

Social Status of Women Work-force Employed
in Urban Unorganised Sector

Dr. Shishir Kumar Verma, Head, Department of Economics S.R.K. (P.G.) College, Firozabad

Dr. Vinita Katiyar, Department of Economics, Narain College, Shikohabad

Abstract

Indian economy is based on agriculture. Unorganized sector provides employment major part of the population of economy and has maintained its dominance. Almost all activities of production like agriculture, animal husbandry & poultry, construction, mining transport and a part of the services, other primary occupation of rural sector are counted as a part of unorganized sector. Some production such as animal husbandry and poultry farming, manufacturing and construction works also take place in urban unorganized sector. The unorganized sector of India which has a share of 61 percent is gross domestic production, predominantly women work forces are attached in unorganized sector due to ignorance poverty, illiteracy and lack of mobility. Women have lack of for training, skills upgrading and literacy for employment. Job of women work and their performance underestimated due to their neediness. They are engaged in agriculture and allied activities (like animal husbandry & poultry farming), building construction as labour, plantation and some social sectors like health and educations. Social life of women is very important since other factors of a woman life are dependent working efficiency, capacity and productivity depend upon the social environment, and it also shapes their economic life and empowerment.

Key words :Unorganized sector,social conditionslabour-intensive,marital status, literacy status, health status,

Indian economy is a developing economy, based on agriculture. The main source of employment generation is the unorganized sector of the Indian economy including self employment and small business wherein the percent contribution as high as 92 percent of the total employed labour force. Although unorganised sector provides employment to 92 percent of total employed labour force, but the nature of their employment is casual and seasonal. Wages of unorganised sector are much lesser than in organized sector. Unorganised sector does not provide job security and other benefits. In unorganised sector level of production is also smaller and with small capital by using labour-intensive and capital saving technology. Production techniques of unorganised sector are backward. Unorganised sector faces a number of other problems like inefficient management, non availability of sufficient capital, unresponsive production pattern etc.

Almost all activities of production like agriculture, animal husbandry & poultry, construction, mining transport and a part of the services, other primary occupation of rural sector are counted as a part of unorganised sector. Some production such as animal

husbandry and poultry farming, manufacturing and construction works also take place in urban unorganized sector. The unorganized sector of India which has a share of 61 percent is gross domestic production, is when indifferently seen and makes.

Women are the half of the population, they play vital role in economic development of a country. Women not only take care their homes as housewives and also employed in regular government and private organizations to upgrade their economic and social status. They play as important role as man in production and development of a country but women face many problems in their employment and place of employment.

Most of the working women engaged in unorganised sector like agriculture and allied activities, animal husbandry & poultry farming, building construction as labour, plantation and some social sectors like health and educations.

The contribution of women on par with that of men is very instrumental in economic development. They not only take care of their homes as housewives in social area but have also become workers in regular government and private organizations to upgrade their social status in today's materialistic world. The entity of a woman is like that of an axis around which other activities of a family keep on revolving. Indian economy has always been based on agriculture. A lion's share of population, in the line of development, is still denied of entry in the main stream of social process. A major part of the population is involved in unorganized sector of economy and has maintained its dominance.

Objectives of the Study

The main purpose of the present research study is to study the social condition of women employed in unorganized sector in Gorakhpur city. Other important purposes of the current study of the social condition of women employed in various occupations of unorganized sectors are as follows-

- (1) To study and analysis the participation of women in unorganized sector.
- (2) To study the social condition of women workers in unorganized sector
- (3) To study the marital status of employed women in unorganized sector.
- (4) To study literacy status of employed women in unorganized sector.

Research Methodology

In order to accomplish the objectives of the proposed research, the study is based upon the collected data. This study is totally primary data based. The data is collected from respondent by using questionnaire through personal interview and direct inspection. Stratified multistage sampling design proposed to be adopted for section of working women in unorganized sector of Gorakhpur city for the assessment of their problems. Nagar Municipal Corporation cant and town are included in Gorakhpur town but formerly in Gorakhpur and for interview of working in unorganized sector the area of town Municipal Corporation has been selected. Out of 70 wards of Nagar Nigam 16 wards have been included by using random sampling. There are 6946 women employed in unorganized sector of Gorakhpur

Nagar IN 2009. 7 percent i.e. 400 women are sheeted for study. Out of 400, women related to Animal Husbandry and Poultry 68, Service 56, Product Manufacture 72, Labour 124, and from Retail Businessman women related 80.

