



LIFESTYLE OF SANITATION WORKERS IN COIMBATORE CORPORATION

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ABSTRACT

The study examined the lifestyle, their salary queries, working atmosphere, problems faced and safety awareness of the sanitation workers in Coimbatore corporation. However, all this progress has a demand side of sanitation and the supply side, especially the people who carry out sanitation work, and who are called manual scavengers, a historically designated and socially invisible class of human labours remains forgotten. They start their work very early in the morning and skip their breakfast, lunch and do all the cleaning activities. In all other countries they are treated with huge respect, whereas in India they are still treated with hesitation and their works are not recognised with proper appreciation and also with unfair salary.

KEYWORDS: Sanitation, Workers, Life, Style

INTRODUCTION

The study of lifestyle of sanitation workers in Coimbatore corporation, their salaries, petition of the sanitation workers are addressed in this study and focused for the development of sanitation workers and or their health, safety and salary hike. Sanitation workers are both men and women, who work at any part of the long sanitation chain: that begins in one flashes the toilet or disposes waste. That is not the most important job in the society, their works more than often mutually include but is not limited to empty toilet pits and septic tanks cleaning and maintaining sewers and man holds cleaning toilets and public places segregation or managing different kinds of wastes and operating pumping stations and treatment plant and all the sanitation workers remain mostly unseen and unappreciated.

OBJECTIVE

To study the lifestyle of sanitation workers in Coimbatore corporation.

PETITIONS OF SANITATION WORKERS

1. Coimbatore: A group of sanitation workers working on contracts for the Mettupalayam municipality they have petitioned the district administration for seeking better wages after submitting the petition during the grievance redressal meeting the workers said that they are under paid by the contractor who had hired them the collector has recommended 610 a day for contract sanitation workers, the contractor is paying only 300 a day. Which has come into the focus and answer by the municipality recently, 'R. Arumugam', said the workers wages is insufficient to keep the municipality clean.

2. The another petition that the, All India agriculture workers unions (AIAWU) chapter set the workers employed under the Mahatma Gandhi National rural employment guarantee act (MGNREGA) do not get paid properly the member or give the state government to increase the number of working days under this act from 100 to 200 and hike the daily wages to 600 they also or give the state government to fix the minimum support price for their produce.

SANITATION WORKERS IN COIMBATORE CORPORATION

The Coimbatore district is located in the southern West part of Tamil Nadu, measuring 247 square miles, which is surrounded by the western Ghats. It becomes a municipal corporation in 1981. It comprises some 100 wards population with nearly 3,00,000 people including Hindus, Muslims, Christians, Kannadigas, Telugus, Malayalees, Dalit and also migrant workers from the other states it is also the second largest city in the Tamil Nadu with nearly 25,000 small scale industries and the manufacturing centre of textiles from motors automobiles and software doing billions of business from that it is also an education and health hub of Tamil Nadu.

Coimbatore is one of the most industrialised cities in Tamil Nadu and has the vast population of workers. The Coimbatore corporation has been kept clean only because of conservancy. There are some 2,520 permanent workers and 2,300 contract workers, there are only 5,000 sanitary workers who nearly 15,000 workers more could be appointed by the Coimbatore corporation. This has been one of the demand of the trade union like AICCTU. The permanent worker earn a salary of Rs. 20,000 a month, where as a contract worker gives only Rs.300 per day until 2016. The contract workers for



earned only Rs.100 per day but due to the struggle of the workers it been rice to Rs. 350.

ROUTINE OF SANITATION WORKERS

Sanitation workers start from 5:00 a.m. to 11:45 p.m. and 3:45 p.m. to 5:45 p.m. Most of them work part time in the leisure hours. The state government passed general order stating that the minimum salary of sanitation workers are Rs.16000 the government has not been implemented until now. The contract workers are recruited by Vardhan infrastructure and other areas which are under the jurisdictions of rural development and the Municipal Administration of the Ministry of Tamil Nadu. The contractor have no licence to recruit anyone. The contractor will be paid by the Coimbatore corporation. Thus, the worker will be at the mercy of the unlicensed contractors, which will gain millions of rupees from the wages of these workers. The wages given to the contract workers are will below the amount guaranteed under the minimum wage act of 1948. More over most of the men and women contract workers has been working more than 10 years and the contract work Abolition and Regulation act 1970 bans appointing contract workers in perennial employment.

DURING COVID-19

During covid-19 pandemic has only aggravated the flight of sanitation workers apart from the economic crisis they have to clean the cities and work with the whole cities staying at home they will not be able to work as part time must during leisure time they will be at a full risk of infection .Over the last seven to eight years in India, sanitation has been focused on government programme

RELATED SCHEME

(Swachh Bharat) mission across India 2014 by the Narendra Modi government to eliminate open defecation and improve solid waste management. This mission changed the government in terms of giving people access to toilets. Several thousand crores have been spend on the issue and that has been progress on terms of toilets constructed. But the cleanup of toilet by workers often significant cost of them.

PEOBLEMS FACED BY SANITATION WORKERS

However not only in the cleaning of toilets, the sanitation workers also clean roads, clean garbages and their main duty is to keep our nation clean. Each state in India should have sanitation workers who cleans up all the places on a regular basis. The states cleanliness is based on the effective implementation of sanitation workers.

The major problem faced by the Sanitation workers are they are paid low salaries, some of the workers remain uncouncted. They face high risk in their health, proper health measures and safety precautions or not instructed to the workers. The duty allocated for the sanitation worker includes latrine cleaning, sewer cleaning, faecal sludge handling, cleaning cleaning, school toilet cleaning, public toilet cleaning, railway track cleaning, sewage treatment plant work

and domestic. Work about 40 percentage of them work in urban areas and roughly half for women.

As we see regularly the sanitation workers comes along every Street and picks of each houses wastes, and categories them into biodegradable and non - biodegradable. All these wastes are collected in a tank and it is disposed in particular area allocated, once the tank is emptied, the desludging process has to be done twice or thrice. For this, they have to collect the sludge from the household and dispose it at the faecal sludge treatment plant a number of times.

Once the process is completed, they take bath at the plant. During this process, they may have to skip their meals. When there is no trips, they clean their cesspool truck, considering the truck helps them earn their daily livelihood. Being a sanitation workers, a contractual employees of the government, they earn Rs. 300 – Rs. 400 a day.

CONCLUSION

The sanitation workers should be respected and recognised by all the people. They should get proper salary, government should take more steps in contractors who cheats the sanitary workers by giving unfair wages.

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