

**AN ANALYTIC STUDY ON THE ECONOMIC POTENTIAL AND CHALLENGES  
OF STREET VENDORS  
IN THE CITY OF BANGALORE**

**Ms. Ravi Darshini**

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Over the years the street vendors have organized themselves into trade unions and associations, plus numerous NGOs have started working for them. The NASVI based in Delhi is a federation of 715 street vendor organizations, trade unions and nongovernmental organizations. Bangalore being a cosmopolitan city the number of street vendors is increasing rapidly especially selling FMCG goods. The flow of capital, economic growth due to street vending is not accountable and always there is a class of people who feel that street vendors are nuisance to the society. Today vending is an important source of employment to millions of people in India and generates opportunities to urban poor. Though street vending is contributing to economic growth to a large extent it is not accounted for. Therefore, this study was conducted to analyze the economic potential of the street vendors which could help the government to take up steps towards their upliftment and also to help hawkers to bring awareness about NASVI.

The objectives of the study were to study the profile, challenges of the street vendors, challenges faced by them, factors that led to street vending, their economic potential and legal legislations governing street vending. For the same, data was collected from 254 street vendors across the city of Bangalore and the data was analyzed using statistical tools.

The conclusions drawn were that the street vendors mostly belong to the middle age group and vending is their primary source of income. They face harassment from Policemen, goondas and wholesalers. The primary that led to street vending is lack of literacy, low skills and low employment opportunities. Monetary benefits of the family forms the major factor in determining the economic potential followed by age of the street vendors and lastly income from street vending as a primary or secondary source.

The suggestion that can be given for policy making are that street vendors face the challenge of low communication skills; therefore, government should take up steps to provide basic communication skills by conducting free classes. Awareness programmes should be conducted regarding the legal legislations governing hawking in India. More

number of legal hawking zones to be provided by BBMP. Structured stalls and places may be constructed to provide support to unforeseen climatic conditions. Logistics can be provided at subsidized rates to the street vendors to fetch the goods from the market to the place of hawking and warehousing facilities can be provided at subsidized rates to store the perishable goods.

Overall this study was an enriching experience to know the socio economic status of street vendors in the city of Bangalore.