

LIVING CONDITIONS OF FEMALE MAIDSERVANTS IN INFORMAL SECTORS – A CASE STUDY AT ILKAL, BAGALKOT DISTRICT, KARNATAKA

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ABSTRACT

India is a rich country with poor people. We come across with the living conditions of the formal sector are better than the informal sectors. It is essential to search for a job for a lively hood for the maidservants and especially for female maidservants. Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the then prime minister of India introduced “GRIBI HATAVO”.

The present prime minister introduced the NAREGA SYSTEMS with guaranteed minimum wages for informal sector workers and maidservants and also at the free cost given gas connection under Ujjwala scheme to the female members of the household to improve the living conditions. Compare to the pre-independence and post-independence and the modern present situation the female maidservants are more and they come out from their house for the lively hood.

According to the census report, it is raised to 3% in totality from the past 10 years survey. Improvement in the field of education, employment, attitudes, behaviour especially in female maidservants. Government schemes sometimes create idle thinking among female maidservants. It is observed that Young unmarried maidservants are more in the society and for want of money even they are not interested forced to work. North zone area consists of the more female maidservant

KEYWORDS: Living Conditions of Maidservants –Informal Sector, Urbanization

Article History

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INTRODUCTION

The upper-class society ill-treated the lower income group of people or below the poverty line group of people.

The people who stay at one ok place and execute the job is called as formal sector and people who are searching for a job each day at different places is called informal sector workers. A female domestic worker in the Victoria era was the second-largest domestic employment in India. It was continued in all the places and if the work is not suitable for the maidservants, they use to change the masters. Maidservants have agreed to all the jobs whatever the master assigns without refusing even a single work and ill-treat them also.

The living condition is very pitiful and unimaginable. Hence the necessity arises for employment for survival

The women have restrictions to not live in the house at any cost. Those days have gone and entered the field of competition world for employment along with male-dominant workers.

The global witness the total change in the attitudes, values, aspirations, and ways of feeling and acting the effective participation in all walks of life. The female maid servant's contribution to society is witnessed in all the walks of life in the entire globe.

Now Days men are also very cooperative for the said purpose. The economic condition has improved gradually as employment opportunities are created with reservation policies in both formal and informal sectors. Female maid servants have a lot of challenges in the work and sometimes very miserable conditions from every corner make her take the decision to continue or sustain the tortures. Formal sectors are covered by various legislations and Acts whereas informal sectors will not register at all and how to identify them? There is no roaster for female maidservants. The government made an attempt to improve their living conditions on a case-to-case basis because 94% of employed belongs to informal sectors.

Why they responsibilities say master will be held responsible even subordinate or servants commit a mistake. There is no maidservant's association in the present society

LITERATURE REVIEW

- Saradevi 1985: in her book "working conditions of female maidservants" page no 14 printed and published at Sara printers and publishers in France explained very clearly that maidservants will start to work as early as possible starting from 5-00 AM and work till night 9-00 PM almost every day and occasionally extended working hours on functions and special events on the master's house. One of the restless people or most busy people for the society.
- Sharanya Mathaji 2016 in her book titled "Maidservant's Economic Conditions" page no 9 and 26 printed and published at Lakshmi Printers and publishers, Bangalore indicated that female maidservants will start work at home and proceed to some other house which is agreed to do the home works such as cleaning the house with broomsticks, wash with water.
- Outside the house pore water and put the rangoli wash utensils and wash clothes, prepare breakfast and lunch in two or three houses and come back and take care of the children and family members again they may go to the houses to prepare snacks for the evening and dinner meals by that the maidservant will exhaust her energy and go the bed for sleep. In spite of this, they earn only a meagre amount, and if they demand more money, they may lose an opportunity to work also. Their living condition is pretty pitiable.
- John Kith Heart 1999: quoted those formal and informal sectors are two groups of employment
- Factories Act 1948: Formal sectors are to be registered as an industry with the aid of power 10 and without the aid of power 20 where the labourers work otherwise it is called informal sectors.