Participation of Women in Unorganized Sector

Women in Gorakhpur city employed in unorganised sector have many different occupations. Occupation of selected women has been shown in table -1

Table -1

Statement of Business/Occupation of Selected Women

Sr. No.	Occupation Group		Occupation included in Group		
	Name of Occupation	Number of Women	Sr. No.	Name	Number of Women
1.	Animal Husbandry and Poultry	68 (17.00)	1	Milk/Dairy Occupation	48 (12.00)
			2	Pig-caring	4 (1.00)
			3	Poultry	16 (4.00)
2.	Service	56 (14.00)	1	Teacher in private primary school	16 (4.00)
			2	Furnishing utensils	40 (10.00)
3.	Material Manufacturing	72 (18.00)	1	Manufacturing priors	12 (3.00)
			2	Pickers	8 (2.00)
			3	Embroidery, service, painting	36 (9.00)
			4	Preparing/basket/wearing boxed	8 (2.00)
			5	Making lay pots	8 (2.00)
4.	Labourer	124 (31.00)	1	Working in House building	108 (27.00)
			2	In shops	16 (4.00)
5.	Retail Business	80 (20.00)	1	Battle-leaves	8 (2.00)
			2	Fruits	8 (2.00)
			3	Vegetables	42(10.50)
			4	Cosmetics	8(2.00)
			5	Selling Fish	8(2.00)
			6	Grocery stores	6(1.50)
6.	Total	400(100)	18		400(100)

(Percentage are given in brackets)

Source: Compiled from Questionnaire.

It seems from table -1 that select women employed in unorganised sector of Gorakhpur city perform as much as 18 types of job which have been divided in fine groups. 17 percent women are women engaged in Animal Husbandry and Poultry occupation group. In service occupation group 14.00 percent of women are employed wherein those who teach

in private nursery schools and take tuitions and furnishing utensils at homes. In manufacturing occupation group there are 18.00 percent women employed. In labourers occupation group 31.00 percent women are employed. In retail business occupation group 20.00 percent women are involved.

Social Condition of Employed Women

Women are an integral and important part of society, expected development of the country and the city cannot take place without the social development of women. There has been growth in the number of women labours with the economic development of the city. There is deference in the ratio of women vis-à-vis men where as with the growth in the number of working women. The social status of women has also grown proportionately. 7 percent of women that is 400 women employed in unorganized sectors at Gorakhpur city have been selected from 16 wards of the city for study.

They have become more independent due to their growing significance in the family. Due to education and social changes their position in society has been positively influenced. This is the reasons that despite the fact that the structure of family in male dominated, and female do not get proper regard.

Table -2

Respect States Achieved by Women in Family.

Sr. No.	States of Respect	No.	Percentage
1.	A lot of respect	9	2.25
2.	Average respect	100	25.00
3.	General respect	241	60.25
4.	No respect	50	12.50
	Grand total	400	100.00

Source - Compiled from Questionnaire

It is clear from table-2 that women working in unorganized sectors have the maximum of 60.25 ordinary respects from the family, 25% women are experiencing average respect and 2.25 percent women are getting a lot of respect. Yet, unfortunately 12.50 percent women do have respect in the family even today.

Besides working outside the household in unorganized sectors, these women have other responsibilities in the family too as is told by the working women themselves. It has been evidenced in table -3

Table -3

Responsibilities of Women in the Family

Sr. No.	Responsibilities in the Family	No.	Percent
1.	Upbringing the children	302	75.50
2.	Cooking	275	68.75
3.	Washing clothes	281	70.25
4.	Cleansing of house	300	75.00
5.	Husband and other service	40	10.00

Source: Compiled from Questionnaire

It appears from table-3 that women working in unorganized sectors have the preference of upbringing their children as the foremost among their responsibilities besides executing their own work. 75.5 percent women are carrying out this responsibility. Their second priority incorporates the responsibility of home cleaning with as a percentage of 75.0. Third preference is washing clothes which are 70.25 percent. Fourth category of priority is of cooking which has 68.75 percent and the lowest category of responsibility is 10.00 percent in which the women have to give service for their husband and other.

