Unmarried.

TABLE 4.4 shows the monthly income of respondents:

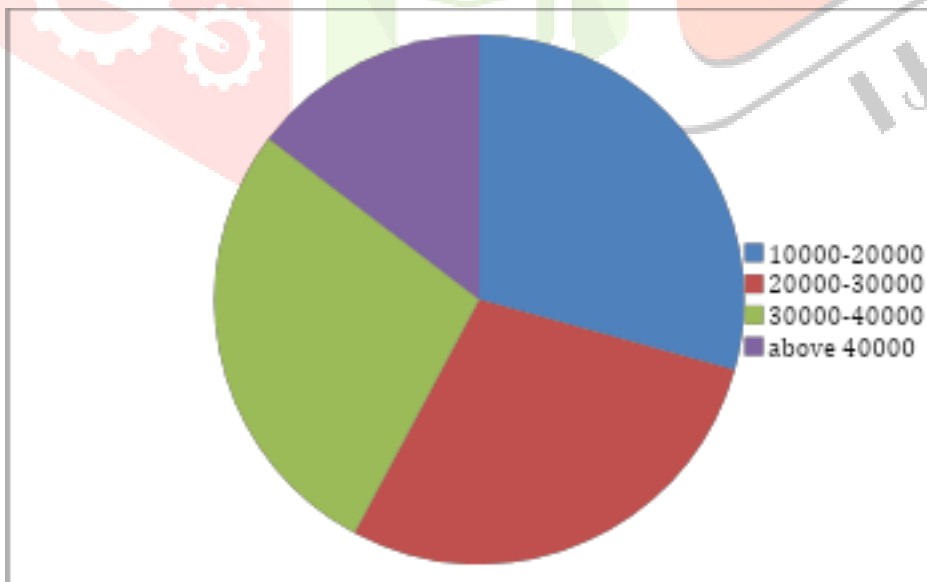
S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONSE	% OF RESPONDENTS
1	10000-20000	36	29.3
2	20000-30000	35	28.5
3	30000-40000	34	27.6
4	Above 40000	18	14.6
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table shows that out of 123 respondents, 29.3% of respondents are earning between 10000-20000, 28.5% of respondents are earning between 20000-30000, 27.6% of respondents are earning between 30000-40000, 14.6% of respondents are earning above 40000.

CHART 4.4 shows the monthly income of respondents:



INFERNCE:

The most 29.3% of respondents are earning between 10000-20000.

TABLE 4.5 shows the gender of respondents:

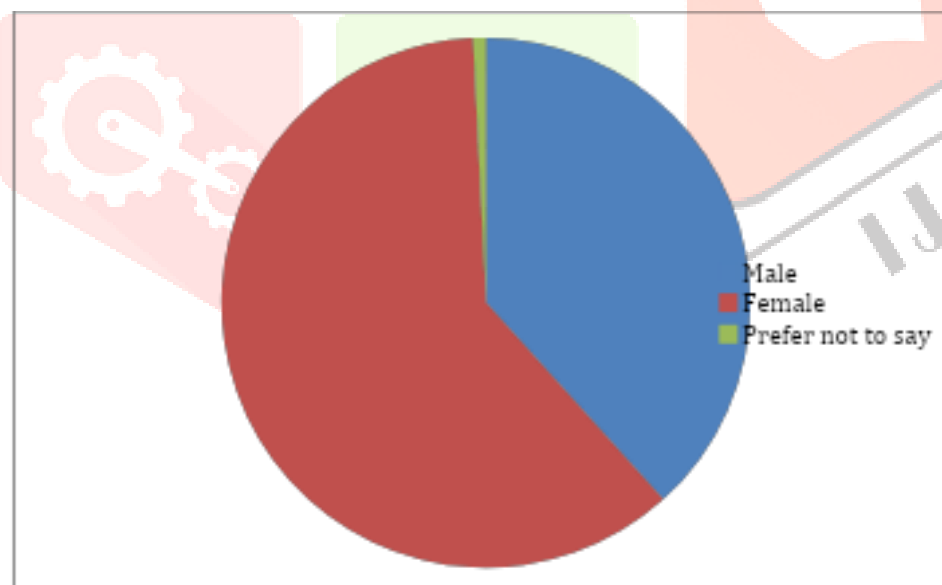
S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONSES	% OF RESPONSE
1	Male	48	39
2	Female	74	60.2
3	Prefer not to say	1	0.8
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table shows that out of 123 respondents, 39% of respondents are Male, 60.2% of respondents are Female and 0.8% of respondents doesn't prefer to say.

CHART 4.5 shows the gender of respondents:



INFERENCE:

The majority 60.2% of respondents are Female.

TABLE 4.6 shows the type of vending products of respondents:

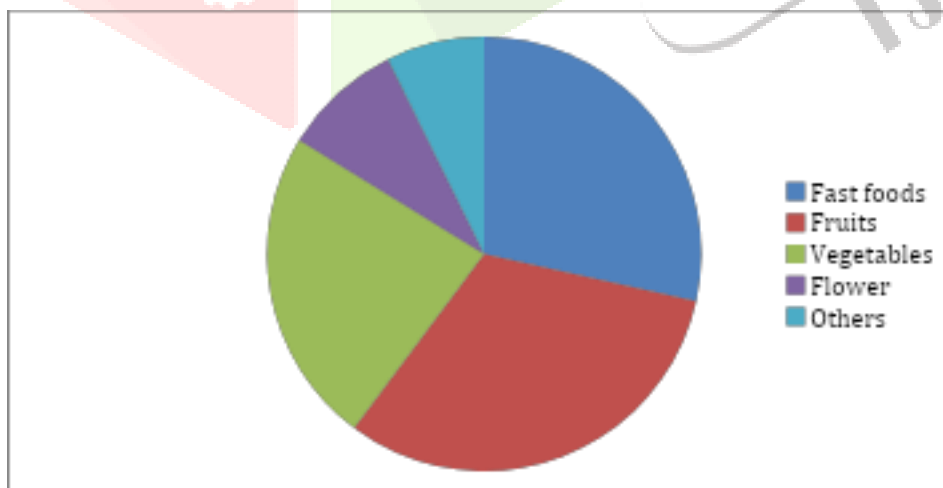
S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSE
1	Fast foods	39	28.5
2	Fruits	35	31.7
3	Vegetables	29	23.6
4	Flowers	11	8.9
5	Others	9	7.3
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table shows that out of 123 respondents, 28.5% of respondents are Fast food sellers, 31.7% of respondents are Fruit seller, 23.6% of respondents are Vegetable sellers, 8.9% of respondents are Flower sellers and 7.3% of respondents are other product sellers.

CHART 4.6 shows the type of vending products of respondents:



INFERENCE:

The most 31.7% of respondents are Fruit sellers.

