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## HEALTH HAZARDS OF MANUAL SCAVENGERS IN TRICHIRAPALLI MUNICIPAL CORPORATION- A SOCIOLOGICAL STUDY

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### *Abstract*

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*The condition of manual scavenging community is miserable. Since most of the people from the community are uneducated social evils are prevalent in the community. Poverty gives birth to different thing including alcoholism and gambling and so on. It is important notes that their children become part of their occupation manual scavenging. The life of manual scavengers is at risk at every stage. Looking it as a health related issues will give a clear picture of the problem. The working conditions of these scavengers face, they are exposed to certain health problems by virtue of their occupation. Generally occupational health is important aspect in not only foreign countries but also in India. In India this occupation is stratified. It is fixed by birth according to varnashrama system. Hence, the present article is an outcome of Empirical study in Trichy city Municipal Corporation in Tamil nadu with the intention to analyse the health hazards of manual scavengers.*

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**Key words:** Manual scavengers, Health Hazards, Service Death.

### **Introduction**

Tamilnadu George Dim trove 2020 . According to 2011 census Tamil Nadu is one among the state having more number

of manual scavengers, were they manually clean and dispose the human excreta from try latrine or open defection spots, remove and clean the underground sewage blocks,

disposed septic tank waste and open drainage. The central ministry of social justice and empowerment current record shows that 363 manual scavengers in Tamil Nadu are still engaged in scavenging. There are three major dalit communities like pallar, parayar and chakkiliar (Arunthathiar) are engage in manual scavenging likewise manual scavengers face livelihood threats to rehabilitate them from these inhuman practice, civil society organisation have tried their level of best to rehabilitate and create awareness among the manual scavengers. Yet they could not succeed. But process of rehabilitation is slow .

**Need For Study**

Peer’s (1992) sudy on social economic condition of sanitary workers conducted at Mangalore city reveals the fact that the sanitary workers highly prone to Malaria, typhoid, T.B and skin diseases: there are few instance of elephantiasis. Hence an attempt with following specific objectives.

- To study the occupational health hazards of manual scavengers
- To know the service death details of Manual scavengers

**Method of the Study**

The present study is descriptive and analytical study. For this purpose researcher collected data from the respective authorities in different local bodies of Trichy municipal corporation. Here researcher used secondary data for his study. This study only concern with their occupational health hazards of manual scavengers and service death of manual scavengers.

**Table 1**  
**Summary of the study Abhisheka**  
**Puram division**

Year	Male	Female	Total	Age group
2013	04	03	07	47 to 54
2014	04	02	06	40 to 55
2015	05	03	08	44 to 58
2016	03	01	04	41 to 51
2017	02	01	03	41 to 48
2018	02	01	03	44 to 50
2013 to 2018	20	11	31	40 to 58

Source: Secondary data

In the division of Abishekapuram here, there is no record about contract workers. Then death details of permanent workers show that from the period of 2013 to 2018 shows that in the year of 2013 seven deaths occurred in the respective area out of which seven, three of them are female persons remaining four of them are male persons those who came from the age group of forty seven to fifty four. Then after in the year of 2014, six deaths were notified out of which two of them are female persons other four of them are coming under male line both of then come under age group of forty to fifty five. Then eighty deaths were notified in the year of 2015 which include three of them female person remaining five of them are male persons come under the age group of forty four to fifty eight. In the year of 2016 death details of scavengers show that four of them out of which one is a female person remaining three of them are male persons under the age group of forty one to fifty one. After that another year particularly in the year of 2017 there has been declared as three deaths from these two of them are male remaining one is a

female person those are come under forty one to forty eight. Lastly, in the year of 2018 we show that three deaths occurred in their service on these one of them female other two of them are male come under age group of forty four to fifty. From the above said table totals from 2013 to 2018 thirty one deaths which happened in the study area out of which twenty persons are coming under male remaining eleven persons was coming under female those are come under age group of forty to fifty eight, all of them married. From the death younger age death notified in the year of 2014 at the same time elder age death and large number of death detailed we can notified in the year of 2015.

