

ENTREPRENERSHIP OF SCRAP DEALERS AND ROLE OF RAG PICKERS A CASE STUDY IN PUDUCHERRY

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ABSTRACT:

The expansion of urban centers is being rapidly increasing, owing to huge population growth and migration toward urban centers, resulting in a lack of basic infrastructural facilities such as water supply, sanitation and sewerage, solid waste management and so on. The scrap dealers and rag pickers plays a vital role in the solid waste management practice. The rag pickers actually going through the dustbins and collecting rags, selling to the scrap dealers and earning the minimum wage sustain their daily needs converting wealth from waste, the scrap dealers were having their own shops and linkage with the recycling process. This two category of stakeholder's are strengthening this recycling process. The scrap dealers were collecting waste from the households and also collecting from the rag pickers, the scrap dealers are selling the bulk of waste scrap's to the agent of recycling industry and earning income. But the scrap dealers provide lesser wage to the rag pickers. This paper seek to address the entrepreneurial skill of scrap dealers and their working modality and profit from waste in Puducherry urban centers was discussed in this paper.

Key Words: Entrepreneurial skill, scrap dealers, rag pickers, recycling process, wealth from waste.

INTRODUCTION:

The world has change into modernization however changes in the modernization that will concive higher solid waste generation because of living condition and habituation of the human, consumption behavior changing day by day. Due to innovation of new things are attract the

consumer and that things are simple to carry and attractive so this will leads to increase the consumption behavior of the costumer and increase the solid waste generation, population, migration, employment are also the important reason for increasing the solid waste. There was increasing the population will lead to the inadequate place of disposing and managing the waste even the rapid growth of the cities combined with higher population base left many Indian cities lacking in basic infrastructural facilities like water supply, sanitation, sewerage and solid waste management. According to (Omar, 2010) the wastes was generated higher in the living areas and that place waste was removed immediately because to prevent from the risks to human health, property and natural environment arising from the uncollected polluting waste. In India according to the (2011 census) the waste generation is higher 377 million which has been indicate on 31.16% of the total population. In Pondicherry union territory comprise as 12.48 lacs as increased from the population of 9.74 Lakh (Census 2011). In India the total quantity of waste generation is 150761 TPD, of which 145957 TPD of waste is collected and as per the overall collection efficiency of waste work out to 96.8%. 70881 TPD (47.01%) of waste is treated and 4095227 (16%) TPD is landfilled. 38928 TPD which is 25.8% of the total waste generated, remains unaccounted (CPCB, 2019 – 2020). In the scale of higher generation waste Delhi, Lakshadweep, Mizoram, Puducherry are the generating the higher per capita waste (C.P.C.B 2019-2020). According to (District environmental Plan of Puducherry District 2021) the total waste generation of Puducherry union territory is 400 to 480 tons per day in overall population rate of 12, 47,953. In Puducherry there was 400 to 450 TPD tons of waste per day was generated from the overall population of 9, 50,289. The solid waste was maintained by the local administration of Puducherry and gave the contract to the contractors they are working in the ad-hoc basis rather than need basis so this will leads to the lower wage to the workers. This situation will leads to getting lower intention to clean and few street gets more attention and few streets are neglected. In this solid waste management scrap dealers, door to door collector and rag pickers play vital role. Firstly the rag pickers collect waste from the various place like dustbins, roadside, bus stand etc., Secondly the door to door collector was working under the scrap dealers and they also go for collecting the waste from households The solid waste are the treasure for rag pickers, scrap dealers and door to door collector. Finally this two people collect the waste and given to the scrap dealers and get money for the scrap dealers based on the value

of the things and how much Kg bring by the rag pickers. The scrap dealers will send the waste to the recycling industry agent and earn income by the value of the things and Kg by the scrap dealers. The scrap dealers and rag pickers are entrepreneur because they can run by business their own and couldn't working under anyone. The rag pickers are comes under the unorganized sector [3]. Because they don't have proper time, particular place to work and if they want they can work. This research paper focus on the socio economic condition of rag pickers and entrepreneurship of scrap dealers and how the business was work.

STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM:

The study was revealed that the rag pickers and scrap dealers are plays a vital role in the solid waste management practice and helpful to the recycling industry but both rag pickers and scrap dealers are most important to this society but their socio economic condition was very poor. When compare to the scrap dealers, rag pickers are suffered more. Both this people affect by various health issues because of lack of awareness about the solid waste. The rag pickers are face lot of problem by this society, public, and other rag pickers. Even they don't have proper place to sleep and exposure to evils of society (like addiction, alcohol, smoke) which are forcefully imposed or thrust upon them due to their profession as rag pickers. The scrap dealers are not much facing this much of problem but they suffer from income if they got more waste they will earn higher otherwise if they get low waste they will suffer.

