1.1INTRODUCTION

Street vendors are the people those who are selling the goods in an informal way. The areas of their marketing places are street, plat forms, bus stand and other common places like front gates of Temples, Churches, Mosques, etc. So the street vending is an informal trade market and punishable according to the law.

However, street vendors are an integral part of the urban economy in and around the world. They are mainly visible section of the informal market. This street vending as an occupation in India is from the time immemorial. In the major cities of Tamil Nadu, the large numbers of urban poor supposed to live their life on by working in the informal sector. Poverty and lack of profitable employment in the rural areas of Tamil Nadu and in the small towns drive large number of people to the capital city for work and for their livelihood. These people are unskilled and uneducated. Such as, they are not given better paid jobs in the organized sector. So that, the last resort for these people is only the hawking or street vending. By earning from street vending they run their life. It requires smaller financial input to start a street vending. Minimum skill is involved in this process and there are no entry level obstacles in this job.

In general socio economic conditions of the street vendors are pitiable, even though the law is against them; they acquaint and adjust the laws according to their way of life. A Street is meant only for pedestrian to walk and to avoid traffic congestion and accidents. But the street vendors are illegally occupying the streets and plat-forms for the purpose of selling goods and the buyers also involve purchasing for the cheap rate from the vendors who sell on the street. This is one the main causes for the steady increase of street vendors.

In most Indian cities, the urbanity survives by working in the informal sector. Poverty and lack of useful employment in the rural areas and the smaller towns drive a large numbers of people to the cities for work and their
employment. These people usually own low skills and lack in the level of education required for the better paid jobs in the formal sector. Besides, everlasting protected jobs in the formal sector are shrinking hence even those have requisite skills are unable to find proper employment (Alfie, 2014)\(^1\). For such sort of people working in the informal sector, it is the only means for their endurance. This has led to a rapid increase of the informal sector in most of the bigger cities. For the municipal poor, street vending is one of the means of earning livelihood, as it requires small financial input. There is no need of potential skill for doing such business.

A large number of street vendors in the urban areas are those who are lacking skills and who have migrated to the developed cities from rural areas or small town for self-employment. These people take street vending when they do not find other means of livelihood (Sharit K. Bhowmik, 1998)\(^2\). The investment is too low and the people do not require special skills or training. Hence for such people, both men and women, street vending is the easiest form for earning money to their livelihood.

Formal employment in street vending ‘women’s opportunity to plan and labour market decisions under conditions of export-orientation’ was undertaken for this study, therefore, desires to contribute to geographical data building around informal through its focus upon a) the factors that create girls elect informal sorts of work and entrepreneurship and b) however their choices to try to therefore influence the special boundaries that the girls face within the work sphere during this study. It is found that there are uncountable number of hawkers and street vendors. The collected data represent a particular phase of the informal economy. However, they give importance to hawking of the informal

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economy in Asian nation (Hassan, 2003). The assessment of street market sector is to map the peddling activities across trades and across to cities and to capture the socio-economic and business profiles, the concept is additionally to grasp varied constraints and problems faced by the Street vendors and to spot the necessity for biological process interventions (Soumyananda Dinda, 2010).

1.1.1 Informal Sector Worker

As per international definitions, informal sector enterprises are owned by individuals or households that are not constituted as separate legal entities that independent of their owners. In the Indian context, the enterprises can be of ownership categories of (i) proprietary (ii) partnership (iii) registered under Companies Act as Companies (iv) co-operative societies registered under Societies Registration Act and (v) Government or Public Sector Undertakings. Out of these ownership categories, the enterprises operated on proprietary and partnership basis do not constitute as separate legal entities that is independent of their owners i.e., the liabilities of the enterprise fall entirely on the owners.

Another important characteristic in the international definition is that the employment size has to be below a specific threshold according to national circumstances. It has been seen by the Task Force that the appropriate employment size in the context of India is informal workers.

A detailed analysis has been done by National Commission for Enterprises in the Unorganized Sector (NCEUS) on 55th Round Survey of Informal Non-agricultural Enterprises (1999-2000), 56th Round Survey of Unorganized Manufacturing (2000-01), 57th Round Survey of Unorganized Service Sector (2001-02), Third All India Census of Small Scale Industries (2002-03) and Fifth

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Economic Census (2005) by size of employment and found that about 99 percent of workers employed in the enterprises working less than nine workers (Ajaya Kumar Naik).⁵

1.1.2. **Informal Worker (System of National Accounts)**

To estimate the contribution of Informal sector to Gross Domestic Product, the definition of informal sector was included in the System of National Accounts (SNA), 1993. The definition is, therefore, in terms of characteristics of the enterprise rather than in the terms of the characteristics of the worker. Thus a large number of workers with informal job status were excluded. Some of the reasons for the exclusion are:

i. The persons engaged in very small-scale or causal self-employment activities may not report in statistical surveys that they are self employed, or employed at all, although their activity falls within the enterprise-based definition.

ii. Certain groups of persons such as out-workers, sub-contractors, freelancers or other workers whose activity is at the borderline between self-employment and wage employment are likely to be missed or wrongly classified.

iii. An enterprise based definition of the informal sector will not be able to capture all the aspects of the increasing “informalisation” of employment, leading to various forms of informal employment even in the formal sector.

iv. Persons employed in private households as domestic servants, gardeners, etc. are likely to be left out in an enterprise based definition.

