

**LIVELIHOOD AND PSYCHOLOGICAL WELL-BEING IMPACT OF COVID - 19 LOCK
DOWN PERIOD ON DAILY WAGE EARNERS**

Dr.P.Bharathi, Dr.T.Vijayakumar Assistant Professor, Department of Economics,
V.H.N.Senthikumara Nadar College (A), Virudhunagar

Abstract

Strict lockdown restrictions halted most economic activities and caused millions of daily wage earners to lose their employment opportunities and revenue streams. Information compiled by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy showed that the unemployment rate in both rural and urban areas rose sharply in late March. It remained relatively high in April, before showing signs of improvement starting in May when some activities resumed. According to the media report on a national level, India publishes a periodic labor force survey over 12-month periods. In the latest figures released for the fiscal year 2018-2019, data showed the unemployment rate fell to 5.8% from a more than four-decade high the previous year. Based on the above background the objective of the study are i) to analyses the basic profile of the daily wage earners in the study area ii) to trace out the impact of lockdown on livelihood of daily wage earners and iii) to study the consequence of lockdown on the psychological well-being of daily wage earners.

The data was collected by administering interview schedule to the targeted population. Enough care was taken to the obtain information respecting in the characteristics of the population following a purposive sampling technique. The data were collected from 50 respondents those who are working as daily wage in virudhunagar Bazar. Simple percentage analysis, PHQ 9 Mood scale technique and Garret Ranking Technique were used to analyze the objectives. At the end of the paper conclusion were drawn based on findings.

Key Words : lockdown period, Daily wage earners, livelihood, Depression

INTRODUCTION

Outbreak of Covid - 19 lockdown period, and nationwide unprecedented lockdown has brought a grinding halt to economic activities which adversely affecting the life and livelihood daily wage workers. They have to struggle to safeguard themselves from lockdown period threat and to fight for survival due to loss of livelihood. Since the time of Covid-19 lockdown, there has been a severe crisis of employment opportunities in local labour markets. Disadvantaged social groups have been most affected by the novel coronavirus outbreak due to lack of education and employment, according to The Indian Statistical Institute. According to the ILO report around 400 million people working in India's informal economy might sink deeper into poverty.

Strict lockdown restrictions halted most economic activities and caused millions of daily wage earners to lose their employment opportunities and revenue streams. Information compiled by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy showed that the unemployment rate in both rural and urban areas rose sharply in late March. It remained relatively high in April, before showing signs of improvement starting in May when some activities resumed. According to the media report on a national level, India publishes a periodic labor force survey over 12-month periods. In the latest figures released for the fiscal year 2018-2019, data showed the unemployment rate fell to 5.8% from a more than four-decade high the previous year.

The Covid -19 pandemic and the resulting lockdown have negatively affected daily workers mental health and created new difficulties for people already suffering from mental illness and substance depression severity. As the acute crisis upends almost all aspects of society, daily wage workers shoulder the burden of systematic unpreparedness.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

The Covid -19 lockdown period has led to great implications on daily wage earners. There is a significant amount of income loss for households and struggle for their livelihoods which has further compounded into threatening them into severe poverty and ill health. The current Covid -19