ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS

Topic: An Economic Study of Labourers in Unorganised Sector with Reference to Construction Workers in Virudhunagar District

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ABSTRACT

Building industry occupies a unique place in the national economy of our country. This is next only to agriculture in terms of capital investment and Man power employed. This unorganised sector is highly heterogenous encompassing production units of different features and in a wide range of economic activities, as well as people working or producing under many different types of employment relations and production arrangements. Here the researcher means the unorganised sector of economic activities in commerce, agriculture, construction, manufacturing, transportation and service now absorbs as much as 60% of the labour force in urban areas of developing countries.

Virudhunagar District is predominantly residential and with the highest density of construction workers. Virudhunagar District is an important tiny district with western part of the south Tamil Nadu. Virudhunagar district has a large number of construction workers and the construction industry has shown significance growth in the district. The choice of the study area was justified.

The market for the construction workers have been imperfect and discriminated. Some sort of differentiation and exploitation also are common. General discrimination in payment of wages and physical expectations of female workers are real problems. The employers have an upperhand in this sector. Middleman also plays some havoc. The entire construction sector is of a seasonal and casual nature. As the whole sector is of a casual nature, the entire work force in engaged only for the duration of particular job and after the job is over the entire work force has to be relieved. Hence, the present study is an attempt to analyse the socio-economic and working conditions of construction workers in the building industry of unorganised sector in Virudhunagar District.

To conclude that very often the job of construction workers suffers from insecurity. Adequate protection is not available. Different types of risks and hazards challenge the workers. Most of the workers feel hapless and helpless. A fairly high degree of unemployment is also found. Instability of employment is the worst form of discouragement to any worker.