The Employment relationship even in the so called organized sector is not formal in a good percentage of cases and many workers are working in the formal sector without any protection and social security. At the same time, only

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a very few employees in the unorganized / informal sector enjoy formal employment relationship. The NCEUS took note of these aspects and decided to complement the definitions of unorganized / informal sector with a definition of informal employment.

“Informal workers mean those who are working in the informal sector or households, excluding regular workers with social security benefits provided by the employers and the workers in the formal sector without any employment and social security benefits provided by the employers” (National Statistical Commission Government of India)\(^6\).

1.2 ORIGIN AND DEVELOPMENT OF STREET VENDORS

The concept of the 'Street vendors' has been originated due to the following factors: open unemployment is limited because no benefit is payable in most developing countries and the primary of concern of job seekers with their entry into the labour market. In other words, the 'UIS' has been born in the less developed countries because, urban employment has shown a very little fluctuation in spite of the high natural growth rate of population and largely large-scale rural-urban migration within the process of industrialization.

1.2.1 Definition of Street Vendors

According to National Policy on Urban Street Vendors, Department of Urban Employment and Poverty Alleviation, “A Street Vendor is broadly defined as a person who sells goods or does services to the public without having a permanent stall or shop but with a temporary static structure or mobile stall (head load)”. Street Vendors may be there by occupying space on the pavements or other public/private areas, or mobile vendors that they move from place to place carrying their wares on push carts or in cycles or baskets on their heads, or may sell their wares in moving bus etc. In this policy document, the term urban

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vendor is inclusive of both traders and service providers, stationary as well as mobile vendors and it incorporates all other local/region specific terms used to describe them, such as, Hawker, Pheriwalla, Rehri-Patri Walla, Footpath Dukandars, Sidewalk Traders, etc (National Policy on Urban Street Vendors) 2004. 

1.3 MIGRATION OF STREET VENDORS

Street vendors are contributing to the well-being of the urban population by providing that inexpensive goods for the urban poor and generating employment for a large number of people, particularly women (Bhowmik.K, 2009). A World Bank report in 2002, based on data from all the countries obtainable, showed that informal traders like street vendors made up to 73 to 99 per cent of employment in trade and 50 to 90 percent of trade gross domestic product (Martha Alter Chen, 2002).

Unemployment among the young people between the ages of 15 and 24 years old is particularly a pressing problem in urban areas, and even more so in slums, which often comprise a relatively youthful population. Young people constitute a large proportion of the rural-urban migration while older people often return to their rural areas as they get tired (Marja. K & Keesvan der Ree, 2006).

The bulk of street hawkers are women and migrants from rural areas; by vending, they are able to maintain an economic subsistence anywhere between

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basic survivals to lower middle-class status (Masayoshi Maruyama, 2010). It shows a significant contribution of street vending to the overall economy and labour market. They are also available in calculated locations that are expedient to the customers.

The theoretical models of the Urban Street Vendors (USV) have developed as revised versions of the two-sector models. In these models, the 'USV' is considered as one which stands on the opposite of the urban informal sector. While the urban formal sector is supposed to have a sticky price system arising from the institutional factors, the 'USV' is essentially regarded as one facing perfect competition outside the official regulations.

The concept of Informal Sectors (IS) was first used by John Keith Hart, in a study of urban employment in Ghana. In his study, he renewed the theory on the economy of developing countries which was characterized by the distinction between a modern sector, often a consequence of foreign investment and western technologies and a traditional sector, considered as part of the economy, which could withstand the penetration of western capitalism.

1.3.1 Urban Street Vendors

In Indian cities, people from urban sector survive as a result of the work in informal cities. The poverty and lack of profitable employment in the rural area drive the people to move towards the urban centers. These people are not educated or skilled, so they cannot get a highly paid job in the formal sector. They depend on the informal job mainly for their survival. This has resulted in the rapid growth of informal sector in the various cities. Unlike other formal

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sectors there is no need of much financial investment for undertaking a business in informal sector (Sharit K. Bhowmik, 1998)\textsuperscript{13}.

