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An empirical research on provisions related to the health and safety of women garbage collectors in Chennai.

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Abstract

In India, ragpickers type the bottom of the hierarchy of the informal sector of solid waste management. Assessment of general and gender-specific health of women is conducted during this study seeable of the dearth of revealed proof. India is a well-developing country at the same time lots of problems occurred in India. In India, there are lots of provisions related to women. Much of women's work has traditionally been carried out within the context of the family: growing food on a family plot; finding fuel, gathering water and preparing foods for family members; spinning, weaving, and sewing the garments worn by that family; cooking and washing for the family and looking after its children and its sick and elderly members. As women move beyond their traditional occupations, they meet new health hazards which may either replace or add to their existing occupational exposure. Women's labour force participation rates have increased steadily, and not only in industrialized countries. The dramatic economic successes of the newly industrialized states of Asia, for example, are substantially a reflection of the increasing feminization of labour in this region. In these economies, female workforce participation rates increased far more rapidly than male from the 1960s, although their jobs were largely less-skilled and poorly paid. Women workers formed the largest pool of workers in export-

oriented light industries, such as electronics and textiles, which underpinned economic expansion and conditions. In this research, the author mainly takes surveys from 1500 people and analyses whether garbage collectors have safety gloves and other safety equipment with them and how they have ensured safety from health disorders.

KEYWORDS: Management, labour force, women, garbage, hazard.

Introduction

Globally, speedy and unplanned urbanization is the trend for many developing countries together with the Republic of India. Worldwide there's an enormous outcry concerning its impact on the apace exhausting scarce resources for development. though an equivalent is echoed in the Republic of India, not enough attention has been paid to the crucial linkage between the disabling waste disposal system; a byproduct of the population explosion and degradation of each environment in addition to human health (Dall'Agnol and dos Santos Fernandes; Tong; Preisser et al.; King and Macleod; Fitzgerald and Tarditi; Almeida et al.). Waste is an extremely heterogeneous entity; it's not uncommon to seek out manure and untreated waste generated from healthcare facilities in the Republic of India. category I cities of this country wherever 65.2% of the population resides, generate 23.86 million tonnes of solid waste.¹⁹⁶ Here, urban municipal waste includes industrial and residential waste generated in municipal or notified areas in either solid or solid type and conjointly treated medical specialty waste [PubMed].¹⁹⁷ In the Republic of India, expenditure for solid waste management ranges from Rs. 342 to Rs. 2446 per metric weight unit of municipal solid waste, however, the waste assortment potency ranges from below five hundredths to ninetieth ((Dall'Agnol

¹⁹⁶ National Solid Waste Association of India Newsletter June 2003: Inaugural issue urban municipal Solid waste management, 2003 Jun

¹⁹⁷ Government of India (1999) Report of the committee constituted by the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India- Solid waste management in Class-I cities in India. New Delhi: 1999.

and dos Santos Fernandes; Tong; Preisser et al.; King and Macleod; Fitzgerald and Tarditi; Almeida et al.)).¹⁹⁸ This can be a result of the prevailing restrictive framework for environmental protection isn't being strictly enforced thanks to the absence of sustainable commitment from the govt and relative apathy at the community level. The negative impact of this obstinate issue is mirrored in the environmental depletion and accessorial malady burden in this developing country. In India, the informal sector of solid waste management additionally plays a vital role additionally to the formal sector. The formal sector of solid waste management is delineated by a hierarchically structured form whereas the casual sector by rag pickers, middlemen, and wholesale dealers. Mumbai, the monetary capital of the state generates municipal solid waste of 7025 MT/day. Despite the large fund provision for its management, the potency of the services isn't clear up to the mark. Around 11-13% of the entire volume of the waste in this town is handled by about 8,000 door-to-door waste collectors and 50,000 to 60,000 World Health Organization collects waste on the streets and selling ground.¹⁹⁹ Ragpickers World Health Organization square measure at very cheap of the hierarchy within the informal solid waste management sector once sorting the waste, sale to middlemen from wherever it goes to more process and employment through wholesale dealers. While earning their living, ragpickers contribute considerably to the surroundings. However, they seldom have each social and activity recognition in this country. this could have a worse impact on the foremost vulnerable cluster of rag pickers like women and kids. Studies have shown that waste staff suffers from not solely native injuries and infections but additionally general diseases also as