TABLE 4.7 shows the number of years in street vending of respondents:

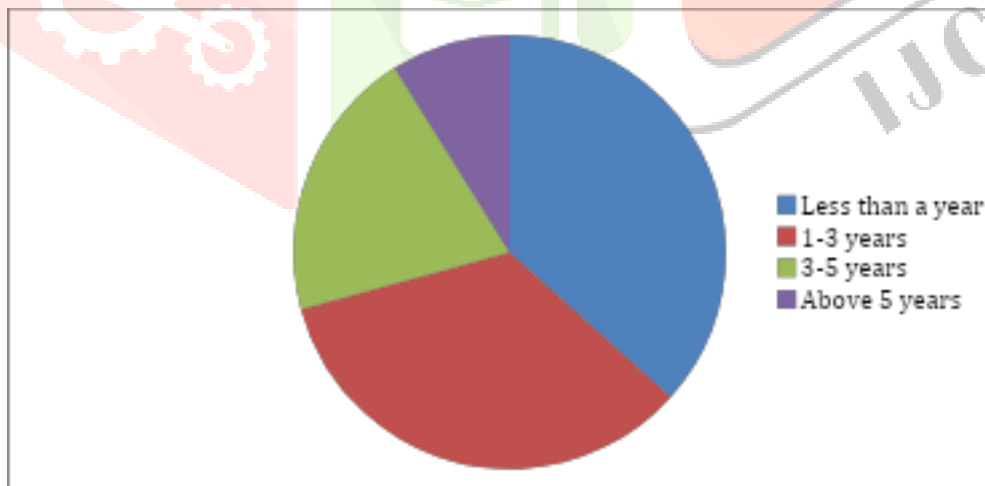
S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSE
1	Less than a year	45	36.6
2	1-3 years	42	34.1
3	3-5 years	25	20.3
4	Above 5 years	11	8.9
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table shows that out of 123 respondents, 36.6% of respondents work less than a year, 34.1% of respondents work between 1-3 years, 20% of respondents work between 3-5 years, 8.9% of respondents are working above 5 years.

CHART 4.7 shows the number of years in street vending of respondents:



INFERENCE:

The most 36.6% of respondents are working less than a year.

TABLE 4.8 shows the reasons for street vending of respondents:

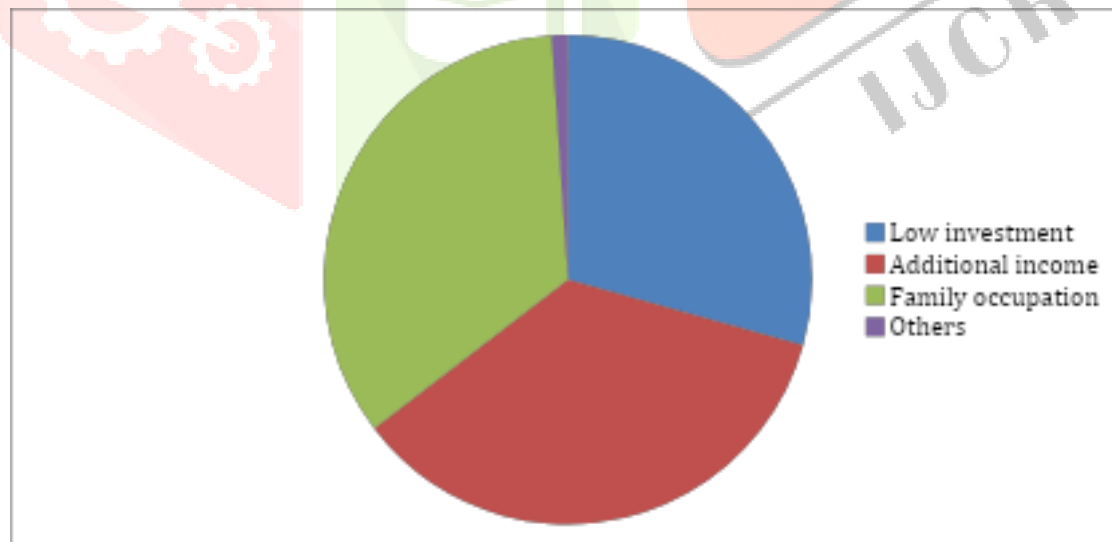
S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSE
1	Low investment	41	33.3
2	Family occupation	39	31.7
3	Additional Income	40	32.5
4	Others	18	14.6
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table shows that out of 123 respondents, 33.3% of respondents reason is Low investment, 31.7% of respondents reason is Family occupation, 32.5% of respondents reason is Additional income, 14.6% of respondents opt for other reasons.

CHART 4.8 shows the reasons for street vending of respondents:



INFERENCE:

The most 33.3% respondents' reason for street vending of low investment.

TABLE 4.9 shows the awareness about the street vendors scheme of respondents:

S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSE
1	Yes	46	37.4
2	No	53	43.1
3	Maybe	24	19.5
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table shows that out of 123 respondents, 37.4% of respondents answered Yes, 43.1% of respondents answered No, 19.5% of respondents answered Maybe.

CHART 4.9 shows the awareness about the street vendors scheme of respondents:



INFERENCE:

The most 43.1% of respondents are not aware of the street vendor's scheme.

TABLE 4.10 shows the challenges of respondents in street vending:

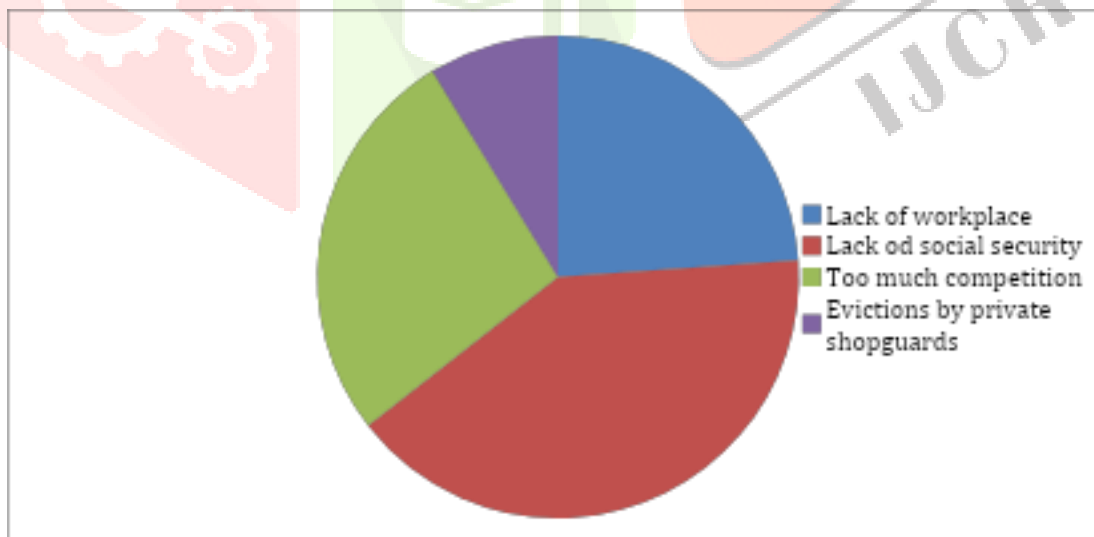
S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSE
1	Lack of workplace	33	26.8
2	Lack of social security	56	45.5
3	Too much competition	37	30.1
4	Evictions by private shop guards	12	9.8
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table shows that out of 123 respondents, 26.8% of respondents challenge is Lack of workplace, 45.5% of respondents challenge is Lack of social security, 30.1% of respondents challenge is too much competition, 9.8% of respondents challenge is Evictions by Private shop guards.