Marital Status of Employed Women in Unorganized Sector

The roles of marriage in the socialization of women or rather say that in social life it is very important. A person inculcates abilities for establishing harmony with different values through marriage. Besides it enables him/her for carrying out family's responsibilities along with satisfying his/her life and its purpose. Marriage has been considered an important ritual in our Hindu tradition. Various sociologists have explained marriage in following terms.

“Marriage is an institutionalized and permanent relationship in which a man and woman acquire social acceptance of procreation without losing their prestige.”

The marriage of selected women employed in unorganised sector is determined and planned by their families. Some women related the child. Marriage still takes place in their families, mostly due to relation connections. While these women themselves believe that a girl should get married immediately after their first menstrual cycle comes (they attain puberty) there is also the custom of second marriage (Gauna) among Hindu caste. In case of child marriage the girl resides at the parent's home till second marriage when the bride and bridegroom are adults the second marriage is performed simultaneously with marriage. This custom is prevalent more among educated families. The statement of marriage of women working in unorganised sector is as follows.

Table -4

Marital status of Employed women

Sr. No.	Occupation Group	Number		Total
		Unmarried	Married	
1.	Animal Husbandry & Poultry	2 (0.50)	66 (16.50)	68 (17.00)
2.	Service	36 (9.00)	20 (5.00)	56 (14.00)
3.	Material Manufacturing	20 (5.00)	52 (13.00)	72 (18.00)
4.	Labourer	24 (6.00)	100 (25.00)	124 (31.00)
5.	Retail Business	16 (4.00)	64 (16.00)	80 (20.00)
	Total	98 (24.50)	302 (75.50)	400 (100.00)

(Percentage are given in bracket)

Source: Compiled from Questionnaire.

It can be record from table -4 that are unnamed among employed women on the basis of occupation group, among married women 16.50 percent are working in animal husbandry and in service 5.00 percent are in re, 13.00 percent are manufacturing, 25.00 percent are in labour and 16.00 percent are working in retails business occupation group. Among unmarried women, 0.50 percent in animal husbandry and poultry, 9.00 percent in service, 5.00 percent in manufacturing, 6.00 percent in labour and 4.00 percent are women working in retail business. About the age of marriage of the married women the statement is given in the table -5

Table -5

Statement of Age of Marriage for Employed Women

Sr. No.	Occupation Group	Before 18 Years	Between 18 to 25 Years	Between 25 to 35 Years	After 30 Years of Age	Total
1.	Animal Husbandry & Poultry	5	35	22	4	66
2.	Service	1	12	7	-	20
3.	Manufacturing	6	27	18	1	52
4.	Laborers	50	40	10	-	1000
5.	Retail business	19	40	4	1	64
	Total	81 (26.82)	154 (50.99)	61 (20.20)	6 (1.99)	302 (100)

Source : Compiled from Questionnaire.

It is clear from the table-5 that 26.82 percent women got married before altering the age of 18 which is not the right age from marriage of a girl. 80.99 percent women were married between the ages of 18 to 20 years. 20.20 percent women got married during their age of 25 to 35 years and 1.99 percent women got married after the age 35 year.

Table -6

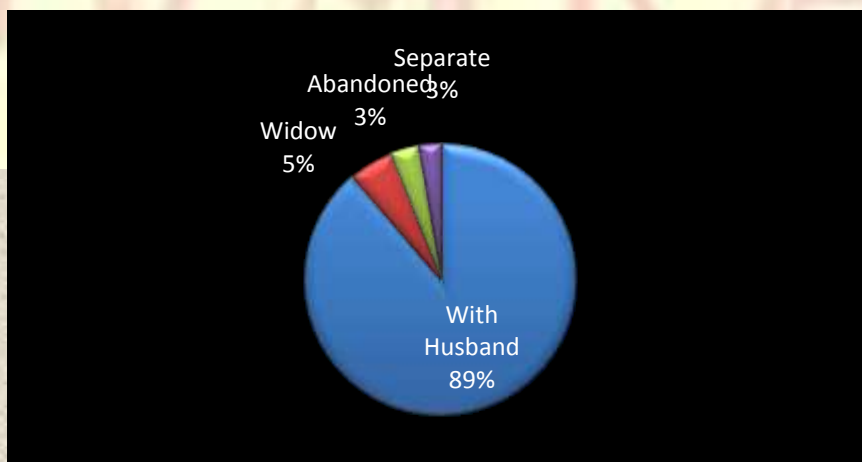
Current Marital Condition of Selected Women who are Employed

