

**MANAGING THE FAMILY BY WOMEN LABOURERS IN UNORGANISED SECTOR
DURING COVID PANDEMIC**

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Introduction

Workers in the informal economy differ widely in terms of age, level of education, status of employment (own-account workers, employees, contributing family workers and employers), sector (rural vs. urban), coverage of social and employment protections and other specific socioeconomic characteristics. India is overwhelmingly informal and 90 per cent of all workers are employed in the informal economy. Formal employment has stagnated and paid employment as a share of total employment has fallen. This has pushed the majority of the workforce into self-employment, exposing them to the uncertainties of the market (Chakraborty, 2020). Two-thirds of women workers are still employed in agriculture as their primary activity, remaining vulnerable to the uncertainties that the agrarian sector has been struggling with for several years now. Moreover, according to the PLFS, workers living in rural areas (91 per cent) were more likely to be in informal employment than those in urban areas (79.2 per cent), and a higher percentage of rural women were found in informal employment (93.1 per cent) than urban women(77.2 per cent).

COVID-19 pandemic is intensifying pre-existing inequalities, exposing vulnerabilities across every sphere, from health to the economy, security to social protection. The immediate economic impact of the pandemic induced lockdown is already being felt by informal workers. Women are likely to bear the brunt of job losses the most, given that the pre-lockdown significant and widening gender gaps in workforce participation rates, employment and wages were expected to intensify during the post-lockdown period. This study is relevant in today's world as government is working against the exploitation of women in the society

Research Methodology

The sample area of the study is Pollachi covering all women in rural areas working in unorganised sector. The study in unorganized sector is aimed to discuss the socio economic characteristics of the women workers, recruitment process prevailing in this sector, working condition and facilities provided, wage rate, payment of wages, contribution of these sector to the economy. The present study is broadly based on a primary survey of about 200 individuals/ women working in the unorganised sector, at Pollachi Taluk comprising of North, South, East, West. The data collected from Primary sources through structured questionnaire by random sample method. Besides, information gathered through in depth interviews has also been incorporated.

Objective of the Study

1. To study the ways by which unorganised women managed the family during covid
2. To know the association between sector wise women labour and time taken by women to