CHART 4.10 shows the challenges of respondents in street vending:



INFERENCE:

The most 45.5% of respondent's main challenge is Lack of social security

TABLE 4.11 shows the improving measures of respondents:

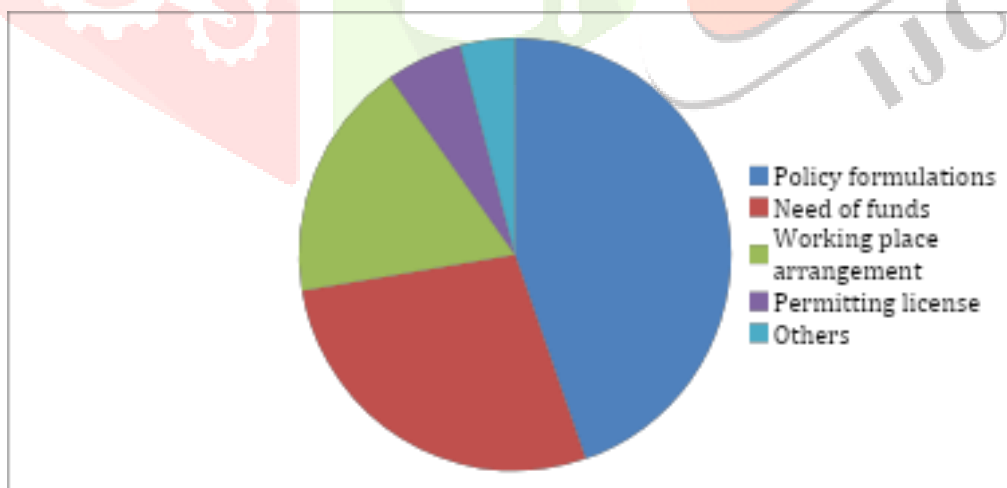
S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSE
1	Policy formulations	55	44.7
2	Need of funds	34	27.6
3	Working place arrangement	22	17.9
4	Permitting license	7	5.7
5	Others	5	4.1
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table shows that out of 123 respondents, 44.7% of respondent's suggestion is policy formulations, 27.6% of respondents opt for need of funds, 17.9% of respondents suggested working place arrangement, 5.7% of respondents opt for permitting license, 4.1% of respondents opt for other reasons.

CHART 4.11. Shows the improving measures of respondents:



INFERENCE: The most 44.7% of respondents suggested for policy formulations.

TABLE 4.12 shows the measures for risk of theft of respondents:

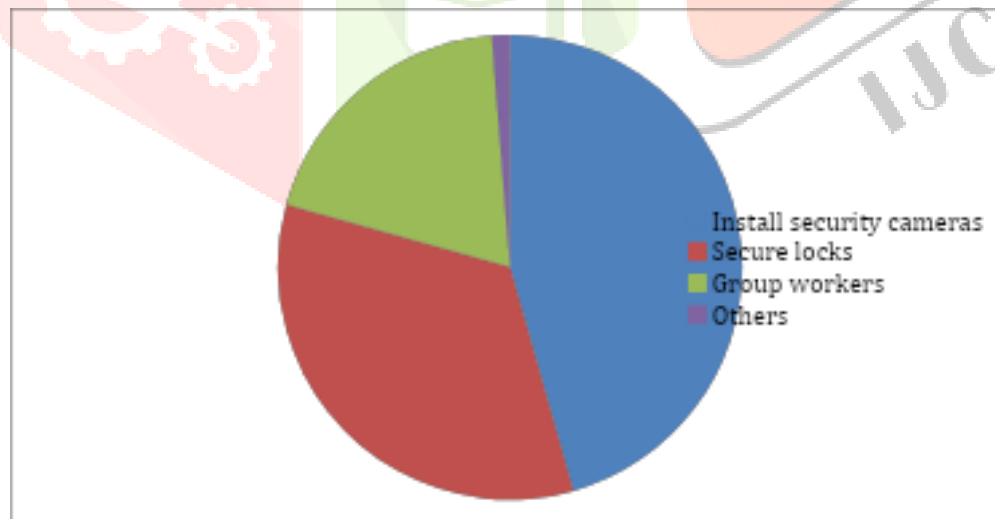
S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSE
1	Install security cameras	54	43.9
2	Secure locks	40	32.5
3	Group workers	23	18.7
4	Others	6	4.9
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table shows that out of 123 respondents, 43.9% of respondents opt for Installing security cameras, 32.5% of respondents opt for secure locks, 18.7% of respondents opt for working in groups, 4.9 % of responded opt for other reasons.

CHART 4.12 shows the measures for risk of theft of respondents:



INFERENCE:

The most 43.9% of respondents opt for installing security cameras.

TABLE 4.13. Shows the harassments or unfair treatments of local bodies:

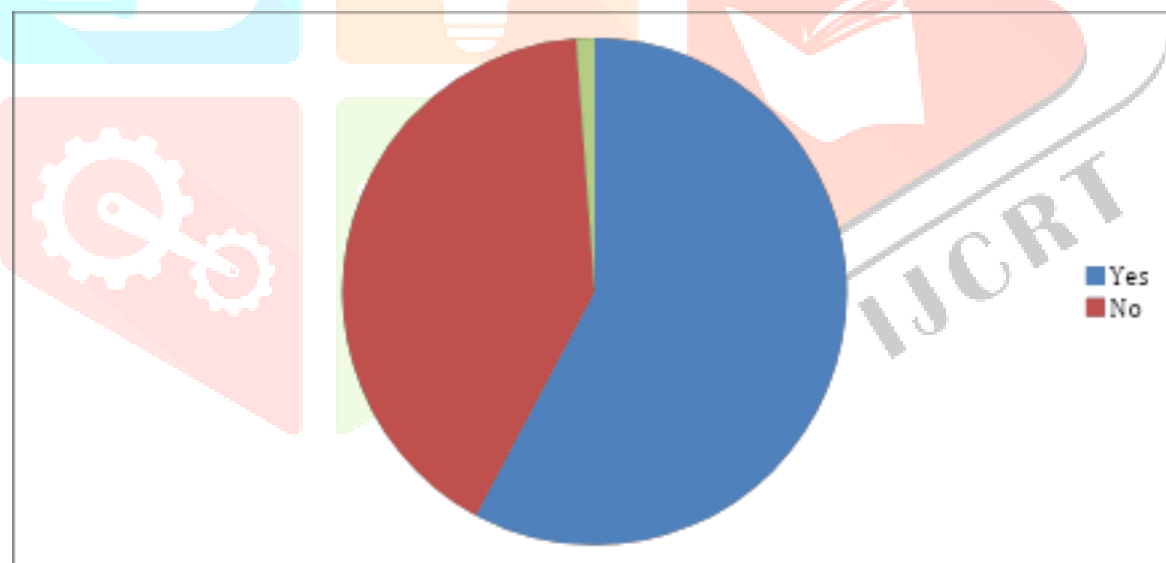
S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSE
1	Yes	72	58.5
2	No	51	41.5
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table shows that out of 123 respondents, 58.5% of respondents faced harassments, 41.5% of respondents doesn't face any harassments from local bodies.

