

Promoting Zero Street Vending: A Case Study of Surat Urban Area in India

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Abstract - Urbanization is taking place quickly all over the world and India is also one of them. The informal financial system performs a tremendous function in any country. Street vendors are plays a major role as an integral part of urban economies in the country. Street vending activities are rapidly increasing in urban areas. In each state and city of India street vendors doing their activities on roads. Street vending is more and more considered as a fundamental risk in city areas compounding the traffic problems. Street vendors are faces problems regarding their place of work. To solve problems of street vendors government passed Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014 and give rule to provide proper hawking place to street vendors. As we know that Surat city is also included in 100 smart city mission of government of India. Surat city also faces big problems regarding traffic problems due to street vending activities. Street vendors are also faces all time problems for their work place. To solve above problems Surat Municipal Corporation carried out the survey of street vendors of all zones of the city. The main objective of this study is to determine and analyse existing condition of Street vendors in south west zone of Surat city. Furthermore to give recommendation and proposal of Vegetable market, community hawking zone for solving and improving existing situation of street vendors.

Key Words: Street vendors, Vending, Traffic, South west zone, Surat

1. INTRODUCTION

India is one of the rapidly growing country in the world. The majority of the population is migrated to the urban area, for getting better job opportunities and livelihood. According to National Policy on Urban Street 2009, the street vendors are considered as micro entrepreneurs. According to survey by National Association of Street Vendors of India (NASVI), 2014 total no of street vendors in India are 10 million among them there was a highest no of street vendors are in Delhi with the 4,50,000 street vendors and on second no there was

a Mumbai with 2,50,00 no of street vendors. Surat is at 5th position with 40,000 street vendors.

Most of the frequent human beings often centre classification and the low category humans rely on street vendors for their buy satisfaction. This is due to the fact human beings are getting integral matters from these casual sectors in a realistic rate which is less costly to them than the formal sectors. So the avenue carriers are the inevitable contributors to the society. The authorities need to provide most guides and additionally make certain the safety and criminal rights of the road companies as per the Street Vendors Act 2014. Even although they are the critical elements of the society, they are dealing with so many troubles in order to continue to exist amongst the formal sectors. The essential issues confronted by using avenue companies are, Social security, Economic instability, Discrimination, Deciduous implementation of govt. insurance policies and programs, Working instability, Lack of consciousness about prison rights, Non availability of primary amenities, Weather fluctuations, Barriers toward deposit facility, Health issues.

The street vendors are working more than 12 hours every day for their daily livelihood so that they are getting little rest or leisure period. Because of financial backwardness the street vendors were not capable to appoint more working staff to increase the profit. They are getting very less profit because of the public discriminations, quality of goods. So they don't have stability in their work profit. Environmental issues also affect them in certain way. Because the govt. had not made any proper facility for waste disposal, and also these people are not much aware of the waste maintenance and its disposal. Large usage of plastic bags and their improper disposing may cause much kind of issues to them.

Most of the street vendors have low educational status. There are good policies and right protection rules for these people from the part of govt. as per The Street Vendors Act. But these people are little aware of the rights and policies. So when the police and the authorities acts illegally or

impose bribe they don't know how to move legally or where to approach for justice. They are also unaware of the human rights for their sustainable life. The street vendors union is not doing much help to these people and there are no one to make them aware about their rights and government policies.

Weather fluctuations affects in a strong way towards the informal sector than any other business sector. It mainly causes in rainy season like electronic and other electrical items vending temporary stalls in city sides may much affected because of lack of proper sheltering and storage facilities. Most of the street vending are in carts, road sides without a covered roof in an open space which may cause much problems due to weather fluctuation. It affects the daily profit of the street vendors.

No bank is lending loan to the street vendors to commence their business because that they don't have enough security to produce. So the money lenders are taking this advantage by charging high interest rates for credit facilities to the street vendors. The street vendors will get loans in a low interest rate if they had a legal status. In Street Vendors Act there is provision for providing license facilities to street vendors. That may save them from the money lenders. They are approaching the money lenders for their daily business and at the end of the business they have to pay a high interest other than the capital and remaining money will not be sufficient for them to look after their family.

2. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Definition

According to the **National policy on urban street vendors**, Department of urban development and poverty alleviation, "a street vendor is broadly defined as a person who offers goods or services for sale to the public without having a permanent built-up structure but with a temporary static structure or mobile stall. Street vendors may be stationary by occupying space on the pavements or other public/ private areas, or may be mobile, in the sense, that they move from place to place carrying their wares on push carts or cycles or baskets on their heads, or may sell their wares in moving bus etc."

