# A STUDY ON PROBLEMS FACED BY CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IN COIMBATORE CITY

**Dr.S.Renugadevi,** Professor, Department of Commerce**,** Dr.N.G.P Arts and Science College, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

**Mr.J.Ragul,** III B.Com (Student), Dr.N.G.P Arts and Science College, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

**Mr.S.Gugan,** III B.Com (Student), Dr.N.G.P Arts and Science College, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu.

**ABSTRACT**

The construction industry plays a pivotal role in urban development, yet the challenges faced by its workforce often go unnoticed. This study aims to shed light on the pressing issues encountered by construction workers in Coimbatore City, focusing on their working conditions, safety concerns, and socio-economic well-being. Through a comprehensive survey, this research investigates the various hardships they encounter on a daily basis. The survey delves into factors such as inadequate safety measures, insufficient wages, limited access to healthcare, and lack of job security. The findings of this study contribute to a comprehensive understanding of the issues faced by construction workers in Coimbatore City. The results are expected to inform policymakers, urban planners, and non-governmental organizations, providing them with valuable insights to develop targeted interventions.

**INTRODUCTION**

Building construction is one of the most important economic activities carried out for employment and income. This is the biggest unorganized sector in the country. The role of it is very important in generating employment opportunities and reducing unemployment and poverty. In other words, it is the source of life to a large number of people in rural and urban areas. As a result, the number of people who depend on this sector for employment and income has been increasing in the modernized and industrialized society. Construction workers are the backbone of the construction industry.

Construction workers typically work long hours in challenging conditions. They may be exposed to heat, cold, rain, and snow. They often work on scaffolding or other elevated structures, which can be dangerous. Construction workers also frequently lift heavy objects and use power tools. Construction workers risk injuries, including falls, cuts, and electrical shocks. They may also be exposed to harmful fumes and dust. It is apparent that construction activities have an impact on practically every element of the economy and that the sector is critical to the economy’s sustained growth.

**OBJECTIVE**

* To study the economic problems faced by construction workers.

**RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

This study is based on empirical research by conduction survey. It is purely based on primary data from 125 respondents following convenience sampling method. Simple Percentage Analysis, One Way Annova, Chi-Square Test have been used as a research tool. A well-structured questionnaire was administered to analyze the problems faced by the construction workers.

**TABLE NO:1 HEALTH CHALLENGES FOR CONSTRUCTION WORKERS**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Factor** | **No. of Respondents** | **Percentage of Respondents** |
| High stress and anxiety levels | 17 | 13.6 |
| Isolation and loneliness | 42 | 33.6 |
| Depression and substance abuse | 48 | 38.4 |
| All of the above | 18 | 14.4 |
| **TOTAL** | **125** | **100** |

**INFERENCE**

From the table it is inferred that the maximum (38.4) of the respondents face health challenges due to Depression and substance abuse.

**TABLE NO:2 RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATION AND PERCENTAGE OF MIGRATED WORKERS IN COIMBATORE CITY**

**NULL HYPOTHESIS:**

There is no significant relationship between Educational qualification and Percentage of migrated workers in Coimbatore city.

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
|  **Count** | **Percentage of Migrated Workers** | **Total** |
| Less than 10% | 10 – 25% | 25 – 50% | More than 50% |
| **Educational qualification** | Higher Secondary | 1 | 0 | 5 | 5 | 9 |
| Under Graduate | 5 | 9 | 14 | 7 |  35 |
| Post Graduate | 2 | 24 | 27 | 23 |  76 |
| Diploma | 0 | 1 | 2 | 2 | 5 |
|  **Total** | **8** | **34** | **46** | **37** |  **125** |

|  |
| --- |
|  **Chi-Square Tests** |
|  | Value | df | Asymptotic Significance (2-sided) |
| Pearson Chi-Square | 12.333 | 9 | .195 |
| Likelihood Ratio | 14.321 | 9 | .111 |
| Linear-by-Linear Association | 0.85 | 1 | .770 |
| N of valid cases | 125 |  |  |
| a.10 cells (62.5%) have expected count less than 0.0 5. The minimum expected count is .32. |

**INFERENCE**

Based on the chi-square test results, The calculated value .195 is greater than the table value 0.05, hence null hypothesis is rejected. Then there is a significant relationship between educational qualification and percentage of migrated workers in Coimbatore city.

**TABLE NO:3 AGE AND FINANCIAL CHALLENGES FACED BY FAMILIES OF CONSTRUCTION WORKERS**

**NULL HYPOTHESIS:**

There is no significant difference between age and financial challenges faced by families of construction workers.

|  |
| --- |
| **ANNOVA** |
|  | Sum of squares | df | Mean square | F | Sig. |
| Between groups | 1.078 | 3 | .359 | 1.498 | .219 |
| Within groups | 29.034 | 121 | .240 |  |  |
| **Total** | 30.112 | 124 |  |  |  |

**INFERENCE**

The results show that, with degrees of freedom 3 and F-value 1.498, the significance value is 0.219, which is greater than 0.05 so the Null Hypothesis is accepted. There is no significant difference between age and financial challenges faced by families of construction workers.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the research conducted, it is concluded that construction workers face a range of problems that affect their health, safety, and well-being. These problems include physical injuries, accidents, long working hours, low wages, and lack of access to basic facilities like toilets and clean drinking water. To address these problems, it is important to implement measures that prioritize workers' safety and well-being. This can be achieved through proper training and education, adequate safety equipment and protocols, fair wages and benefits, improved working conditions, and better access to basic facilities. Overall, addressing the problems faced by construction workers is essential for promoting a sustainable and equitable construction industry. By prioritizing workers' safety and well-being, we can create a better future for both the workers themselves and the industry as a whole.

**REFERENCE**

1**. Hallowell, M. R., & Gambatese, J. A. (2010).** Quantifying construction worker exposure to risk factors using the Construction Task Inventory. Safety science, 48(8), 1090-1099.

2**. Cheung, S. O., Wong, F. K., & Yiu, T. W. (2017).** Factors affecting the implementation of safety management systems in the Hong Kong construction industry. Safety science, 96.

3. **Shukla, A., Jaiswal, R., & Pathak, V. (2017).** Risk factors, health hazards, and safety practices among construction workers in developing countries: a review. Journal of construction engineering and management, 143(7), 04017019

4. **Monahan, T., & Bhattacharya, S. (2017).** Understanding the health and safety challenges facing small and medium-sized construction companies. Safety science, 99, 181-189.

5. **Koshy, P., & Kumar, R. (2020).** Safety concerns among construction workers: A review. International Journal of Civil Engineering and Technology, 11(4), 174-183.

6. **Murgante, B., et al. (2020).** Occupational Safety and Health in the Construction Industry. In Occupational Safety and Health (pp. 189-210). Springer, Cham.