**Table 2**  
**Srirangan Division**

Year	Male	Female	Total	Age group
2013	05	02	07	49 to 54
2014	04	02	06	40 to 55
2015	04	04	08	44 to 56
2016	03	01	04	42 to 51
2017	02	01	03	41 to 54
2018	03	00	03	44 to 50
2013 to 2018	21	10	31	40 to 56

Source: Secondary data

From this table it shows that thirty one deaths are occurring in the respective area out of which nearly seventy percent of them are male person then equal death rates are predicted both male and female noticed in the year of 2015. But there is no female death noticed in the year of 2018. Very low age death showed in the year of 2015

The occupational hazard is very high in the manual scavenging because their handling human solid waste and liquid waste. During that time they are

suffering a lot. During their service time some of them become as physically disabled some of them suffer nervous problem .Some of them suffer severely .During their occupation they could not do their work because of their health condition that time their family members assisting them. After some time they are going to death. These details given by respective local bodies from the year of 2013 to 2018. Five of them suffer a lot of which each one is noticed from 2013, 2016,207 at the same time two of them suffered in the year of 2018. Those are come under the age group of 46 to 56.

Then another division namely Srirangam of the Tiruchirappalli city municipal corporation it gives details about the service death which occurred in the year of 2013 to 2018. They give only permanent employee list there is no record for contract worker. But they give some report which says that there are four service death occurred in contract work in the year of 2013 out of which two of them are female remaining two of them are male persons come under age group of forty six to fifty eight.

**Table 3**  
**Ponmalai Division**

Year	Male	Female	Total	Age group
2013	02	02	04	46 to 58
2014	02	01	03	51 to 60
2015	03	03	06	48 to 55
2016	04	00	04	47 to 59
2017	02	01	03	54 to 58
2018	02	02	04	40 to 55
2013 to 2018	15	09	24	40 to 60

Source: Secondary data

From the table in the year of 2014 three of them died while doing their work

out of which two of them are male persons another one is a female person those who come under the age group of fifty one to sixty. At the same time in the year of 2015 six death occurred in the respective area from this three of them female another three of them are male persons come under the age group of forty eight to fifty five. Then in the year of 2016 death details of scavengers in respective local body are four from this for both of them are male persons who come under the age group of forty seven to fifty nine. After that in the year of 2017 three deaths noticed among the three, two of them are male persons another one is a female person come under the age between the fifty four to fifty eight. Lastly, in the year of 2018 four deaths notified in the respective areas out of which two of them are male another two of them are female persons who come under the age group of forty to fifty five.

**Table 4**

**Tiruchirappalli Municipal Corporation**

Year	Male	Female	Total	Age group
2013	14	07	21	46 to 58
2014	12	06	18	51 to 60
2015	13	11	24	48 to 55
2016	09	03	12	47 to 59
2017	06	03	09	54 to 58
2018	08	01	09	40 to 55
2013 to 2018	62	31	93	40 to 60

Source: Secondary data

**Conclusion**

From the data given from respective local bodies of Trichy municipal corporation related to the matter of service death notified in three divisions are ninety-

three respondents out of which sixty two of them who come under age group of forty to fifty eight those who belongs to a male Remaining thirty one of the respondents come under the age group of forty to fifty eight belongs to the female, it shows that large number of service death occurred from the male line compare with female line. Comparing the year 2013 to 2018 the large number of death noticed in the year of 2015. At the same time very least number of deaths identified in the years of 2013, 2015 and 2016. Whereas the large number of female death we can find in the year of 2015. Then younger person service death occurred belongs to male line which is identified in the years of 2015 and 2018 the after we identified from the table young scavenger death occur in female line which occurs in the age of forty six come under the year of 2015.

In Trichy municipal corporation some of the scavengers, in their service they going to ill. They could not give their work because of their physical unfitness that time they asked their children in this task after some time the scavengers who face death then after their children also come their place. This kind of list is given from the Trichy municipal corporation from 2013 to 2018. It shows that five people both of them who become physically unfit because of their illness. Those who come under the age group of forty six to fifty six. Of the five persons, two of them are very young people who come under forty six ages because of their occupation they become wounded as physically unfit then two of them affected by mentally ill remaining. Out of which

five people three of them severally affected by their nervous system.

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