

CHAPTER - 5

CONCLUSIONS AND

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As stated in the introduction of this study the socio-economic plight of the female vegetable sellers which critically studied. This analysis and the interpretation of data has unable us to arrive at many conclusions. Basically the study covers three important aspects namely

1. The individual profile of female vegetable sellers and their family background

2. The social conditions and the changes therein in the help of various factors of social change e.g. age, education, size of the family, marital status, etc.

3. The economic conditions of the female vegetable sellers as reflected by their business activities. This is again investigated with the help of various economic aspects such as, sale and purchase of vegetables per day, per capita income, gross margin level of productive and unproductive expenditure etc.

4. To this main theme of the study both backward and forward linkages have also been established by appropriate discussion of various theoretical concepts such as, the concept of marketing, the significance of the vegetable in

facilities etc are not available in each of these house. The facilities given by the municipal corporation are used by them. Many of the vegetable sellers due to this inadequacy of toilets are attempted to use the roadside corners for this purpose. This has resulted in to air and water pollutions in many places.

5. If we consider the seller's opinion about the extent of support they get by their family member, it revealed that majority of them could get this support. The main reason behind this is the income of the family is inadequate. If females contribute the family income by doing this business, the idea is well supported by all the members of the family.

6. Many of the female vegetable sellers are found to be married women. Some of them are widow and divorcees. It is very interesting to note that there are very exceptional unmarried females in this business. Generally, all the vegetable sellers were married at the young stage of their marriage. Marriages were arranged by the parents and guardians. There are little scope given to the concerned females about the spouses of the marriage,

It is again observed that the system of dowry it is prevalent either directly or indirectly. In case of female vegetable sellers, of course the tradition of dowry is not like by all these sellers. It is only the practical situation that is to be accepted. It is the opinion expressed by

all the female vegetable sellers.

7. Vegetable selling as self employment there is not employer and employee relationship. At the best there may be some other person helping particular female vegetable sellers in her business. It is the female vegetable seller, who is support to take a discussions of her business. The working hours, are not fixed neither there are holidays prescribed. The seller is free to work or not to work.

8. It is observed that the channel of distribution of vegetable market include many middlemen such as commission agent, wholesalers, porter etc. Due to this long chain of middlemen, the purchase vegetable remains very high and the margin of profit is low. The institutional expenses such as storage, corporation tax or rent of places substantially add the cost of vegetables. The loss from the wastage of vegetables is also very high.

9. The production of vegetables is seasonal, of course, various type of vegetables are grown in various type of seasons. The supply of vegetable of markets therefore fluctuates. The prices of vegetable therefore very sensitive. This results into fluctuating profitability in this business. Most of the vegetable items are perishably. There is a risk of loss of vegetable. Under this unfavourable circumstances vegetable seller can be carry on their business. They can not take loans from the institutional sources, as the repayment schedule can not be maintain due

to uncertain profits.

10. The conditions in various mandales of Kolhapur city are not favourable in general storage, drinking water stall compartments are not available. As a result of this, there are serious problems of storage, transports and maintenance of vegetables. It is only shivaji market in which these facilities are being provided to a reasonable extent.

11. The female vegetable sellers are not organised class. Only Kapilthirtha Market in this city has a organisation of the vegetable sellers. In other mandales the female vegetable sellers are required to put their problems and difficulties before the Inspector of the market in the individual capacity, many times their difficulties and problems listen to properly.

12. The overall level income of the vegetable sellers is very low. Moreover the level of income is ever changing. This because of the fluctuations of the prices of the vegetables in the market. Sometimes they earn quite good amount of profit, while some times they incur losses also.

The conclusions drawn as above have provided a lee way for researcher come out the suggestions, which are help to improve the social and economic conditions of vegetable sellers. The suggestion although based on the enquiry of the sample sellers are expected to be representative for the whole class of the female vegetable sellers in general. These suggestions are summarised as follows.

1. The standard of living of the people depends on many factors. The housing is one of the important factor if we consider the overall positions of the vegetable sellers Majority of them do have their own house. It is however observed that most of their houses located in slum - or slum like areas. Each of the houses are having single or double room, this is quite inadequate accomodation. The facilities, Electricity, tap water, sanitation are not properly available. The surroundings of the area is not very cultured, this affects the health of the member of the family and also the mental setting particularly the young members and children of the family. It is necessary that both from the govt and voluntary agencies necessarily help should be provide to them. Particularly the health and education can be provided with minimum possibility cost by asking voluntary agencies to take up the responsibility.

2. The family welfare programmes have not been properly kept before this class. The traditional attitudes of having large size family is still not changed. It is very essen-

tial to bring this class in main stream of family welfare programmes. The grave population problem and the serious effects of large sizes families is required to be effectively talk to them.

3. It is necessary to improve economic conditions of the sellers. The level of income is found to be low. If measures are taken to provide the requires ancillary services to business such as credit, transportation, etc. Their turnover will be increased and the profit shall also will increased. The other sides of these issues that the expenditure pattern of these families is required to be regulated. Most of the female vegetable sellers area uneducated. They do not know how to spend the money properly and saved, part of their income for future. The unproductive expenditure on festivals, shows that they need to be taught the basic reasons in home economics. Association of these sellers with urban

4. Co. operative societies, postal savings schemes, insurance business in traditional way. The procurement of their vegetable, transportation, storage etc. is required to be completed on scientific lines. Provision of the cold storage at least at the central mandale. It shall beable them to preserve their vegetables for a longer period. A Municipal corporation should think of providing such facilities. It is found that even the basic facilities like water, security are either inadequate or totally absent. The authorities of Municipal corporation should insists for

making these facilities available either from the sources of corporation itself or from the grants of the govt.

5. The markets places, where the vegetable sellers carry on their activities are required to be developed well. Selling of the vegetables on the roadside places is utterly undesirable. The dirt and dust around is mixed up with the vegetables. The town planning corporate should think of proper acts. Construction of vegetable stalls in all mandales, this will help sellers to carry on their activities comfortably. The vegetable sold by them shall be relatively in better condition.

The sum and substance of the above suggestions is that the vegetable sellers are required to be placed well, not only in their business but also in day to day life also. The problem of socio-economic development of this most vulnerable class of the societies should receive priority of on the urgent of development programmes.