1.4 LIVING CONDITIONS OF STREET VENDORS

An evening walk often leads us to the vendors selling fragrant Jasmine flowers, vegetables and fruits. But then once back into the cozy comfort of our living rooms sitting back and relaxing with coffee in one hand and having a conversation, the discussion point out to the direction of how roads are filled with street vendors making it difficult for anybody to drive or walk in peace. They survive on a hand to mouth existence and not working for a single day and often leads to lack of food for the entire day. Poor living conditions, poor health, increased expenses on health care often lead them to avail debt for long periods of their life. The role played by these vendors in the economy as also in the society needs to be given due credit but more often than they are not considered as unlawful entities and are subjected to continuous harassment by Police and civic authorities. (Environment Support Group, 2010)\textsuperscript{14}.

Family Size of street vendors: Data on family size was obtained approximately from ninety percent of the total number of surveys done. When we think of street vendors and their families, the common perception about street vendors is a huge family. However the study indicates more than fifty percent (56\%) households of street vendors have a family size between three and four. Twenty eight per cent vendors have a family size five to six. There are a few vendors with huge families of nine to ten members, but the percentage is relatively small at eight percent of the total surveys.

\textsuperscript{13} Sharit K. Bhowmik. (1998). Hawkers and The Urban Informal Sector: A Study of Street Vending In Seven Cities Prepared by for National Alliance of Street Vendors of India (NASVI).
Today, there are vendors carrying vegetables and fruits till right in front of our house to make it very convenient. There are others who sell a refreshing tender coconut under the shadow of a tree which are very energizing after having walked or driven in the sun. And there are still others who carry roasted or steamed groundnuts which is a nice snack to munch on. Many times we are helped by a cobbler on the street when our footwear snaps. Mobile vendors are usually found in residential areas, where they go house to house selling their goods. To study this class of vendors, the survey should include residential locations and not the popular market areas of the city\textsuperscript{15}.

Educated men of these families encouraged working women, as the additional income would support for fast growing living expense and new capital needs of the family. Due to the additional money flow, these families could afford to employ women servants for taking care of the domestic work. Many of these working women, due to their growth in the career, created visible economic flow to command good respect in society and family. The change in their status empowered the women to participate in the decisions of family and society welfare (Smitha Radhakrishnan, 2009)\textsuperscript{16}.

1.5 WORKING PATTERNS OF STREET VENDORS

Nations in the world are keen on devising new and innovative approaches to reduce poverty. It would be useful to see if decent work has the capacity of reducing poverty among the working population. The United Nations Millennium Assembly 13 (UNMA) has taken up the challenge of reducing by half a number of persons living in extreme poverty by 2015 from its 1990 level (Anker., et al., 2002)\textsuperscript{17}. It is also widely accepted that economic growth is necessary but not a sufficient condition for sustained reduction in poverty.


Enhanced labour productivity, an indicator of economic growth, is an indispensable instrument for fighting with poverty. It is argued that different combinations of economic, employment and social policies will lead to reduction in the rate of poverty.

Theoretically it can be said that decent work could ensure poverty reduction to some extent by increasing work opportunities, rights at work, social protection and greater voice of the workers which would result in improvement of workers’ capabilities and their overall well-being (Sen 2000\textsuperscript{18}, Rodgers 2001 and Anker 2001)\textsuperscript{19}. Nevertheless, the achievement of ‘decent work’ is indeed an ambitious aim and it is for all the workers; not only for the workers those who are in the formal sector, but also for unregulated wage workers, the self-employed, and the home based workers in the informal sector (ILO, 1999)\textsuperscript{20}.

1.5.1 Street Vendors in Mumbai

The smaller quantity of goods sold by them is reflected in the smaller amounts of the business that they achieve and the daily income they earn. The reason for their low sales and low income is typically low investment. Females are achieving daily sales of above Rs.1000 and it is less than that of men. As regards to the type of products sold by males and females, the females typically sell those items which require a low capital investment.

Vendors who sell raw material, namely vegetable vendors, fruit vendors, and food vendors have good profit margins. At the same time, the working conditions of these vendors, especially vegetable vendors, are miserable. It shows that most of the vegetable vendors are women, as this item requires a very low level of investment in comparison to the other types. The activity for such

vendors begins as early as 4.30 am and ends as late as midnight, and they have to work daily throughout their entire life. A recent survey of 400 street vendors in Mumbai indicates that such traders happen to work as minimum working hours for 8 to 11 hours a day, while in certain areas like Dadar, the hours are even longer (Bhowmik, S.K (2010) (eds.))\textsuperscript{21}.

i. Competitiveness of the Market

Competition among the street vendors has risen proportionately with a rising of street vendor largely in number. The vendors have been forced to evolve better and newer methods to face this competitiveness in the market, which forces market traders to seek economies of scale in order to maximize profits.

The existence of large-scale enterprises in the market has also prompted these vendors to unite their enterprises in order to lower the average cost and consequently increase their profit margins. The economy of scale is thus achieved through the integration of two or more vendors, whose owners share the same ethnic or local identity. Albeit, a relatively old and experienced market trader, who is self-employed often takes the initiative to expand the scale of his/her operation individually. However, in most cases, the vendors put together their working capital, establish a marketing network and increase their number of spaces. Some of the vendors even provide their products to the local marginal vendors.

ii. Payment of Bribes

An Alternative Way to Sustain the Business in the Market, Street vendors somehow manage to conduct their businesses by negotiating with the police and the BMC. This understanding is, however, solely based upon the payment of bribes or a certain portion of their daily incomes as ‘rents’ to the authorities.