Urbanization

- The socio-economic transformation of Indian society in the present century and especially in the post-independence period in the form of industrialization, urbanization, westernization, the spread of education, and enhanced employment opportunities for female maidservants have brought about a series of perceptible changes in the status, outlook, work view and attitudes especially educated middle-class female maidservants and women in general.

Work Participation Rate

- More maidservants are coming out of the four walls of their home in search of gainful employment which is evident from the slow but steadily rising with a minimum of 3% from the past 10 years.

Informal Sector – Maidservants

- In the formal sector, women have tremendous work pressure and are not available to do their own jobs and hence they depend on the maidservants to finish the day-to-day jobs starting from brooming the dust, cleaning the house, washing clothes, and utensils. Even they have to care for the babies as a full-time worker.
- The women have to go to the office for their employment and the work to be done simultaneously such as sending the baby to school, bathing, dressing preparing breakfast, and making them eat they have time constraint hence dependency is must otherwise they have to leave their job. within the salary they earn is to be shared as a subcontract of the employment to the maidservants and hence they may offer only less salary or wages.

Table 1: Female Maidservant Work Schedule and Action Plan Time Zone 24 Hours

Sl No	Time	Full-Time Workers	Part-Time Workers	Occasional/Emergency Workers
1	05	Rises	Rises, collect water and cleans own house prepare Breakfast for family members	Rises
2	07	Engaged in domestic tasks, washing clothes, cleaning room, wash, outside the house pour water and put rangoli, wash utensils	Go to the workplace, engage in domestic tasks, washing clothes, cleaning room, wash, outside the house pour water and put rangoli, wash utensils	Goes to work and engage in domestic work tasks for a few days
3	08	Prepares Breakfast	Prepare food at work place 1	
4	10	Does Other works	Does other works	
5	12	Prepare food for lunch	Attends workplace 2 and works	
6	13	Takes food	Return Home and cook for family	
7	14	Wash utensils and sweeps room	Takes rest	
8	15	Takes rest	Attends workplace 3 washes clothes, utensils, cleaning etc	
9	17	Prepare evening Tiffin	Returns home	Return Home
10	19	Prepare Dinner	Prepare food and feed to children	Takes food and goes to Bed
11	21	Takes food and goes to Bed	Takes food and goes to Bed	

SCOPE AND NATURE OF THE STUDY

- Time is taken to interact with Ilkal city female maidservants and to understand their living conditions by analysing and exploring the possibility to make them overcome the problems by suggesting to the policymakers
- Demographic information helped to identify the living conditions of the female maidservants

Statement of the Problem

The study titled “Living conditions of female maidservants in informal sectors – A case study at Ilkal, Bagalkot District, and Karnataka”

The Objective of the Study

- To identify the living conditions of the female maidservants
- To identify the need for employment to the maidservants
- To identify the major difference between the maidservants employed in the formal and informal sector

Source of Data

Primary Data was collected by framing a structured questionnaire and a few secondary sources of data from other literature, networks, etc.,

Sample Size

100 samples selected from simple random sampling in and around ILKAL city

Research Design

The structured questionnaire is framed and distributed and explained in the local language and collected the data on one-to-one information. Exploratory, descriptive, and analytical research methods were employed for the study

Limitation

- For the study purpose only maidservants of Ilkal city considered
- Only informal sector is taken for study

DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATIONS

Table 1: Workers Participation in Ilkal City

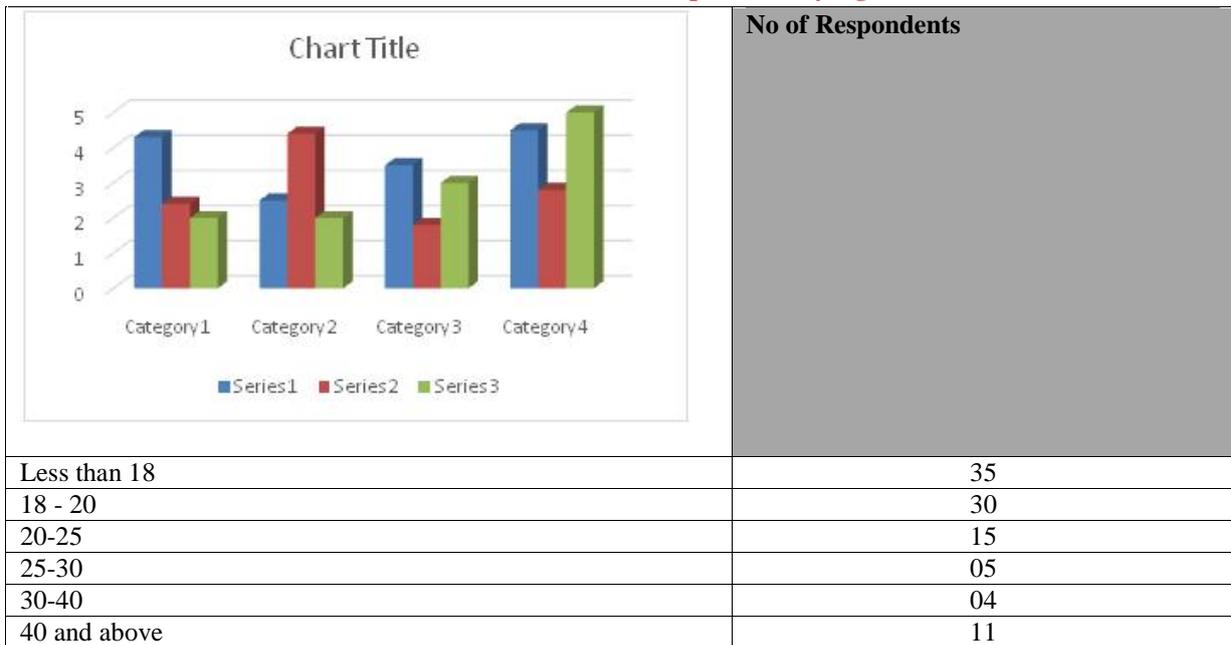
	Full-Time Worker	Part-Time worker	Occasional Workers	Percentage
North	76	20	4	100
east	70	20	10	100
west	72	22	6	100
South	65	30	5	100

Source: Survey Data Collected from Respondents

INTERPRETATION

Full-time maidservants are more compared to part-time maidservants and the least importance is given to occasional maidservants. And in an average north zone area receives more female maidservants and south zone is the least and east and west follows as per sequences of NEWS (N= North, E=East, W=West, and S=south).