CHART 4.13 shows the harassments or unfair treatments of local bodies:

**INFERENCE:**

The majority 58.5% of respondents faced harassments from local bodies.

TABLE 4.14 shows the Support or resources of respondents:

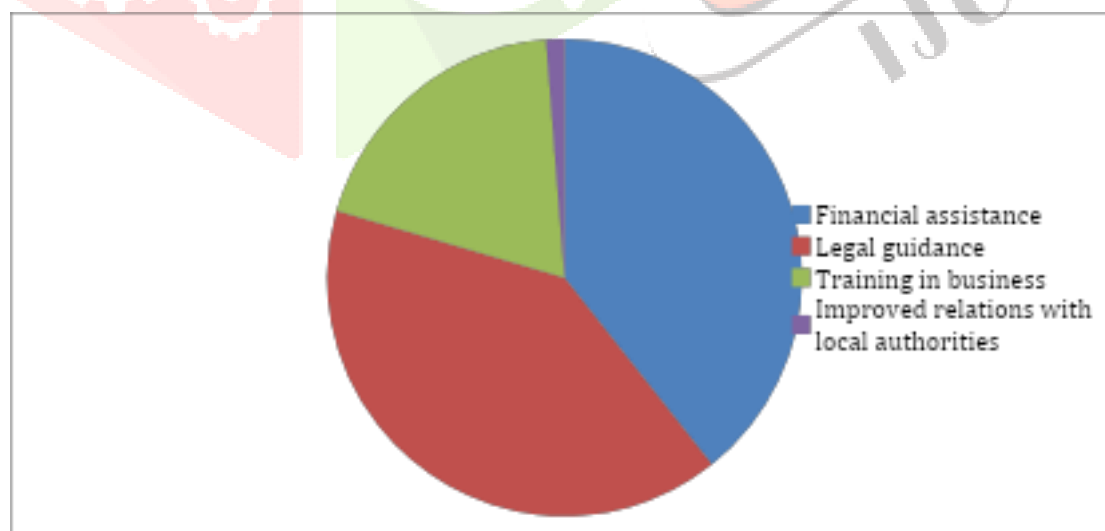
S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSE
1	Financial assistance	47	38.2
2	Legal guidance	48	39
3	Training in business	23	18.7
4	relations with local authorities	10	8.1
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The data in the above table shows that out of 123 respondents, 38.2% of respondents resource is financial assistance, 39% of respondents opt for legal guidance, 18.7% of respondents opt for training business ,8.1% of respondents go with improved relations with local authorities.

CHART 4.14 shows the Support or resources of respondents:



INFERENCE:

The most 38.2% of respondents support or resource is for financial assistance.

TABLE 4.15 shows the support factor of respondents while financial constraints:

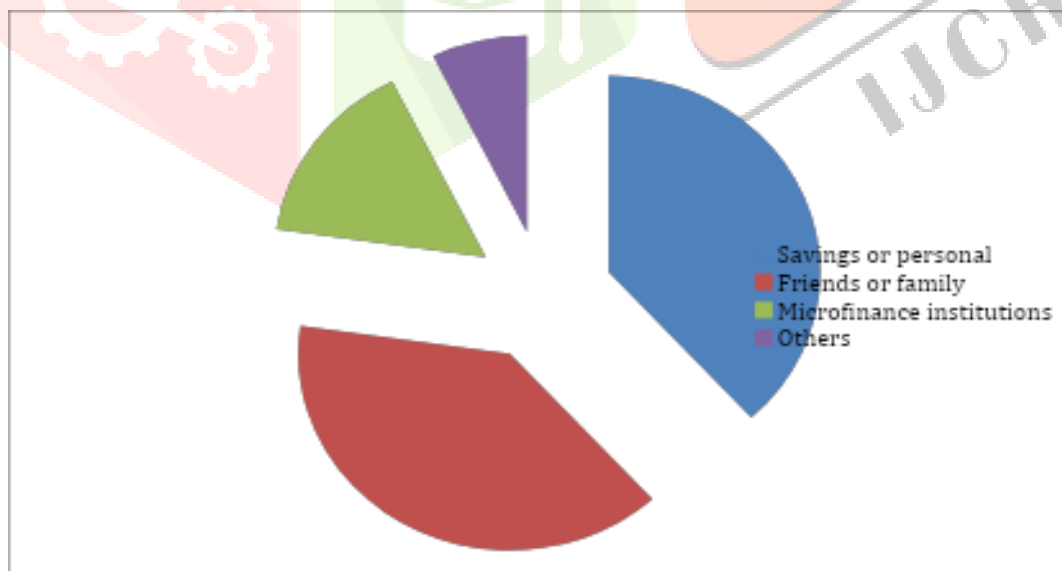
S. NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSE
1	Friends or Family	48	38.2
2	Savings or Personal fund	47	39
3	Microfinance Institutions	19	15.4
4	Others	9	7.3
	Total	122	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table shows that out of 123 respondents, 38.2% of respondents support resources is friends or family, 39% of respondents opt for Savings or personal funds, 15.4% of respondents resource is Microfinance institutions, 7.3% of respondents opt for others resources.

CHART 4.15 shows the support factor of respondents while financial constraints:



INFERENCE:

The most 39% of respondents resource is Savings or Personal funds.