This has, in fact, become the norm for these vendors, without it the police would evict them summarily from their marketplaces. Studies have revealed that those who do not pay rents are disturbed and harassed regularly. This interfere their ‘right to work with dignity’. They are treated as criminals instead of hard-working or self-employed people.

In the course of the present study, it was found that vendors are required to pay bribes to two main groups of civic authorities, the police, and the BMC. The bribe paid to the BMC is greater than that paid to the police. While most vendors were found to be paying Rs.100-300 as bribes to the police per month, amount paid to the BMC is around Rs.300-500 per month. The available data shows that in the case of most vendors, nearly 5-10 per cent of their daily incomes are usurped by the police and BMC. Section 34 of the Police Act empowers the police to remove any obstruction on the streets, and the street vendors have to pay them bribes mainly to avoid eviction under this section. While the bribes to the police are paid on a daily basis, bribes are paid to the BMC officials when the eviction of the vendors starts and their goods are confiscated.

iii. Nature of Bribes Paid

Bribes to the police, BMC and the total daily amount of bribes: The monthly amount of bribes paid to BMC officials and the corresponding percentage of vendors are paying them. Nearly 34 per cent of the total respondents, however, claim that they do not pay any bribes. They either run away on spotting the police and BMC officials or as in the case of some of the old age vendors, they just stand their ground and refuse to pay.

The highest proportion of vendors (about 43 per cent) pays bribes in the range of Rs.100-300 daily. This amount is paid by 40 per cent of the female and 45 per cent of the male vendors. Nearly 10 per cent of the total vendors pay bribes to the police in the range of Rs. 300-400. The bribes paid to BMC officials are higher than those paid to the police.
iv. Proportion of Bribes Paid to the Total Daily Income

The proportion of daily bribes to the daily incomes of the vendors has been delineated. It has been found that nearly 39 per cent of the vendors pay 5-10 per cent of their monthly incomes as bribes. Around 21 per cent of the total vendors pay 10-25 per cent of their incomes as bribes. Among the vendors who pay 5-10 per cent of their incomes as bribes, 34 per cent are females and 41 per cent are males. The street vendors are thus found to be paying as high as 30-45 of their incomes as bribes every day.

v. Working Hours

The average time of working hours per day for the vendors varies from eight to twelve hours. Nearly 54 per cent of the vendors, including 58 per cent of the female and 51 per cent of the male vendors work for such prolonged durations. Then, the most significant proportion of vendors (nearly 23 per cent), including 18 per cent of the female and 25 per cent of the male vendors are found to be putting in 12-15 hours of work per day. A significantly smaller percentage of vendors (14 per cent) spend 5-8 hours in vending their products. Thus, the vendors have mostly been found to be working for prolonged durations.

vi. Safety and Security at Work

The existences of street vendors are not only about a section of poor people trying to earn for their livelihood in the informal sector, but also about the provision of valuable services to the urban population. Thus, it is the duty of the State to protect the right of this segment of the population to earn for their livelihood since Article 39 (a) of the Indian Constitution states that “any citizens, men and women, have equal right to an adequate means of livelihood” (NPUSV, 2006, p. 10). However, the ground reality is that they are largely considered as unlawful entities and eyesores, and are consequently subject to constant

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harassment by the local police as well as the municipal authorities. This is usually seen to result in a concomitant financial burden of bribes to smoothen the path of their daily vending beat. The absence of legalization is the main problem of this occupation and this study finds that all the vendors are operating without licences. Hence, their job becomes uncertain and insecure.

In addition to work and income security, the street vendors face other forms of vulnerability at workplaces. Saha, D. (2011) mentions that vending is full of insecurity and uncertainty, since vendors work at the roadside and accidents may occur at any time. Even in this study, it was found that the street vendors work for very long hours (averaging 8-10 hours daily) under the extremes of climate, amidst high levels of air and noise pollution, which result in several forms of ailments like hypertension, hyperacidity, or even diseases related to the heart and kidney.\(^{23}\) Often, many of these diseases are related to stress due to uncertainty of income (Bhowmik and Saha, D 2010)\(^{24}\). Female vendors are often observed to be the worst sufferers. In the survey, it was found that the workplaces of these vendors are being public spaces, there is often no provisioning of toilet facilities, which result in several form of diseases. Hence, it is seen that this vending activity lacks any security and safety conditions that result in increased vulnerability among the vendors.