Researchers have used different definitions to identify vendors in a given city or country. McGee (1977) made an attempt to define vendors elaborately. He includes trade and service activities while categorizing on the basis of type and operation. He defines vendors from an economic, cultural and legal position. He defines vendors as those people who offer goods or services for sale from public places, primarily streets and pavements. Thus, the bulk of migrant labour force is in urban informal sector, where the

preponderance of self – employed or casual workers earns their livelihood either independently or with aid of family labour.

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF STREET VENDORS OF INDIA (NASVI) defines A street vendor is a person who offers goods or services for sale to the public without having a permanently built structure but with a temporary static structure or mobile stall. Street vendors could be stationary and occupy space on the pavements or other public/private areas, or could be mobile, and move from place to place carrying their wares on push carts or in cycles or baskets on their heads or could sell their wares in moving buses.

The National Classification of Occupation 1968 defines street vendors as hawker, peddler, street vendor, pheriwala sell articles of daily utility and general merchandise such as vegetables, sweets, cloth, utensils and toys, on footpaths or by going from door to door. Normally purchases goods from wholesale market according to his needs and capital (money) available.

2.2 Types of Street vendors

National Policy on Urban Street Vendors 2009, find out three types of street vendors. There are three basic types of street vendors;

(i) Stationery: Vending on a regular basis at a specific location

(ii) Mobile: Those who moves from place to place vending their goods and services on bicycle, bus, trains and mobile units on wheels On city sidewalks, women and men are fervent and high spirited in selling wide variety of goods namely fruits and vegetables, toys, books, clothing, Household utilities, fast food, etc.

(iii) Peripatetic: Vending on foot and sell their goods and services and includes those who carry baskets on their head/slung on their shoulders and those who sell their good on pushcarts.

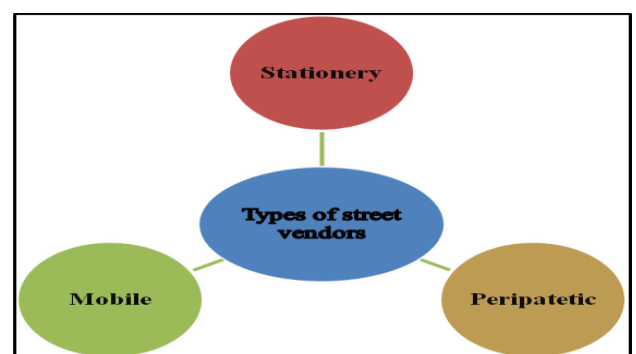


Fig -1: Types of Street vendors

2.3 Acts for Street vendors

There is some acts are provided by government and many organisations are also working for the street vendors. Some of them are discussed below. Some cities are working with street vendors' organizations to formulate innovative policies, programmers and practices that enable vendors to have a voice in making their cities more inclusive. Membership-based organizations help street vendors navigate their relationship with the authorities, build solidarity and solve problems with other vendors. Several such organisations have developed innovative ways to work with cities to keep the streets clean and safe while gaining a secure livelihood for vendors.

The Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014

This is landmark legislation for around 10 million street vendors operating in different cities in India. The journey from the policy on urban street vendors to an Act was of a long period of ten years. The first National Policy on Urban Street Vendors was adopted in 2004. As it was not legally binding, several municipal bodies in various states did not take it seriously. The policy was again revised in 2009 and in the same year a Model Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Bill was brought. Finally after considerable efforts from a number of activist groups including NASVI (National Association of Street Vendors of India), the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014 was passed and brought into effect.

The specific provisions of the Act are: Town vending committee, Street vendors survey, Vending zones, No eviction, Proper procedure for relocation, eviction and seizure of goods, Concept of natural market, Grievance redressal mechanism, Protection from harassment, Obligation of the street vendors, Penalty on non-compliance.

Town Vending Committee: The Act provides for the creation of a Town Vending Committee (TVC) in each Local Authority. This TVC is envisaged as the central authority implementing the provisions of the bill. It will be headed by Municipal Commissioner or Chief Executive Officer as chairperson. This committee, which will be the main policy making body on street vending, comprises of municipal authorities, police, the health department and other stakeholders. Representatives of street vendors will constitute 40% of its membership, 10% should be from NGO's and women will comprise at least 33% of the street vendors' representatives.

Street Vendors Survey: The Town Vending Committee has been given the responsibility of conducting a survey of all existing street vendors, within the area under its jurisdiction. Every street vendor, identified under the survey will be issued a certificate of vending (license) by the Town Vending Committee. This certificate would allow the vendors to carry out their business activities legally.