OBJECTIVES:

- To analyze the entrepreneurship of scrap dealers.
- To examine the socio economic condition of scrap dealers and rag pickers

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

In this study random sampling method was adopted. The sample were taken from Puducherry urban limit. The Primary data were collected from the scarp dealers and rag pickers and interview schedule was used in this research study. The samples size was 50 respondents, among these 50 respondents; 25 respondents were scrap dealers and 25 respondents were rag-pickers collected in the study area. The SPSS software were used in this study to analyze the data and correlation and percentage was used in this paper.

Residential status of scrap dealers	Monthly Income of the scrap dealers					Total
	Below - 10,000	10,001 - 20,000	20,001- 30,000	30,001 - 40,000	50,001 - 60,000	
Rental house	3 17.6% 100.0%	5 29.4% 71.4%	6 35.3% 75.0%	3 17.6% 60.0%	0 0.0% 0.0%	17 100.0% 68.0%
Own house	0 0.0% 0.0%	2 25.0% 28.6%	2 25.0% 25.0%	2 25.0% 40.0%	2 25.0% 100.0%	8 100.0% 32.0%
Total	3 12.0% 100.0%	7 28.0% 100.0%	8 32.0% 100.0%	5 20.0% 100.0%	2 8.0% 100.0%	25 100.0% 100.0%

ANALYSIS:**Table 1: Residential and Income status of Scrap Dealers**

Table 1 represents the income and residential status of scrap dealers. The residential level of the scrap dealer depends on the income of the scrap dealers. If the person earning higher income mostly they will live in own house and if the person get lower income they will live in rental house. Here above mentioned table clearly shows the most of the scarp dealers stayed in the rental house. Among the respondents few respondents (8 respondents) are having their own house and their monthly income level is also higher compare to rental house (17 respondents).

Table: 2 Quantity of waste collected by rag pickers and Area of waste collection

Quantity of Waste Collected by Rag Pickers	The Particular area of waste Collection					Total
	Offices, Market, Club	Railways	Dustbins in residential area	Beach Side	Dustbins in Roadside, Bus stand	
Less than 5 Kg	2	0	1	0	1	4
	50.0%	0.0%	25.0%	0.0%	25.0%	100.0%
	40.0%	0.0%	20.0%	0.0%	11.1%	16.0%
5.1-10 Kg	0	1	0	2	3	6
	0.0%	16.7%	0.0%	33.3%	50.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	4.0%	0.0%	8.0%	12.0%	24.0%
10.1-15 Kg	1	0	4	0	1	6
	16.7%	0.0%	66.7%	0.0%	16.7%	100.0%
	20.0%	0.0%	80.0%	0.0%	11.1%	24.0%
15.1-20 Kg	0	0	0	0	1	1
	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	11.1%	4.0%
20.1-25 Kg	2	1	0	0	1	4
	50.0%	25.0%	0.0%	0.0%	25.0%	100.0%
	40.0%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%	11.1%	16.0%
25.1-35 Kg	0	1	0	0	1	2
	0.0%	50.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%	11.1%	8.0%
More than 35.1Kg	0	0	0	1	1	2
	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	50.0%	50.0%	100.0%
	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	33.3%	11.1%	8.0%
Total	5	3	5	3	9	25
	20.0%	12.0%	20.0%	12.0%	36.0%	100.0%
	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%	100.0%

Table 2 represents the quantity of waste collection and area of waste collection was discussed. The rag pickers collect waste from the different places like common dustbins, bus stand, beach side, Market zone, etc., the quantity of waste generation was highly generated from the dustbins in roadside and bustand with 36% of the respondents so the rag pickers collecting waste and selling into the scrap dealers and making lesser money. Following to this offices, market, club

and residential area are with 20% each. The above table clearly shows the quantity of waste generation depends on the area of waste collection.