1.5.2 Street Vendors in Tiruchirappalli

Tiruchirappalli District is one of the largest cities in Tamil Nadu. Most of the Street Vendors are selling goods like Fruits and Vegetables, Foods, Nuts, Steel, Plastic, Flowers and etc. They have a pattern of selling goods so to say, in sitting position, bicycle, trolley, walking, sales setting of open places, road side, and door to door. They sell their goods; take the time of 12 or 14 hours per day


In this working time, vendors are facing many problems from the public and some police personnel. Their working area is not protected from the harmful weather conditions like heat, rain, dust and lack of storage facilities. So their physical condition severely and causes many disease like body heat, some pimples in body, skin allergic, dust allergic and various psychological problems.

Selling on street is a course of tedious job and gaining the attention of the customers is not an easy task. They do not have any particular timing for their work. They come at 7am and remain there till all the goods are sold out. Most of the vendors take away the things when they see police coming near to their shop. They do not find any clashes with permanent shop owners. Their working condition is quiet good. The only problem is that they do not have a permanent place for selling their goods and most of the vendors are satisfied with their business because the products they sell and the area where they sell. Street vendors work for a long time under harsh conditions. They mostly purchase from wholesale dealers and resell their products. Only some of the street vendors sell their own products. Some vendors sell their products at the door steps.

India is one of the developing countries in the world and it stands second in terms of population in the world, hence, our government is not able to give jobs for all the people. The majority of the people are migrated to take care of their livelihood from rural to urban areas. The urban areas have all the specialty and job opportunities in these settings. Some skilled people try to get the white-collar job in the urban region. The literate and illiterate people have to make self-employment through various aspects including informal sectors. This paper attempts to study about the Street Vendors in informal sectors (Karthikeyan, R. & Mangaleswaran, R., 2013).  

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1.6 STREET VENDORS AND URBAN ECONOMY

The total employment provided through street vending becomes very larger if we consider the fact that sustains certain industries by providing market for their goods. A lot of the commodities sold by street vendors, such as the clothes, fruits, plastic items, flowers, books, news papers, leather and household wares manufactured in small scale or cottage industries (Bhowmik, K. & Saha, D. 2012)\(^{26}\). These industries let a huge number of workers and they rely mainly on street vendors to market their products. In this way street vendors do a valuable service by helping sustain employment in these industries.

Street vendors are mainly unsuccessful or unable to get permanent or standard jobs. This section of the urban poor try to solve their problem by their own meager income. Different other sections of the urban residents do not demand anything that government offer jobs for them, or hold in begging, pinching or extortion.

They are trying to live with dignity and self-respect by their hard work. The study on street peer vendors in seven cities shows that the average earning ranges between Rs.100 and Rs 200 per day (Debdulal Saha, 2011)\(^{27}\). Women vendors earn less income. These people work for more than 10 hours in day under grueling conditions in the street and are under constant threat of eviction. A study of street vendors in Mumbai conducted by SNDT women’s university and ILO showed that an overwhelming majority of them suffered from ailments related to stress hyperacidity, migraine, hypertension, loss of sleep etc.

1.6.1 Indian Penal Code

The Indian constitution explains that engaging in illegal business shall be punishable. Section 283: Causing danger or impediment to the public shall be

\(^{26}\) Bhowmik.K., Saha.D. (2012). Street Vending in Ten Cities in India, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, National Association of Street Vendors of India, Delhi

punishable with fine, which may extend to two hundred rupees. Section 431: If the street vendors cause any damage to public road, bridge, channel or cause disturbances to travelers, shall be punishable with imprisonment for five years or of with fine or both. Articles 34(4) Police Act, says any persons who is on any road, in any road, in any street and through fare within the limits of any town to which this section shall be specially extended by the state government. Commits offence such as ‘exposes any goods for sale ’,cause obstruction , inconvenience, annoyance, risk, danger of damage (residence or passenger) shall on conviction before a magistrate, be liable to a fine not exceeding fifty rupees, or to imprisonment (with or without hard work) not exceeding eight days. Right of the Police: - It would be lawful for any police officer to take any street vendors into custody, without a warrant, for causing disturbance (The Indian Police Act, 1961)\textsuperscript{28}.

1.7 PROBLEM FACED BY STREET VENDORS

The Street Vendors are the most internal working section of the human society. But they are facing a lot of problems. Following are the troubles.

(1) Harassment by Police and Local government

Some of the police man is daily collecting money from the Street Vendors (Rs.10-20). They buy goods from them for free of cost and then monthly once book in 2 nuisance cases. Police man utters bad words against them.

(2) Trading sites too small

The Street Vendors are occupied the small place and they are using some different equipments (transitory) for their business. When the government announces about tender notifications, they are not interested in participating in the tenders.

(3) Problems with site allocation systems

They have no particular site for vending. So some of the vendors occupy their area in early morning and it leads to quarrel between the vendors. Sometimes these problems have been taken to the court.