TABLE 4.16 shows the effect of weather conditions of respondents:

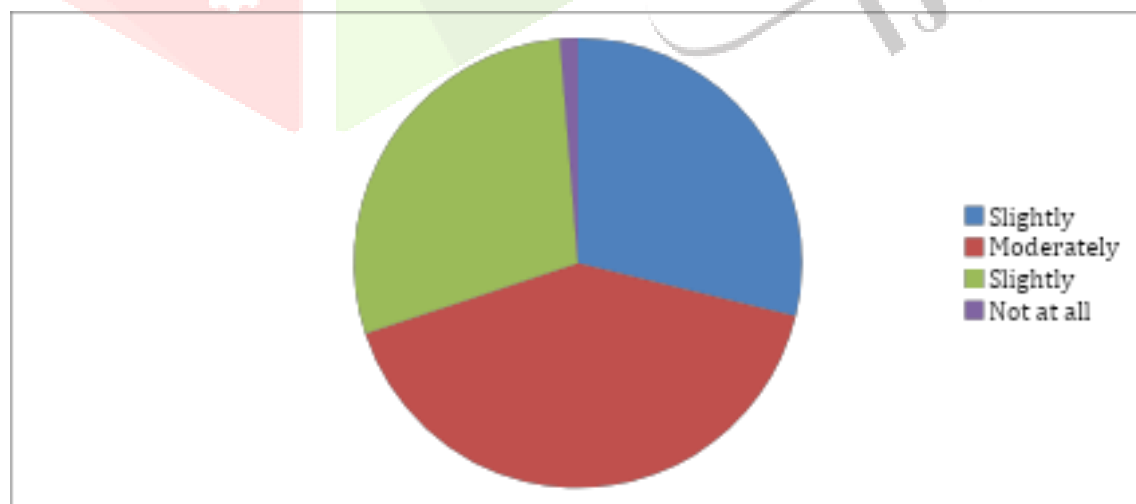
S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSE
1	Significantly	47	26.8
2	Moderately	33	38.2
3	Slightly	33	26.8
4	Not at all	10	8.1
	Total	122	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above data shows that out of 123 respondents, 26.8% of respondents answered the effect is significant, 38.2% of respondents answered the effect is moderate, 26.8% of respondents answered the effect is slight, 8.15% of respondents there is no effect of weather conditions.

CHART 4.16 shows the effect of weather conditions of respondents:



INFERENCE:

The most 38.2% of respondents answered the effect of weather condition is moderate.

TABLE 4.17 shows the respondents are protected by law:

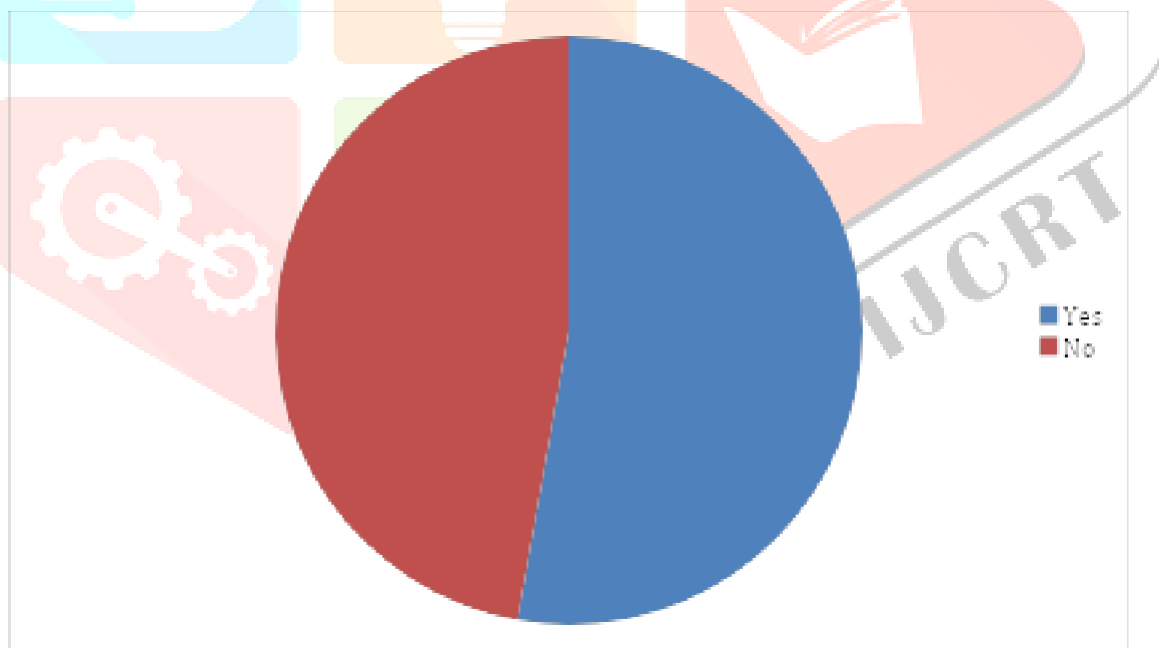
S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSES
1	Yes	65	52.8
2	No	48	47.2
	Total	122	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above data shows that out of 123 respondents, 52.8% of responses answered yes, 47.2% of respondents answered No.

CHART 4.17 shows the respondents are protected by law:



INFERENCE:

The mostly 52.8% of respondents are protected by law.

TABLE 4.18 shows the competition factor of respondents:

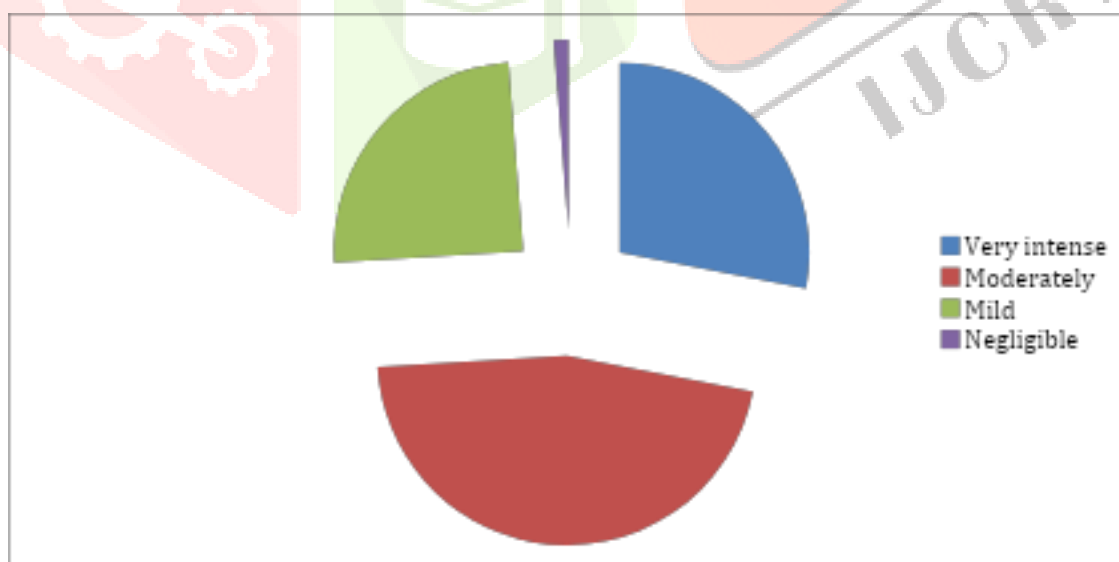
S.N O	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSE
1	Very intense	54	26.8
2	Moderately	33	43.9
3	Mild	29	23.6
4	Negligible	7	5.7
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above data shows that out of 123 respondents, 26.8% of respondents face very intense competition, 43.9% of respondents face moderate competition, 23.6% of respondents face mild competition, 5.7% of respondents face negligible competition.