Sr. No.	Occupation Group	With Husband	Widow	Divorce	Separate Home	Total
1.	Animal Husbandry & Poultry	58 (19.21)	4 (1.33)	2 (0.66)	2 (0.66)	66 (21.86)
2.	Service	16 (5.30)	2 (0.66)	2 (0.66)	-	20 (6.62)
3.	Material Manufacturing	50 (16.56)	2 (0.66)	-	-	52 (17.22)
4.	Labourer	88 (29.14)	4 (1.33)	4 (1.33)	4 (1.33)	100 (33.11)
5.	Retail Business	56 (18.53)	4 (1.32)	2 (0.66)	2 (0.66)	64 (21.19)
	Total	268 (88.74)	16 (5.30)	10 (3.31)	8 (2.65)	302 (100)

Source : Computed from Questionnaire

Table-6 shows the current condition of women who are married and employed. Out of 302 married women 88.74 percent are living with their husbands. 5.30 percent of them have become widow, 3.31 percent women have left their husbands and take divorce i.e. there is no relationship between husband wife 2.65 percent women are living separately but have not divorce their husbands legally. It proves that most of the women are making a good social status by living with their husbands.

Figure-1 Current Marital Condition of Selected Women who are Employed



Source: Table-6

Literacy Status of Employed Women

Man keeps on acquired education in same or other way from the cradle to the grave. Where the child has not go outside the home for playing or to school for education, he is not able to distinguish between what is special and what is genius he may belong do whatever family, the learning in the school only how he has do behave life other student. All the characteristics are been in an individual before the teenage and are gradually superseded by works of importance. Basic education thus impression on the development of innate qualities of an individual and the child identifies himself with qualities conducive to his cultural connections. If we consider the aims of education plurality of them comes in the scenario but all aims have the common and similar aim that is our all development of the individual.

Basic or primary education propose children for communal living and helps them towards contributing is it even is a scientific age like own a school has the most important role to play in the socialization of an individual. The etiquette of become moderate. The purpose of higher education and university education is to give intellectuals, thinkers, producers, scientists, doctors and social reformers while the training in higher education concentration requiring in higher education concentrates on training people so that they are able to empower society as according to the towards of a particular ethos.

Education makes a person an ideal citizen through inculcating his faculties. The proper development of female mind cannot take place in the pan city of scientific education. 60.00 percent of the restaurants among the women held in common an unsatisfactory view about current education system. 33.50 percent women find the unable to assure a view the matter. And only a 6.5 percent of them team that the current system of education is satisfactory. Education is not confine to only having the knowledge of alphabets. Even today there is scarcity of technical and employment oriented education. Education is compulsory to inculcate social awareness and to eradicate ideological repressiveness. Even today education people get respect in society and Gorakhpur area has a very unique place in the field of education. Therefore awareness towards education has always been prevalent among the women here. The educational status of selected women can be evidenced clearly from the table -7

Table- 7

Literacy of Employed Women

Sr. No.	Occupation Group	Education status				Total	
		Literate		Illiterate			
		No.	Percentage	No.	Percentage		
1.	Animal Husbandry And Poultry	44	64.71	24	35.29	68	17
2.	Service	32	57.14	24	42.86	56	14
3.	Material Manufacturing	60	83.33	12	16.67	72	18
4.	Labourer	50	40.32	74	59.48	124	31
5.	Retail Business	72	90.00	8	10.00	80	20
	Total	258	66.50	134	33.50	400	100.00

Source: Compiled from Questionnaire.

It is clear from table-7 that 66.50 percent women are educated while 33.50 percent are uneducated. In the occupation group of animal husbandry and poultry farming 64.71 percent women are educated while 35.29 percent are not educated. In service occupation group 57.14 percent are educated and 42.86 percent are uneducated. In manufacturing occupation group 83.33 percent are educated and 16.67 percent uneducated. Women as labour 40.32 percent are educated and 59.68 percent are uneducated. In retail business occupation group all the 90.00% women are educated 08 of them are uneducated. Out of the five occupational groups maximum percentage of educated women is from retail business occupation group while the maximum uneducated women are from labourer occupation group. The education level of educated women employed in unorganised sector varies from the primary education to higher education and technical education. It has been made clear from the table-8.