(4) Lack of facilities (e.g. shelters, storage)

Hawkers are not having a permanent place. They move one place to another place, so they are not using cold storage and some safety equipments (umbrella, water and etc…).

(5) Lack of access to credit:

The vendors are not able to invest a lot of money (capital) for their business, because they do not have sufficient income. It is very difficult for their savings in future.

(6) Lack of (business) skills and education

Every human being is capable of doing work with their skill. Some vendors are entering newly to this work; because of their shyness people are not interested in buying their goods. Some vendors are not educated (below 5th standard), so they lose their money in (some people bargaining the goods) business (Karthikeyan.R & Mangaleswaran.R, 2013)29.

1.8 SUPPORT OF THE NGOs FOR STREET VENDORS IN INDIA

The street vendors are working for their daily livelihood and sell goods for cheaper rates to the people. But they faced some problems caused by local people and government officials. So some NGOs (Non-Governmental Organization) support the street vendors and give the loan. They are as follows:

1.8.1 National Association of Street Vendors of India (NASVI)

The National Association of Street Vendors of India (NASVI) was registered in 2003 under the Societies registration Act of 1860 to bring together the street vendor organizations in India so as to collectively struggle for macro-level changes which comes forward to support the livelihood of around 10 million vendors which stands severely vulnerable due to outdated laws and changing policies, practices and attitudes of the powers that be. NASVI is a national federation of street vendor organizations. It is a partnership of Trade Unions, Community Based Organizations (CBOs), Non Government Organizations (NGOs) and professionals.\(^{30}\)

1.8.2 Self Employment Women’s Association (SEWA)

SEWA is a trade union registered in 1972. It is an organisation of poor, self-employed women workers. These are women who earn for living by their own labour or small businesses. They do not obtain regular salaried employment with welfare benefits like workers in the organised sector. They are the unprotected labour force of our country. Constituting 93% of the labour force, they are the workers of the unorganised sector. Of the female labour force in India, more than 94% are in the unorganised sector. However their work is not counted and hence remains invisible. In fact, women workers themselves remain uncounted, undercounted and invisible.\(^{31}\)

1.8.3 Women in Informal Employment: Globalization and Organizing (WIEGO)

Street vendors are an integral component of urban economies around the world. Distributors of affordable goods and services, they provide consumers with convenient and accessible retail options and form a vital part of the social and economic life of a city. Street vending as an occupation has existed for

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hundreds of years (Bromley 2000) and is considered a cornerstone of many cities’ historical and cultural heritage.32

1.8.4 National Association of Street Vendors of India (NASVI) - Tamil Nadu: Salai Ora Siru Mattrum Kuru Vijabarigal Sangam (Tiruchirappalli)

National Association of Street Vendors of India (NASVI), its organizer Maheshwaran V., is a Secretary, Tamil Nadu of National Association of Street Vendors in India. He started Salai Ora Siru Mattrum Kuru Vijaparikal Sangam in the year of 2006. This organization is working for Street Vendors’ protection care. This organization is collaborating with the National Association of Street Vendors in India (NASVI) for working with the Street Vendors. This society (Salai Ora Siru Mattrum Kuru Vijaparigal Sangam) used to have conducted the meeting monthly for the Street Vendors. In this meeting, Lawyers, Street Vendors and College Students participate and discuss the developmental oriented programme for the Street Vendors. This organization is organized under the following functions.

1.8.4.1 Functions of Salai Ora Siru Mattrum Kuru Vijaparikal Sangam (Tiruchirappalli)

i. To give the good guidelines for the Street Vendors.

ii. To encourage the Street Vendors to issue licenses.

iii. Supporting and solving the judicial level problem for the Street Vendors.

iv. To give the loan facilities for the Street Vendors.

1.9 STREET VENDORS’ POLICIES IN INDIA

The National Association of India formulated in the year of 2004 created the National Policy on Urban Street Vendors “The Protection of Street Vendors and Regulating Market”. This organization suggest for Ministry of Urban Poverty and Alleviation Programme (MUPA), the MUPA considered this policy

to pass the street vendors bill. The street vendor’s bill was accepted by the
government of India in 2013. This bill changed in the month of March, 2014
Street Vendors Act 2014. This act has same rules and regulation for the street
vendors.

1.9.1 Street Vendors’ Policies 2004

This policy is mainly to provide and promote supportive environment for
earning livelihoods to the Street vendors, as well as ensure absence of
congestion and maintenance of hygiene in public spaces and streets.