addiction.²⁰⁰ However, there's hardly any revealed proof regarding the key determinants of health of ladies ragpickers like gender-specific health, addiction history, their awareness regarding diseases caused by the handling of solid waste, hygiene practices also, and health-seeking behavior detail though they're important! ((Dall'Agnol and dos Santos Fernandes; Tong; Preisser et al.; King and Macleod; Fitzgerald and Tarditi; Almeida et al.)) The health of ladies ragpickers tho' precarious from occupation and generative purpose of reading is commonly a neglected issue among themselves and organizations operating for them.²⁰¹ The primary aim of this study was to assess the morbidity profile of the ladies unskilled person members of a non-governmental organization, in Mumbai ((Dall'Agnol and dos Santos Fernandes; Tong; Preisser et al.; King and Macleod; Fitzgerald and Tarditi; Almeida et al.). the alternative objective was to review their activity details, socio-demographic and generative health profile, awareness regarding communicable disease transmission, and private hygiene measures practiced together with health-seeking behavior. Additionally, to the present, a few hand-picked participants were trained as health volunteers to lift awareness regarding the prevailing health issues within the community. The main aim of this research is to know whether the waste is collected daily in each household and also to know how these waste-collecting women protect themselves from being sick.

¹⁹⁸ Dr. Sneha Palnitkar. *The wealth of waste, waste recycles for Solid Waste Management A study of Mumbai*. 2nd ed. Mumbai: All India Institute of Local Self Government; 2004. p. 20.

¹⁹⁹ Dr. Sneha Palnitkar. *The Wealth of Waste: Waste Recycles for Solid Waste Management - A study of Mumbai*. 2nd ed. Mumbai: All India Institute of Local Self Government; 2004. pp. 34-6.

²⁰⁰ Venkateswaran S. *The Wealth of waste-waste pickers, Solid wastes and urban development*. New Delhi: Friedrich Ebert Stiftung; 1994. pp. 49-50., Bal kumar KC. Yogendra Babadur Gurung, Keshab Prasad Adhikari, Govind Subedi Investigating the Worst Forms of Child Labour number 4: Nepal, Situation of Child Ragpickers. A rapid assessment' International Labour Organization. International Program on Elimination of Child Labour. 2001. Nov. [Last accessed on 2004 Mar 16]. pp. 20-5. Available from <http://www.ilo.org/lipocinfo/product/download.do?type=document&id=2381>. Sanson CG. Report of the workshop national Institute of Public Cooperation and Child Development. New Delhi: 1986. Working and Living Conditions of Ragpicker Children-finding of a research study welfare of Ragpicker Children., Bhide AD. Regional overview on solid waste management in South East Asia Region. New Delhi: World Health Organisation; 1990., Ray MR, Mukherjee G, Roychowdhury S. Lahiri T Respiratory and general health impairments of ragpickers in India: A study in Delhi. *Int Arch Occup Environ Health*. 2004;77:595-8. [PubMed]

²⁰¹ Organised by Centre For Health Studies, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, and International Labour Organisation. New Delhi: 1999. [Last accessed on 2005 Sep 3]. Report of workshop on 'Women Occupational and reproductive health: Research evidences and methodological issues.' February 1998 page 23.25. Available from: <http://www.abms.org/newsearch.asp>.

Hypothesis

- Null hypothesis: The women garbage collectors are not provided with proper healthcare equipment.
- Alternative hypothesis: The women garbage collectors are provided with proper healthcare equipment.

Methods And Materials:

This is a non-doctrinal study. This paper depends on both primary and secondary data. The primary data for the present study is collected using a sampling technique. Random sampling is used to collect primary information from the respondents. A random of 1500 samples were selected from the study area to analyze the status of men with regard to adultery in India. The primary data has been analyzed using Frequencies, the Chi-Square test, and the Crosstab method. The secondary data is collected from books, journals, articles, and e-sources. The researcher has also utilized commentaries, books, treatises, articles, notes, comments, and other writings to incorporate the various views of the multitude of jurists, with the intention of presenting a holistic view. The researcher has made extensive use of Case Laws in this paper, so as to discern a trend in the judicial pronouncements. The current paper uses SPSS analysis SPSS is short for Statistical Package for the Social Sciences, and it's used by various kinds of researchers for complex statistical data analysis. The SPSS software package was created for the management and statistical analysis of social science data and this research uses such kind of analysis for a proper and appropriate results.

1	Type of research	Empirical research
2	Methodology of sampling	Convenience sampling
3	Method of data collection	Survey method
4	Data collection tool	Questioner/schedule method
5	Sample size	51
6	Statistical analysis	chi-square analysis

Findings:

Statistics					
		Age	Gender	Marital status	Educational qualification
N	Valid	54	54	54	54
	Missing	0	0	0	0

The survey was conducted with a sample size of 1500. Questions regarding the health status of women garbage collectors in society with regard to the "INDIAN FACTORIES ACT, 1948" were put before the people irrespective of their age, gender, education, and marital status. The results of the survey were noted and put forth for the sake of the research work.