CHART 4.18 shows the competition factor of respondents:



INFERENCE:

The most 43.9% of respondents face moderate competition.

TABLE 4.19 shows the health or safety concerns of respondents:

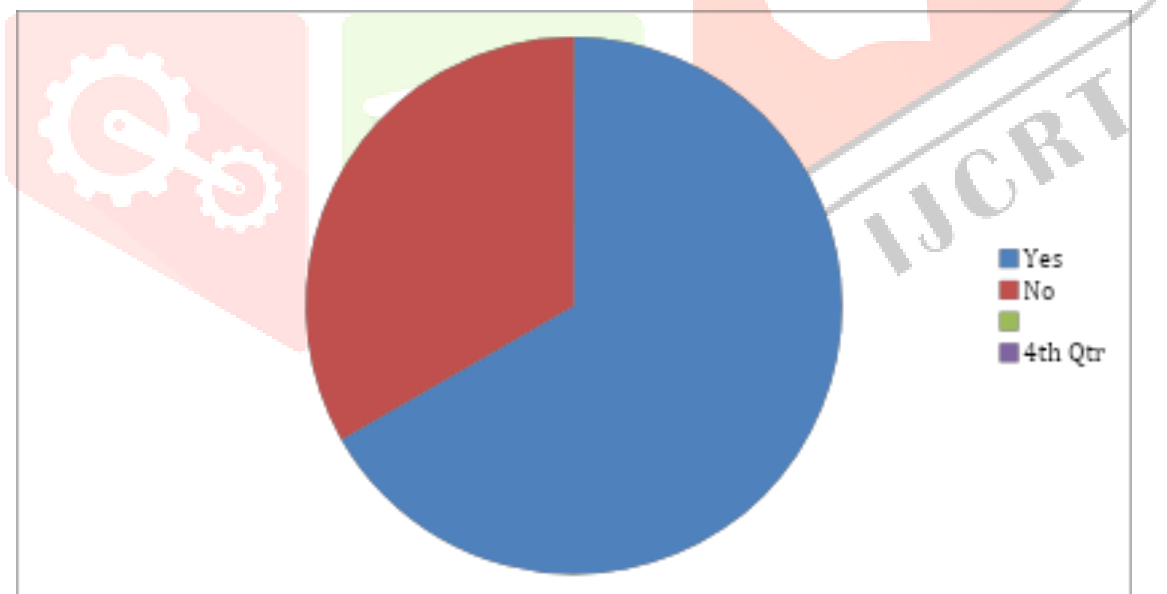
S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSES
1	Yes	82	66.7
2	No	41	33.3
3	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above data shows that out of 123 respondents, 66.7% of respondents faces health concerns and 33.3% of respondents doesn't face any health or safety concerns.

CHART 4.19 shows the health or safety concerns of respondents:



INFERENCE:

The majority 66.7% of respondents faces health or safety concerns.

TABLE 4.20 shows the language challenges of respondents:

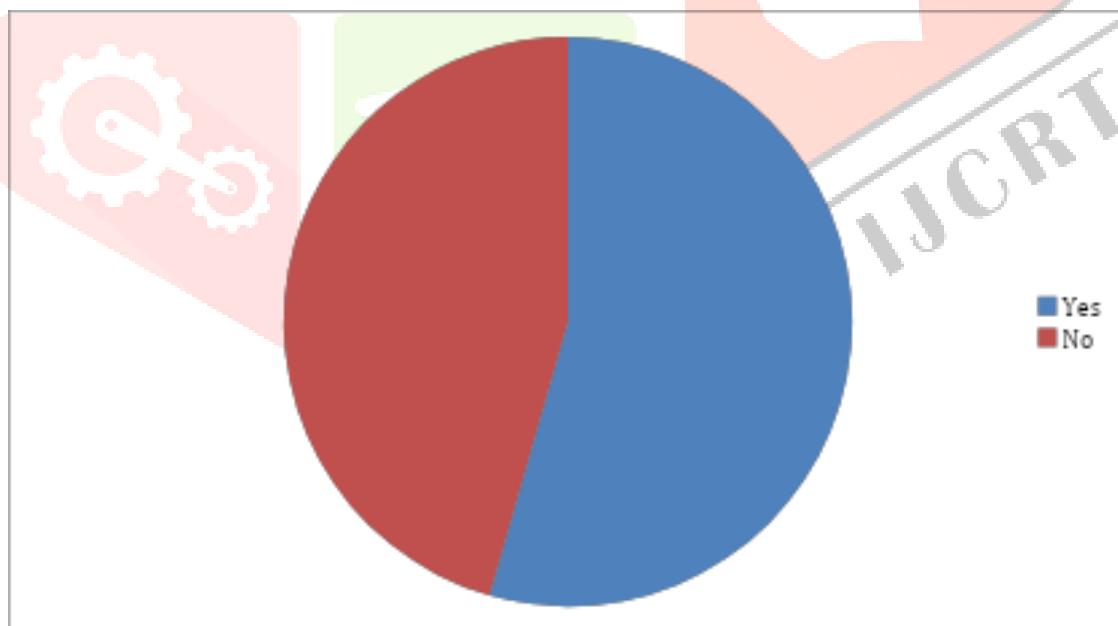
S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSES
1	Yes	67	54.4
2	No	56	45.5
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table data shows that out of 123 respondents, 54.4% of respondents faces language challenges, 45.5% of respondents doesn't face language challenges.

CHART 4.20 shows the language challenges of respondents:



INFERENCE:

The majority 54.4% of respondents face language challenges.