The Specific Objectives of the policy are as follows:

- **Legal**: To give vendors legal status by amending, enacting, repealing and
  implementing appropriate laws and providing legitimate hawking zones
  in urban development/zoning areas.
- **Facilities**: To provide facilities for appropriate use of identified space
  including the creation of hawking zones in the urban development/zoning
  places.
- **Regulation**: To eschew imposing numerical limits on access to public
  spaces by discretionary licences and instead moving to nominal fee-based
  regulation of access, where market forces like price, quality and demand
  will determine the number of vendors that can be sustained. Such a
  demand cannot be unlimited.
- **Role in distribution**: To make Street vendors a special component of the
  urban development/zoning plans by treating them as an integral and
  legitimate part of the urban distribution system.
- **Participation**: To set up participatory mechanisms with representation
  by urban vendors' organizations, (Unions/Co-operatives/Associations),
  Voluntary organizations, local authorities, the police, Residents Welfare
  Association (RWAs) and others for orderly conduct of urban vending
  activities.
**Rehabilitation of Child Vendors**: To take measures for promoting a better future to child vendors by making appropriate interventions for their rehabilitation and schooling. (The National Policy for Urban Street Vendors, 2009)\(^{33}\).

### 1.9.2 Street vendor’s policy 2009

In the year of 2009 the Street Vendors Policy 2004 was alternative to the street vendors’ standard life. This policy is discussed in Rajya Sabha and changed its name into the Production of Livelihood and Regulating Vending. To promote a supportive environment for the vast mass of urban street vendors to carry out their vocation while at the same time ensuring that their vending activities do not lead to overcrowding and unsanitary conditions in public spaces and streets.

**Specific Objectives**

This Policy aims to develop a legal framework through a model law on street vending which can be adopted by States/Union Territories with suitable modifications to take into account of their geographical/ local conditions. The specific objectives of this Policy are elaborated as follows:

- **Legal Status**: To give street vendors a legal status by formulating an appropriate law and thereby providing to legitimate vending/hawking zones in city/town master or development plans including zonal, local and layout plans by ensuring their enforcement.

- **Civic Facilities**: To provide civic facilities for the appropriate use of identified spaces as vending/hawking zones, vendors’ markets or vending areas in accordance with city/town master plans including zonal, local and layout plans.

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Transparent Regulation: To eschew imposing numerical limits on access to public spaces by discretionary licenses, and instead moving to nominal fee-based regulation of access, where previous occupancy of space by the street vendors determines the allocation of space or creating new informal sector markets where space access is on a temporary turn-by-turn basis. All the allotments of space, whether permanent or temporary should be based on payment of a prescribed fee fixed by the local authority on the recommendations of the Town Vending Committee to be constituted under this Policy.

Participative Processes: To set up participatory processes that involves firstly, local authority, planning authority and police; secondly, associations of street vendors; thirdly, resident welfare associations and fourthly, other civil society organizations such as NGOs, representatives of professional groups (such as lawyers, doctors, town planners, architects etc.), representatives of trade and commerce, representatives of scheduled banks and eminent citizens.

Self-Regulation: To promote norms of civic discipline by institutionalizing mechanisms of self-management and self-regulation in matters relating to hygiene, including waste disposal etc. amongst street vendors both in the individually allotted areas as well as vending zones/clusters with collective responsibility for the entire vending zone/cluster.

Promotional Measures: To promote access of street vendors to such services as credit, skill development, housing, social security and capacity building. For such promotion, the services of Self Help Groups (SHGs)/Co-operatives/ Federations/Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs), Training Institutes etc. should be encouraged (Street Vendors Policy 2009).34

1.9.3 Street Vendors Act, 2014

**Protection of Livelihood & Regulation of Street Vending (No.7 of 2014)**

This Act may be called the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014. It extends to the whole of India except the State of Jammu and Kashmir. It shall come into force on such date as the Central Government may, by notification in the Official Gazette, appoint; and different dates may be appointed for different States and any reference in any provision to the commencement of this Act shall be construed in relation to any State as a reference to the coming into force of that provision in that State. The provisions of this Act shall not apply to any land, premises and trains owned and controlled by the Railways under the Railway Act, 1989.

The Act consisted some of rules and regulations for the government authority and street vendors. They are improving street vendor’s standard life and regulating market. The rules are following here:

1. **Survey of street vendors and protection from eviction or relocation**

   The Town Vending Committee shall ensure that all existing street vendors, identified in the survey, are accommodated in the vending zones subject to a norm conforming to two and half per cent of the population of the ward or zone or town or city, as the case may be, in accordance with the plan for street vending and the holding capacity of the vending zones.

2. **Issue of certificate for vending**

   Provided that a person, whether or not included the survey under sub-section (1) of section 3, who has been issued a certificate of vending before the commencement of this Act, whether known as license or any other form of permission (whether as a stationary vendor or a mobile vendor or under any other category) shall be deemed to a street vendor from that category for the period for which he has been issued such certificate of vending.
3. **Criteria for issuing certificate of vending**

The criteria to be followed by the Town Vending Committee for issuing certificate of vending to a street vendor shall be as specified in the scheme, which may, apart from other things, give preference to the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes, Other Backward Classes, Women, Persons with Disabilities, Minorities or such other categories as specified in the scheme.

4. **Vending fees**

Every street vendor who has been issued certificate of vending shall pay such vending fees as may be specified in the scheme.