Table -8

Statement Regarding Education Status of Employed

Sr. No.	Occupation Group	Education Statement				Total
		Primary	Secondary	Higher	Technical	
1.	Animal Husbandry Poultry	36 (81.82)	8 (18.18)	—	—	44 100.00
2.	Service	10 (31.25)	2 (6.25)	16 (50.00)	4 (12.50)	32 100.00
3.	Material Manufacturing	50 (83.33)	6 (10.00)	—	4 (6.67)	60 100.00
4.	Labourer	46 (92.00)	4 (8.00)	—	—	50 100.00
5.	Retail Business	63 (87.50)	09 (12.50)	—	—	72 100.00
	Total	205 (79.70)	29 (11.28)	16 (6.01)	8 (3.01)	28 100.00

(Percentage is given in Bracket)

Source: Computed from table – 7

It becomes clear from table-8 that 79.70 percent of employed women have acquired education only up to primary level, 11.28 percent have acquired up to secondary level, 6.01 percent have higher education and 3.01 percent have acquired technical education. Among the educated women in the animal husbandry and poultry occupation group 81.82 percent women have get up to primary level and 18.18 percent have get up to secondary level education. In the educated women of service occupation group, 31.25 have primary education, 6.25 have secondary education, 50 percent have higher education and 12.50 percent have acquired technical education. In manufacturing occupation group 83.33 percent are having primary, level education 10.00 percent are having secondary and 6.67 percent have acquired technical education. Amidst labour occupation group 92 percent have acquired primary education and 8 percent have acquired secondary school level education. In the retail business occupation group, out of educated women 87.50 percent acquired education up to primary level and 12.50 percent are educated up to secondary school. Service occupation group has the higher level of acquired education in all occupation in all occupation groups, and the education of the lowest level is in the share of people working in labour occupation group.

Out of select women 2.00 percent were trained and 98.00 percent women had not acquired training of employment, which is shown in table -9

Table -9

Statement of Training of Employed Women

Sr. No.	Occupation group	Trained	Untrained	Total
1.	Animal husbandry and Poultry	-	68 (17.00)	68 (17.00)
2.	Service	4 (1.00)	52 (13.00)	56 (14.00)
3.	Material Manufacturing	4 (1.00)	68 (17.00)	72 (18.00)
4.	Labourer	-	124 (31.00)	124 (31.00)
5.	Retail Business	-	80 (20.00)	80 (20.00)
	Total	8 (2.00)	392 (98.00)	400 (100.00)

(Percentage are given in brackets)

Source : Computed from table -7 and 8.

It is deducible from table -9 that not a single woman has get training either in animal husbandry/poultry, labour or in retail business occupation group. One percent each is trained in both service, and retail business occupational group. It make clean that due to not being trained the work done by women will lack quality and reasonably they will be paid smaller wages than the trained ones.

Conclusion

Women are important part of society. No society or country can develop without improving social conditions of women. It is very unfortunate that the conditions of women today in our country are very deplorable in comparison to other countries, especially developed ones. It is necessary for development of women that they are provided equal opportunities to grow, but the experiences of our country makes it clear that the women have lesser opportunities of growth than men. Backwardness of women in educational sector not only deteriorates their social condition but also makes them weaker economically. On one hand women not working are fully dependent on the male income of the family, those who work cannot get proper wage for their work and are often victims of exploitation by their employers due to being less educated or uneducated on the other.

References

- Boserup, E., 1970, Woman's Role in Economic Development, London, Allen and Unwin.
- Bhatia V.V., Aspects of Economic Change and Policy in India, Allied Publications, Bombay, 1963.
- Bhagoliwal, T. N., "Economics of Labour and Social Welfare," Sahitya Bhawan, 1966
- Durand, J.D., 1975. The Labour Force in Economic Development Princeton, Princeton University Press.
- Arora R. C., Development of Agriculture and Allied Sectors, S. Chand & Co., New Delhi, 1986.
- Dantwala, M. L., Rural Employment Facts & Issues Economic and Political Weekly, Vol. 14, No. 25, 1975.
- Sinha, Anjana Maitray, 1993. Women in Changing Society, Ashish Publishing House, New Delhi.