TABLE 4.21 shows managing the language barriers of respondents:

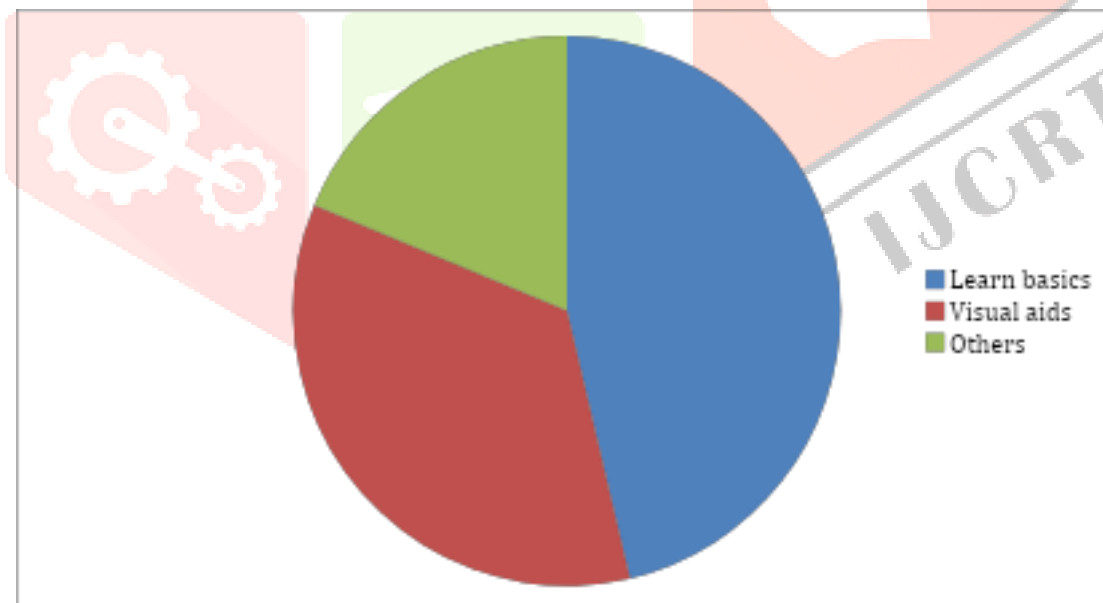
S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSES
1	Learn basics	57	46.3
2	Visual aids	43	35
3	Others	23	18.7
4	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table data shows that out of 123 respondents, 46.3% of respondents Learn basics, 35% of respondents opt for Visual aids and 18.7% of respondents opt for other ways.

CHART 4.21 shows managing the language barriers of respondents:



INFERENCE:

The most 46.3% of respondents learn basics for5 managing the language barriers.

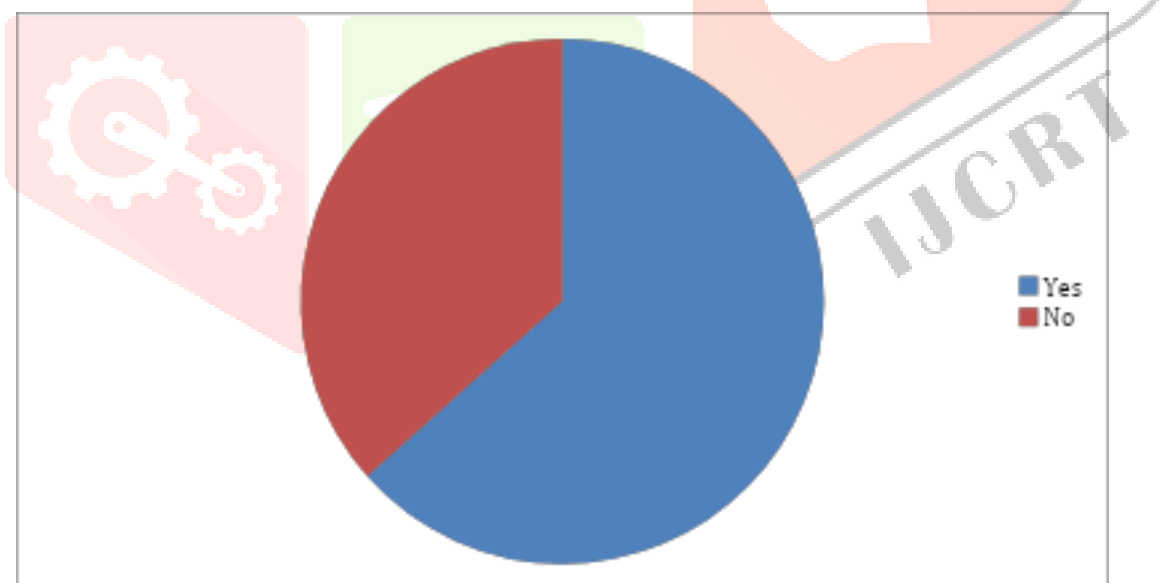
TABLE 4.22 whether the respondents shut their business during Lockdown:

S.NO	PARTICULARS	NO OF RESPONDENTS	% OF RESPONSES
1	Yes	78	63.4
2	No	45	36.6
	Total	123	100

Source: Primary data

INTERPRETATION:

The above table data shows that out of 123 respondents, 63.4% of respondents shut their business during lockdown, 36.6% of respondents doesn't shut their business during lockdown.

CHART 4.22 whether the respondents shut their business during Lockdown:**INFERENCE:**

The majority 63.4% of respondents shut their business during lockdown.

5.1. FINDINGS:

- Majority (56.9%) of respondents are between the age group of 15-25.
- Most (39%) of respondents are Qualification UG.
- Majority(80.5%) of respondents are unmarried.
- Most (29.3%) of respondents are earning monthly between Rs10000-20000.
- Majority (60.2%) respondents are female.
- Most (31.7%) of respondents are fruit sellers.
- Most(36.6%) of respondents are working less than a year in street vending.
- Most (33.3%) of respondent's reasons for street vending is low investment.
- Most (43.1%) of respondents doesn't aware of street vendors Scheme.
- Most (45.5%)of respondents challenge is Lack of social security.
- Most (44.7%)of respondents measures to improve is to formulate Policies.
- Most (43.9%) of respondents measure for theft is installing security cameras.
- Majority (58.5%) of respondents faces harassments from local authorities.
- Most (38.2%) of respondents support resource is financial assistance.
- Most (39%)of respondents resource for financial constraints is Savings or personal funds.
- Most (38.2%) of respondents face moderate weather condition issues.
- Majority (52.8%) of respondents are protected by law.
- Most (43.9%)of respondents faces the factor competition.
- Majority (66.7%) of respondents faces safety or health concerns.
- Majority (54.4%) of respondents faces language challenges.
- Most (46.3%)of respondents learn basics to overcome language barriers.
- Majority (63.4%)of respondents shut their business during lockdown.
- The general suggestions for improvement of street vendors include permitting license and need for workplace.

5.2. SUGGESTIONS & RECOMMENDATIONS

In the light of the foregoing analysis and findings the following suggestions can be made to improve the conditions of the street vendors:

- A market place can be allotted specially for street vending where the street vendors may be charged a very nominal rent.
- The government can assist them financially for their business activities at free rate of interest and government can extend the subsidy to the street vendors, especially for vending perishable items.
- Awareness programs on environment and waste disposal management can be given to the street vendors.
- The major issue of the street vendors is adequate vending space and regulation of the vending space.