Age					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	20-40	37	68.5	68.5	68.5
	40-60	15	27.8	27.8	96.3
	above 60	2	3.7	3.7	100.0
	Total	54	100.0	100.0	

People of various classes of age were approached to fill out the survey and the people of the age group 20- 40 years were the maximum number (68.5%) to answer the survey; followed by the age group of 40 - 60 years (27.8%); and above 60 years (3.7%).

Gender					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	male	24	44.4	44.4	44.4
	female	30	55.6	55.6	100.0
	Total	54	100.0	100.0	

Then the questions were made to analyze based on gender and females were the maximum number (55.6%) to answer the survey; followed by males(44.4%). And this bias is not because of the paper but because of the place where the survey was taken.

Marital status					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	married	29	53.7	53.7	53.7
	unmarried	25	46.3	46.3	100.0
	Total	54	100.0	100.0	

In this research the number of married ones are higher(53.7%) than the unmarried ones (46.3%) and it is not because of the biases in the research but because of the place where the survey was taken.

Educational qualification					
		Frequency	Percent	Valid Percent	Cumulative Percent
Valid	graduate	41	75.9	75.9	75.9
	undergraduate	4	7.4	7.4	83.3
	illiterate	4	7.4	7.4	90.7
	4	5	9.3	9.3	100.0
	Total	54	100.0	100.0	

In this research, it is found that most of the responders were graduates and this doesn't mean they don't have knowledge on it, they do have knowledge about it and moreover during the frequent questioning regarding this topic they gave the actual sufferings and the status of the women garbage collectors.

Age * Whether garbage is collected daily by women in your locality?

Crosstab

Count

		Whether garbage is collected daily by women in your locality?			Total
		yes	no	Maybe	
Age	20-40	28	9	0	37
	40-60	14	1	0	15
	Above 60	0	1	1	2
Total		42	11	1	54

People of various class of ages were approached to fill out the survey and the people

of age group 20- 40 years were the maximum number (68.5%) to answer the survey; followed

by the age group of 40 - 60 years (27.8%); and above 60 years (3.7%).

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	30.572a	4	.000
Likelihood Ratio	12.917	4	.012
Linear-by-Linear Association	1.611	1	.204
N of Valid Cases	54		

a. 6 cells (66.7%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .04.

In the crosstab the rate of impact of women garbage collectors law and, the Pearson Chi-Square value is 0.000, P <0.05. Thus Alternative hypothesis which is there is a significant impact on the daily collection of garbage waste by women in a locality as per the Indian factories Act has been done well.

Age * Do the women garbage collectors come to your home to collect garbage?

Crosstab

Count

	Do the 1 garbage collectors come to your home to collect garbage?		Total
	yes	no	
Age			
20-40	25	12	37
40-60	13	2	15

	Above 60	1	1	2
Total		39	15	54

People of various classes of age were approached to fill out the survey and the people of age group 20- 40 years were the maximum

number (68.5%) to answer the survey; followed by the age group of 40 - 60 years (27.8%); and above 60 years (3.7%).

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	2.452 ^a	2	.293
Likelihood Ratio	2.632	2	.268
Linear-by-Linear Association	.490	1	.484
N of Valid Cases	54		

a. 3 cells (50.0%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .56.

In the crosstab the rate of impact of women garbage collectors law and, the Pearson Chi-Square value is 0.293, $P > 0.05$. This shows clearly that the null hypothesis which is there is no significant work done by the garbage collectors that is garbage is not collected by garbage collector from people's house rather garbages

are thrown in a common waste bin for each street.

Age * Do the women garbage collectors wear masks and gloves to maintain hygiene?

Crosstab

Count

	Do the 1 garbage collectors wear masks and gloves to maintain hygiene?	Total
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		yes	no	
Age	20-40	14	23	37
	40-60	12	3	15
	Above 60	2	0	2
Total		28	26	54

People of various classes of age were approached to fill out the survey and the people of age group 20- 40 years were the maximum

number (68.5%) to answer the survey; followed by the age group of 40 - 60 years (27.8%); and above 60 years (3.7%).

Chi-Square Tests

	Value	df	Asymp. Sig. (2-sided)
Pearson Chi-Square	9.528a	2	.009
Likelihood Ratio	10.692	2	.005
Linear-by-Linear Association	9.108	1	.003
N of Valid Cases	54		

a. 2 cells (33.3%) have expected count less than 5. The minimum expected count is .96.