5. **Cancellation or suspension of certificate of vending**

Where a street vendor who has been issued a certificate of vending under this Act commits breach of any of the conditions thereof or any other terms and conditions specified for the purpose of regulating street vending under this Act or any rules or schemes made there under, or where the Town Vending Committee is satisfied with the certificate of vending has been secured by the street vendor through misrepresentation or fraud, the Town Vending Committee may, without prejudice to any other fine which may have been incurred by the street vendor under this Act, cancel the certificate of vending or suspend the same in such manner as specified in the scheme and for such period as it deems fit:

6. **Rights of street vendor**

Every street vendor shall have the right to carry on the business of street vending activities in accordance with the terms and conditions mentioned in the certificate of vending. With standing anything contained in sub-section (1), where any area or space, as the case may be, has been marked as no-vending zone, no street vendor shall carry out any vending activities in that zone.
7. **Right of street vendor for a new site or area on relocation.**

Every street vendor, who possesses a certificate of vending, shall, in case of his relocation under section 18, be entitled for new site or area, as the case may be, for carrying out his vending activities determined by the local authority, in consultation with the Town Vending Committee.

8. **Duty of street vendors**

Where a street vendor occupies space on a time sharing basis, he shall remove his goods and wares every day at the end of the time-sharing period allowed to him.

9. **Maintenance of civic amenities in vending zone in good condition**

Every street vendor shall maintain civic amenities and public property in the vending zone in good condition without damage or destroy or causing destruction to the same.

10. **Relocation and Eviction of Street Vendors**

- The local authority may, on the recommendations of the Town Vending Committee, declare a zone or part of it to be a no-vending zone for any public purpose and relocate the street vendors vending in that area, in such manner as specified in the scheme.

- The local authority shall evict such street vendor whose certificate of vending has been cancelled under section 10 or who does not have a certificate of vending and vends without such certificate, in such manner as specified in the scheme.

- No street vendor shall be relocated or evicted by the local authority from the place specified in the certificate of vending unless he has been given thirty days’ notice for the same in such manner as may be specified in the scheme.
11. **Seizure and Reclaiming of Goods**

(1) If the street vendor fails to vacate the place specified in the certificate of vending, after the lapse of the period specified in the notice given under sub-section (3) of section 18, the local authority, in addition to evicting the street vendor under section 18, when it deems necessary, seize the goods of such street vendor in such manner as specified in the scheme:

12. **Town Vending Committee**

The appropriate Government may made in this behalf, include the term and the manner of constituting a Town Vending Committee in each local authority. The Government may, if considers necessary, provide for constitution of more than one Town Vending Committee, or a Town Vending Committee for each zone or ward, in each local authority.

13. **Meetings of Town Vending Committee**

The Town Vending Committee shall meet at such times and places within the jurisdiction of the local authority and shall observe such rules of procedure in regard to the transaction of business with its meetings, and discharge such functions, as prescribed. Every decision of the Town Vending Committee shall be notified along with the reasons for taking such decision.

14. **Power to make Bye-Laws**

Subject to the provisions of this Act or any rule or scheme made there under, the local authority may make bye-laws to provide for all or any of the following matters, namely, the regulation and manner of vending in restriction-free-vending zones, restricted-vending zones and designated vending zones; (b) determination of monthly maintenance charges for the civic amenities and facilities in the
vending zones under section 17; c) determination of penalty under sub-section (5) of section 18 and section 28\textsuperscript{35}.

1.10 POLICY RELATED NEWS

Tiruchirappalli Corporation identifies vending zones

Tiruchirappalli Corporation has identified vending zones in each of the four zones in the city. The national policy made street vending as an integral part of the urban retail trade and provides street vendors legal status. Street vendors are to be identified ward wise and each street vendor will be registered by the town vending committee and issued identity cards. Keeping in line with the national policy, the Corporation has identified about 80 places, 20 in Srirangam zone, 15 in Golden Rock, 37 in Ariyamangalam and 8 in K. Abishekapuram zone, where vendors will be permitted to operate. All other places in the city will be treated as non-vending zones. The list of vending zones was approved by the Corporation Council currently and is expected to be notified soon.

Significantly, the list of vending zones does not embrace roads in the city’s main commercial area such as the NSB Road, Big Bazaar Street, Singarathope and Nandhi Kovil Street, where a large number of vendors operate every day. Enquiries revealed that the Corporation was planning to accommodate the vendors for operating to these areas on the Old Goodshed Road and a few other places. The town vending committee will be empowered to collect a fee and monthly continuation charge, depending on the location and type of business (THE HINDU, dated: 12.11.2013)\textsuperscript{36}.

\textsuperscript{35} Street Vendors Act 2014, retrieved on 7\textsuperscript{th} December 2014, from http://www.indiacode.nic.in/acts 2014/7%20of%202014.pdf.