Table 2: Distributions of Respondents by Age

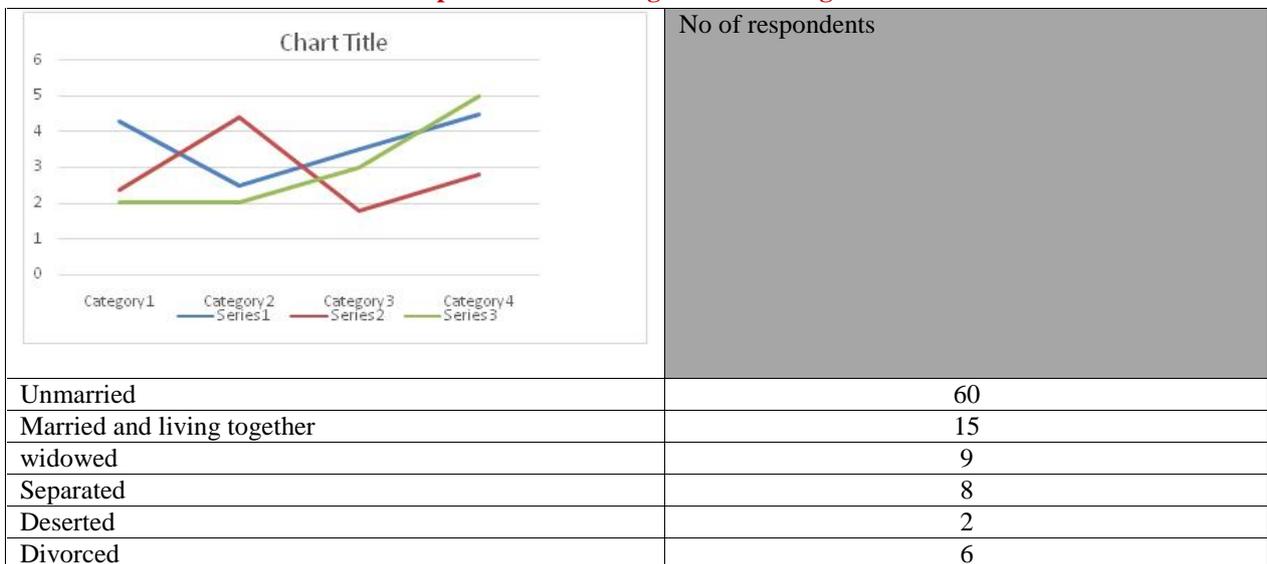


Source: Survey Data Collected from Respondents

Interpretation

From the chart, it is observed that less than the age of 18 are more female maidservants followed by the age group between 18-20, 20-25, 40 and above, respectively.

Table 3: Distribution of Respondents according to their Living Condition of Marital Status

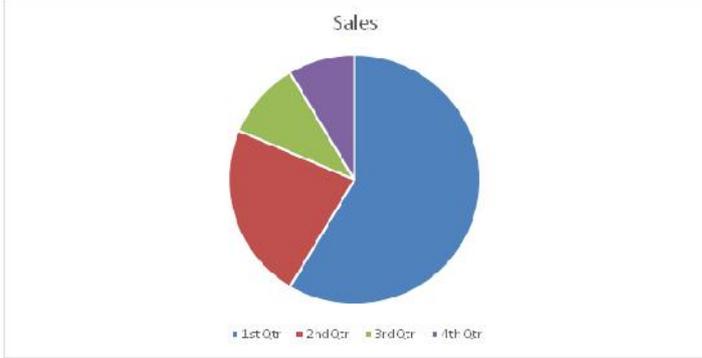


Source: Survey Data Collected from Respondents

Interpretation

From the above it is been observed that the Unmarried female respondents found dominant which constitutes 60% followed by Married, widowed, separated, divorced, and deserted. Unmarried has a significant role in the female maidservants in Ilkal city.

Table 4: Distribution of Respondents According to Reasons of Indebtedness

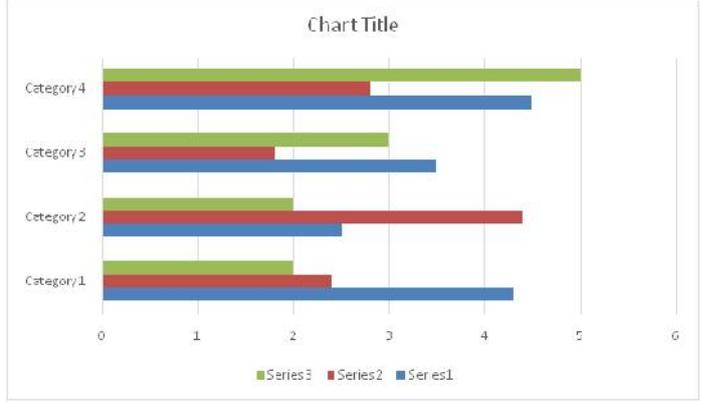
	No of respondents
Day to day expenses	40
Buying consumable items	13
Purchasing furniture and fixtures	10
Functions marriage, guests' arrival etc	29
Death in family	8

Source: Survey Data Survey Data Collected from Respondents

Interpretation

It is observed from the chart that female maidservants borrow money for day-to-day expenses with 40% followed by any functions such as marriage with 29%, purchasing of consumable items with 13%, and purchase of furniture, fixtures, tv, washing machines, etc with 10% and with least 8% for death in the family.