5.3. CONCLUSION

Street vendors are important part of the informal sector not only because of their numbers but because of crucial roles they play in preserving their sector. Moreover, a significant amount of goods produced by small industrial units in the informal sector is marketed through them. The street vendors contributions are unfortunately hardly ever recognized by the government. Instead, the government is more often than not hostile to them. This is a result of a broader issue concerning the informal sector as a whole. The objective of the paper is to identify the causes behind street vending, challenges faced by street vendors, highlight the importance of street vendors, what measures are taken by the government to provide facilities to the street vendors in the working conditions, social protection and, life skill development to improve the level of profitability. Government provides street vending policies for street vendors; however, the street vendors are not aware of such policies. This study reveals that the best way for the planners to address this issue is to formalize the street vendors by issuing licenses. This will go a long way in giving these workers a space within the legal framework, as well as easing the regulation of street vendors for the government itself. In conclusion it can be said that though India has witnessed an increased in street vendors, the government is indifferent to specific needs of this sector. Street vendors perform an important role in providing services to the urban population especially the poor. Street vending and petty trading activities from the essential core of informal economic sectors in developing nations help in generating income with minimized investment of financial capital and without requiring large human capital.

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ANNEXURE

QUESTIONNAIRE:

The purpose of this questionnaire is to find out their opinion about challenges faced by street vendors and identify what main factors, problems faced by street vendors. Please read the questions carefully and respond by marking the option that represents your opinion. Remember there are no right or wrong answers. We are only interested in your opinion. Your opinion will remain anonymous and confidential. Thank you very much for your valuable time. Your help is appreciated.

1. Name:

2. Age Group

- a) 14 – 30
- b) 35 – 50
- c) Above 50 years

3. Educational status

- a) Schooling
- b) Diploma
- c) UG
- d) PG

4. Gender

- a) Male
- b) Female

5. Vending Products

- a) Fruit seller
- b) Fast food seller
- c) Flower seller
- d) Others
- e) 6. Marital status

a) Married

b) Unmarried

7. No.of. years in street vending?

- a) Less than 1 year
- b) 1 to 10 years
- c) 11 to 25 years



d) More than 25 years

8. Nature of Business

- a) Seasonal
- b) Permanent

9. Reason for Street vending?

- a) Low investment
- b) Family occupation
- c) Additional income
- d) Others

10. Earnings (per month)?

- a) Below Rs.3000
- b) Rs.3001-Rs.5000
- c) Above Rs.5000

11. During the lockdown did you shut your business?

- a) Yes
- b) No

12. Aware of street vendor's scheme

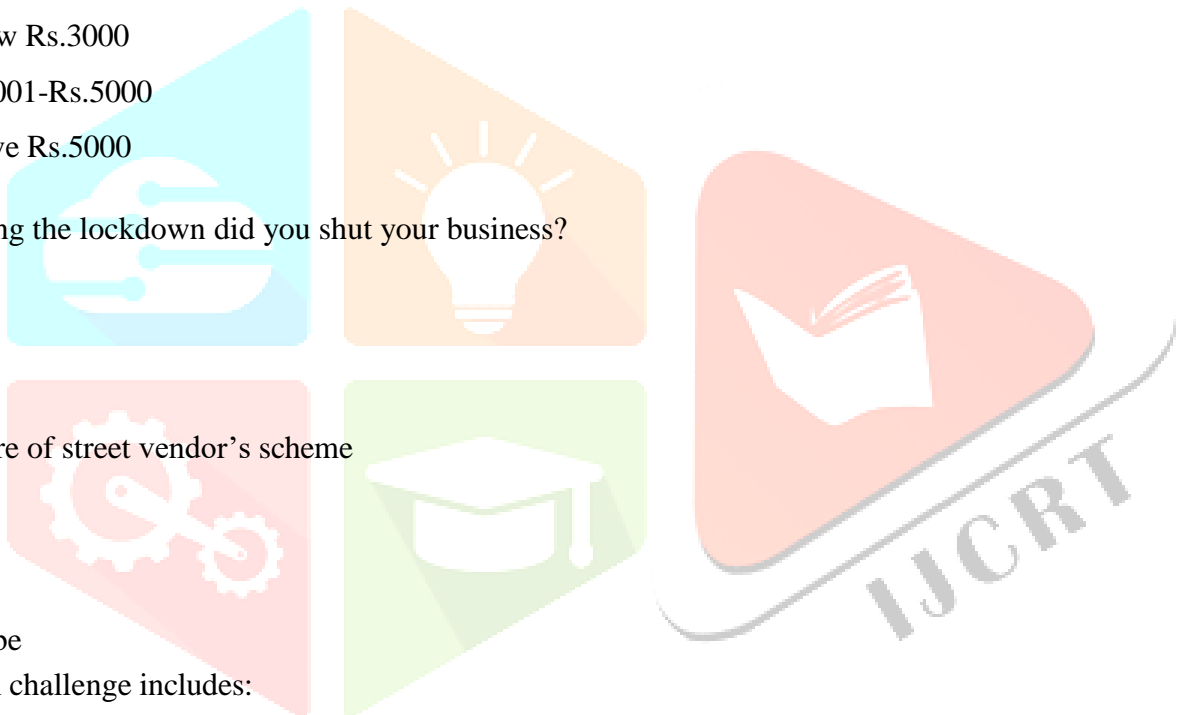
- a) Yes
- b) No
- c) Maybe

13. Main challenge includes:

- a) Lack of workplace
- b) Lack of social security
- c) Too much competition
- d) Evictions by private shop guards

14. In your opinion, what measures could be taken to improve the working conditions and livelihood of street vendors

- a) Policy formulations
- b) Working place arrangement
- c) Permitting license
- d) Funds
- e) Others



15. How do you manage the risk of theft or vandalism to your goods?
- Install security cameras
 - Secure locks
 - Work in groups
 - Others
16. Have you experienced any harassment or unfair treatments by local authorities?
- Yes
 - No
17. What support or resources do you believe would be most beneficial in overcoming the challenges?
- Financial assistance
 - Legal guidance
 - Training on business management
 - Improved relations with local authorities
18. What resources do you prefer when facing financial constraints?
- Savings or personal funds
 - Friends or family loans
 - Microfinance institutions
 - Others
19. How do weather conditions affect your business?
- Significantly
 - Moderately
 - Slightly
 - Not at all
20. Do you feel street vendors are protected by law in your area?
- Yes
 - No
 - Unsure
21. How do you perceive the competition from other street vendors in your area?
- Very intense
 - Moderate
 - Mild

d) Negligible

22. Are there any health or safety concern you encounter regularly while operating as a street vendor?

a) Yes

b) No

23. Do language barriers or communications present challenges for you when interacting with customers?

a) Yes

b) No

24. How will you manage the language barriers?

a) Learn basic phrases

b) Visual aids

c) Others

25. Any other suggestions or improvements?