Vending Zones: A maximum of 2.5% of the total population of a ward or town or city will be given licenses for street vending. All vending activity will be carried out in the vending zones.

3. AIM OF STUDY

The basic aim of this study is to provide sustainable place for accommodating street vendors which will in turn help reduce traffic congestion of the study area.

4. STUDY AREA

Surat is the administrative headquarter of Surat district and one of the fastest growing cities in India with the population of 44, 62,002 in 2011, nearly the double of that in 2001. Surat city is situated in the southern part of Gujarat state of India. It lies between 21.112° North latitude & 72.814° East longitudes. The metropolis is positioned 284 kilometers (176 mi) south of the nation capital, Gandhinagar; 265 kilometers (165 mi) south of Ahmedabad. Surat is also called "The Diamond City", "The Silk City" and "The Green City" and it is considered to be one of the most prosperous cities of India. Surat ranks twelfth amongst the most populous cities of India and 2nd amongst the most populous cities of Gujarat. It is basically a port city that is divided by the Tapi River and this is the reason why Surat experiences floods almost every year. Following fig.2 shows the zone wise map of Surat city.

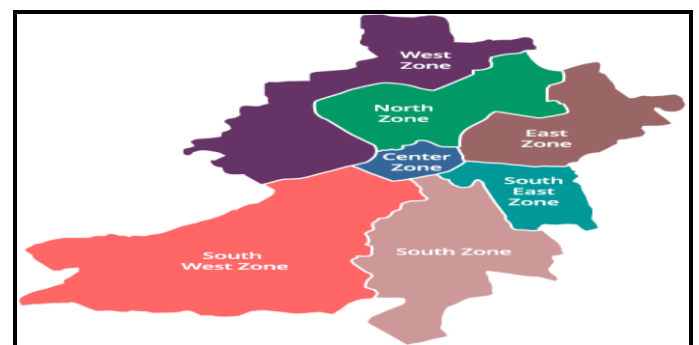


Fig -2: Zone wise map of Surat city
(Source: Surat Municipal Corporation)

4.1 Justification of Study area

In Surat city, there are eight zones under the Surat Municipal Corporation (SMC). Area of south west zone is 111.92 sq.km which is large from all zones. South west zone has 11 wards. South west zone is a under developing area so it has a maximum potential for residential development and it have major factors which attract the residents towards it.

Table -1: Demography of Seven Zones of SMC













Zone	Area (in Sq. km.)	Population	Total no. of households
Central	8.18	4,08,760	1,53,638
South West	111.912	3,47,447	1,14,734
South	61.764	6,95,028	2,51,079
South East	19.492	7,48,304	2,21,643
East	37.525	11,37,138	3,13,105
North	36.363	7,05,163	2,01,978
West	51.279	4,24,986	1,30,068

(Source: Surat Municipal Corporation)

5. DATA COLLECTION

Data collection is divided in two parts; first primary data are collected from the official site of Surat Municipal Corporation. In South West Zone of Surat city, there are total twenty four T.P. Scheme in which seven T.P. Scheme are final, four are on preliminary stage and thirteen are draft. Below table is shows the name, status and area of T.P. Scheme in South West Zone. Second is secondary data collection. We find out First, the location of street vendors in South West Zone of Surat city. From the town planning department of Surat Municipal Corporation we get the data of street vendors for each zone of Surat city. Total no of street vendors in south west zone are 957. By doing the survey of south west zone, we find out all roads where street vendors are doing their activities. Then from the survey data prepare table which shows the location of street vendors in south west zone.

Table -2: Location of Street vendors on roads

Sr. No.	Colour of Road	Road Name
1		New Bhatar Road
2		Pandit Din Dayal Upadhyay Circle to Shree Satya Sai Marg
3		Lal Bungalow Lane
4		Althan road
5		Umabhavan circle
6		R.K Desai Marg
7		City Light Road
8		Dumas Road
9		Piplod Main Road
10		Rani Sati Mata Road
11		Murlidhar Road
12		Althan Road to Aazad Nagar

6. CONCLUSIONS

Study shows that in south west zone of Surat city there is certain amount of lack of space for street vendors need as per the Street Vendors (Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act, 2014. There is no provision of the proper place for the street vendors, because of this they are faces major problems regarding their place of work and they also faces harassment from the government and local public. To solve the all problems of street vendors and traffic congestion problem due to street vending activity government should take initiative. We recommended providing a proper and secure place like, vegetable-Non.veg market, food market, community hawking zone where all types of vendors can sell them products and doing their vending activity freely without any fear of losing their place of work.

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