Correlation between amount of waste collection and income earning by Rag Pickers

Correlations			
		Amount of waste collection	Income Earning by Rag Picker
Amount of waste collection	Pearson Correlation	1	.734*
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	25	25
Income earning by rag Pickers	Pearson Correlation	.734*	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	25	25

** Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).

Interpretation:

From the above highlight that both the variables are positively correlated (0.734 **) at 5 per cent level of significance between amount of waste collection and income earning by rag pickers. According to the study, it is clearly understood that the respondent's income of rag pickers depends upon the amount of waste collection by rag pickers in the study area

Correlation between amount of waste and working hour of Rag Pickers

Correlations			
		Quantity of waste collection	Working hour of Rag Pickers
Quantity of waste collection	Pearson Correlation	1	.324**
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	25	25

Working hour of Rag Pickers	Pearson Correlation	.324 ^{**}	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	25	25
** Correlation is significant at the 0.05 level (2-tailed).			

Interpretation:

From the above inferences that there exists high level positive correlation (0.324 **) at 5 per cent level of significance between Quantity of waste collection and working hours of rag pickers. According to the study, it is clearly understood that the quantity of waste collection has depend upon the working hour of rag pickers.

Correlation between Quantity of waste collection and income of scrap dealer

Correlations			
		Quantity of waste collection	Income of scrap dealer
Quantity of waste collection	Pearson Correlation	1	.632 [*]
	Sig. (2-tailed)		.000
	N	25	25
Income of scrap dealer	Pearson Correlation	.632 [*]	1
	Sig. (2-tailed)	.000	
	N	25	25
* Correlation is significant at the 0.01 level (2-tailed).			

Interpretation:

From the above it can be interpreted that there exists high level positive correlation of (0.632 **) at 5 per cent level of significance between Quantity of waste collection and income earning of scrap dealers. According to the study, it is clearly understood the respondent's income earning of scrap dealers depend upon the quantity of waste collection.

FINDINGS:

- ❖ The rag pickers are the people who earn selling the waste to the scrap dealers and earn lesser income and sustain their needs. They getting low income based on the waste like cotton boxes, pet bottle, plastic items etc. But the scrap dealers get little higher income from the waste collecting agent (Recycling industry).
- ❖ The scrap dealers are staying with their family members but the rag pickers came out from the family members because of the family situation, financial burden and Orphan peoples are also present.
- ❖ The rag pickers spent nearly Rs. 50 to Rs. 250 to food, toilet and bathing. The scrap dealers spent Rs. 60 to Rs. 800 for the consumption of alcohol and smoking.
- ❖ The rag picker working hours is 5 hours to 10 hours and 10 hours to 15 hours. The scrap dealers are working on the below 5 hours to maximum 15 hours. Based on the income age factor was depends on the earning. The aged people only go for the working hours of 5 hours or below 5 years.
- ❖ The scrap dealers collect the waste less than 5 kg to more than 20 kg and the rag pickers collect 5 kg to 35 kg of waste from various place.
- ❖ 13 rag pickers peoples are affected by the various health issues skin diseases, Asthuma, injury, dog bite etc.,
- ❖ The both rag pickers and scrap dealers were working in the solid waste management. Based on the 5 to 10 and 10 to hours of working will determine the quantity of waste and income. If they are physically stronger they will work more than 10 hours and collecting the waste. Earning income higher.
- ❖ Without the proper awareness the rag pickers was working without proper handling the waste so they affected with various health issues like Asthuma skin diseases and even they look like uglier so the dogs are also surround with this people and sometimes 4.5% of the people affected by dog bite and even the injury are also happen like fell down, accidentals work behavior. Especially the female rag pickers are very poor compare to male because their facing lot of problems with other rag pickers and society and even they doesn't get napkin facility.
- ❖ The scrap dealers are also faces various health hazards like injury, Asthuma, neck pain etc.,

- ❖ The municipality workers are also separate the recycling waste from the mixed waste and they are also selling to the scrap dealers and earn money.
- ❖ Some of the scrap dealers appointed the door to door collector they were collect the waste from the households, shops and the door to door collector earn per day Rs.600 to Rs.700.

CONCLUSION:

The rag pickers and scrap dealers are more important to this society, but the society mostly neglected the rag pickers. They are also part of the cleaning the society. However the Pondicherry is one among the developing city but having this problem may leads another problem. The scrap dealers should treat them even and given correct wage to the rag pickers. The scrap dealers and the rag pickers are supporting to the recycling industry via the chain of Rag pickers, door to door collectors next to the scrap dealers. The scrap dealers collect all the waste from this people selling the waste to the agent and that agent will sell to the recycling industry. The government should identify the rag pickers and provide the basic needs through forming the organization ward wise, area wise with providing the daily needs, education opportunity insurance schemes and most of the rag pickers are studied if they government identify them and providing the employment opportunity they can also come across their problems.

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