In the crosstab the rate of impact of women garbage collectors law and, the Pearson Chi-Square value is 0.009, $P < 0.05$. Thus alternative hypothesis is significant that women who are in the garbage collecting job wear masks and gloves while working to maintain their hygiene.

From the above statistics it is clearly proven that the Alternative hypothesis which is there is a significant impact on the status of health of women garbage collectors is maintained well as per the Indian factories Act, 1948. It is clear that people of certain age groups have a significant impact on the status health of women garbage collectors as per the Indian factories Act, 1948, and those women who are

Result:

garbage collectors maintain their hygiene well by wearing masks and gloves.

Discussion:

There are various types of research done regarding this topic but such things mainly concentrate on the laws but not on the actual situations of the people. And there are certain researches that say the actual truth of the status of the women garbage collectors and those also said that the status health of women garbage collectors is still in the dominating stage, and such research was taken into concern for the current research. And the survey was conducted with a sample size of 1500. Questions regarding the status of health of women garbage collectors in the society with regard to "THE INDIAN FACTORIES ACT" were put before the people irrespective of their age, gender, education, and marital status. The results of the survey were noted and put forth for the sake of the research work. And the current research was made on the SIPCOT manufacturing factory. And the current paper uses SPSS analysis SPSS is short for Statistical Package for the Social Sciences, and it's used by various kinds of researchers for complex statistical data analysis. The SPSS software package was created for the management and statistical analysis of social science data and this research uses such kind of analysis for proper and appropriate results. People of various classes of age were approached to fill out the survey and the people of the age group 20- 40 years were the maximum number (68.5%) to answer the survey; followed by the age group of 40 - 60 years (27.8%); and above 60 years (3.7%). Then the questions were made to analyze on the basis of gender and females were the maximum number (55.6%) to answer the survey; followed by males(44.4%). And this bias is not because of the paper but because of the place where the survey was taken. In this

research, the number of married ones is higher than the unmarried ones and it is not because of the biases in the research but because of the place where the survey was taken. The Current study has two major findings they are as follows,

1. Garbage is collected by women daily.
2. People who are all involved in garbage collection mostly wear masks and gloves to maintain their hygiene.

The citizens of this country were majorly concentrated in this survey. Around 78% of the sample size was from the Urban locality and the rest 22% were from Rural areas. Both urban and rural people, irrespective of their education and other attributes were open to legal knowledge to a great extent. The above statistics have made the level of education its independent variable for finding the actual truth of the problem of this research and the above question is indirectly related to the current research topic which is adultery and the status of women and men in society. And it is clearly depicted that there is a significant impact on the status of health of women garbage collectors as per the implementation of The Indian factories Act, 1948. The Pearson Chi-Square value is 0.000, $P > 0.05$. Thus Alternative hypothesis is there is a significant impact on the status of health of women garbage collectors as per the implementation of The Indian factories Act, 1948. It is rejected and the null hypothesis that the people of certain age groups do not have a significant impact on the garbage not being collected from their respective houses but collected from a common bin. From the above survey, it is clearly depicted that there is a significant impact of THE INDIAN FACTORIES ACT, 1948 on the life of women garbage collectors according to most of the people it was effective because of the proper implementation of it. People consider the health of the women garbage collectors and also some advice them to wear masks and gloves to maintain their hygiene in Indian society, the women garbage collectors were

forced to engage to clean the solid wastes thrown by people which are domestic waste and electronic waste. The communities in the lowest strata of the social order are often pushed into the garbage collection job, society treats the garbage collectors well and they also give knowledge to them about hygiene which is very important.

Suggestion:

- Even though it is proven that women garbage collectors are maintaining hygiene by wearing gloves and masks, in many areas women don't wear such gloves or masks as a safety measure which has to be taken into consideration.
- Garbage collectors should collect garbage daily from each person's house rather than accumulating all the waste in each street due to which many diseases spread since stray animals open those waste cans in search of food.

Conclusion:

The occupational health of women garbage workers varies with the meanings, customs, and contexts in their local area. The most crucial determinant of their health, however, is the degree of control they have over their working lives. However, despite this general understanding a great deal more information and knowledge are needed about the specific contexts of the garbage collector. Almost in all areas women use equipment that protects their health while collecting garbage and they collect door-to-door in every locality but in some places it is not so, people should give knowledge about their hygiene and protection of health such that women in all places would wear hygiene equipment in future while collecting garbage.

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