

# Women Beedi Workers as an Unorganized Sector: Challenges or Opportunity for Women Empowerment

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**ABSTRACT:** Women's education and employment have played an important role of making decisions regarding home and family planning, the number of restrictions imposed on its activities and freedom and so on. The relationship between women's participation in the workforce and decision-making has long been of interest in the context of contemporary development and in the interest of population policy in India. It is also found those 30 percent minority women beedi rollers are directly involved to household decision which 10 percent are illiterate. The need to survive has been forcing women to come forward with strategies to help themselves and their families and more seriously to play their role in a more effective way.

**Keyword:** Education, Employment and Family Decision Makers in Informal Women Beedi Workers in West Bengal

## I. INTRODUCTION

The informal sector is a part of economic development within provides employment or livelihood generation primarily with in the developing countries. The working conditions of informal sector can be classified as wage workers and non-wage workers and also classified agricultural and non-agricultural workers. The informal sector comprises two third of people engaged in non-agricultural employment in developing countries. Informal sector is one important attribute of the major employer of the female labourforce in our country. Participation of women workers which is family support with contributes the health purpose and child education. The education is another important factor determining women's participation in the different categories of the labour market. India, unfortunately, is one among such developing countries where low literacy and restrictions on economic activities of women have not full utilization of human capital. In general, informal employment is a larger source of employment for women than for men, and within the informal economy, women tend to be clustered in the most

insecure and poorly remunerated forms of informal work. The reasons for informal economic activity are involved and complex, as are proposed solutions for improving employment opportunities and working conditions of men and women. But at least part of the explanation for women's preponderance among the most vulnerable of workers lies in the social and economic relations that relegate unpaid family responsibilities to women. Women in the developing countries are the neglected human resource. Despite of limited education and gender biases, women have been using whatever skills they have at their disposal to create merchandise and alleviate economic poverty. The need to survive has been forcing women to come forward with strategies to help themselves and their families and more seriously to play their role in a more effective way.

The NSSO data (2011-12) shows that a majority of women take on employment in the primary sector, within the realm of agriculture and farm work. Within the manufacturing sector, they are found to be employed in low paying, casual, home-based work or in unpaid work within family run enterprises. In the tertiary sector, women are seen more in number in retail trade, education-related work and paid domestic household work. All of these sectors provide women the flexibility to manage their unpaid and care responsibilities along with paid work

## II. MATERIAL AND METHOD

### Study Area;

The present study has been carried out at Tantipar, Aurangabad, Suti, Murshidabad, and West Bengal. The data is collect from the personal interview as per schedule questionnaire in the selected area. Geographically it is situated at Indo-Bangladesh border region which is a minority based area. The data were collected randomly from the unorganized beedi roller in the study area

### Methodology:

The data was collected data from the beedi roller through as per schedule questionnaires.

Initially data was collected individually by random sampling from the source i.e. beginning the register of beedi roller.

Objectives of the present study are:

1. To find out the relation between Education and employment opportunities in Informal Women Beedi Workers in West Bengal.
2. To examine the Employment and Family Decision Makers in Informal Women Beedi Workers in West Bengal.
3. To analyze socio-economic status of women's employment and women empowerment in Informal Women Beedi Workers in West Bengal.

### III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In India, 94% of women are employed in the unorganized sector, involved in work which lacks dignity of labour, social security, decent and timely wages and in some cases, even the right to be called a 'worker'. An analysis of their work pattern shows that women's choice of paid work is deeply influenced by patriarchal and religious norms, restricting their mobility and decision-making ability. Their work and contribution to economy is not valued and since domestic and care activities are specifically categorized as 'woman's work', they are left to manage paid and unpaid work responsibilities on their own, on a daily basis.

In the present study 50 percent Hindu women and 50 percent Muslim women are direct

and indirectly involved in the beedi rolling which 60 percent of women beedi workers are age group belongs to 20 years to 40 years and average income is Rs. 3875.

Analyzed of socio-economic status of beedi workers revealed that the beedi workers is this unorganized by the minority women compared by schedule caste and a very small percentage of poorer sections from general caste and rare case of schedule tribes, Buddhists and Jainism. They are found that the educated women involved in the beedi rolling causes of lack of job opportunities and only for 20% illiterate women are engage in beedi rolling. Thus, the result show that in 50 percent of women beedi workers have generally involved in the household decision and rest of the not interested in the household decision. It is also found those 30 percent minority women beedi rollers are directly involved to household decision which 10 percent are illiterate. 20 percent Hindu women beedi roller are involved in the family decision which minimum education is primary level.

Education is the key factor in society. Education and employment opportunities are two basic indicators in the economic and social status of women. The literacy rate is generally considered as one of the important indicators of the development of a population and the educational level of a population is considered an important determinant of their quality of life.

Sample	Religious	Age	Education	Monthly Income	Family decision
Sample 1	Hindu	20 to 40 Yr	illiterate	2600	No
Sample 2	Hindu	40 to 60 Yr	primary	2250	Yes
Sample 3	Hindu	60 Above	Below 10	3150	No
Sample 4	Muslim	20 to 40 Yr	Below 10	3150	Yes
Sample 5	Muslim	20 to 40 Yr	illiterate	4500	Yes
Sample 6	Hindu	20 to 40 Yr	Below 10	2250	No
Sample 7	Muslim	20 to 40 Yr	primary	4500	No
Sample 8	Muslim	40 to 60 Yr	primary	6750	Yes
Sample 9	Hindu	20 to 40 Yr	primary	5100	Yes
Sample 10	Muslim	40 to 60 Yr	primary	4500	No

**Table:** Correlation different socio-economic parameter with women empowerment

### IV. CONCLUSION

In recent decades, there are challenges in the occupational and educational position of women even though change is very low. This study in the female participation rates of does not ensure

women's power of status. The quality of work involved is moreover an important determinant because employment be capable of determine empowerment. Women's education and employment patterns play a main role in woman's

empowerment which is the full participation of women in personal and family decisions, especially those related to maternity. Economic empowerment of women can grow financial autonomy and equal opportunities of economic power.

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