Table 5: Distribution of Respondents According to their Job Satisfaction

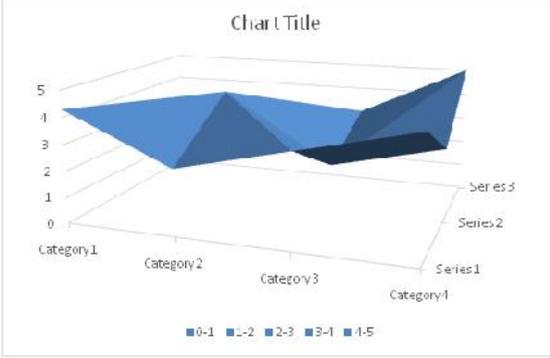
	No of respondents
Completely Satisfied	40
Regular work no choice and no comments	8
Unsatisfied	52

Source: Survey Data Survey Data Collected from Respondents

Interpretation

It is noted from the chart that 40% of female maidservants are satisfied with their work and 52% of maidservants not satisfied in their work and only 8 % are neutral.

Table 6: Distribution of Respondents According to their Sources of Borrowing

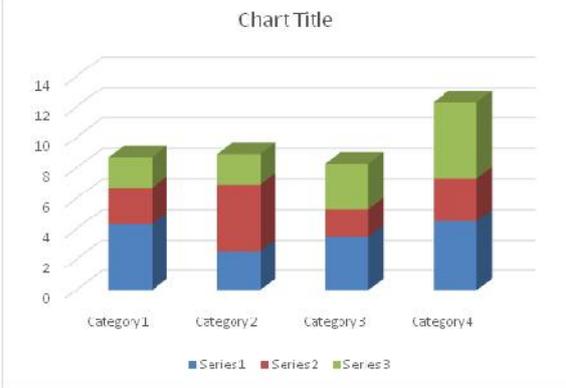
	No of respondents
Banks & Financial Institutions	10
Money Lenders	50
Employers	18
Relatives	12
Friends	10

Source: Survey Data Survey Data Collected from Respondents

Interpretation

Moneylenders have more influence on female maidservants because 50% are borrowing money from them and followed by Employers, and relatives. This has 18% and 12%. 10% equally shared by banks and financial institutions and friends.

Table 7: Distribution of Respondents according to Reasons of Dissatisfaction

	No of respondents
Low wages	60
Heavy workload	10
Bad Treatment by employer	15
Time-consuming	8
No leisure time	7

Source: Survey Data Survey Data Collected from Respondents

Interpretation

From this chart low wages is the major reason for dissatisfaction 60% of the female maidservants come under this category and no leisure time is 7% which is the least reason followed by Bad treatment with 15%, heavy workloads 10% and time-consuming is 8%.

Findings

- Majority of the female maidservants are relatively young and unmarried and less than 18 years of age followed by the age group of 19 to 20 years.
- Majority of female maidservants are very poor and illiterates
- Majority of female maidservants work for the protection of family

Suggestions and Conclusions

- The contribution of the female maidservants to an individual house people is acknowledged not only in ILKAL but the entire world. Therefore, it is the responsibility of the government to frames some legislation in the absence of legislation.
- Empower the female maidservant economically. Treat the maidservants as their family members. Support them when it is required. Create a governing body and Boards separately and ask each informal sector worker to enrol compulsory.
- Since the earning members are fewer and eating members are more it imbalance in the living conditions. Advise extending some time for entertainment so that they also will be happy. A healthy worker is a productive worker. . If you waive off the loans borrowed by them they will become lazy. See the extract below.
- The conversation by two young girls and depicts their attitude. Judge in each case and extend the helping hand only for the deserved people and not to everybody.
- Very interesting fiction. Perhaps, you never stayed in villages and see how these freebies work. Farmers are demanding the minimum support price and not few thousand as free. For example, paddy as per MSP should be purchased at 1850 but now in the market, it is purchased at Rs. 1200. for every bag, the farmer is losing Rs. 650. How many freebies can cover the loss? All crops are like that. Price at the farmer and market price has a large gap. Who is getting benefitted? Think over.
- Unfortunately, even the highly educated people think the government gets tax only through employee income tax. In the total tax, income tax is only a fraction. Every person, poor or rich, coolie or CEO, whenever they purchase something, pays tax through merchants. Whether the merchant pays all the collected tax to the Government is, though, doubtful.
- Please do not spread incorrect messages about villagers.

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