

IMPACT OF COVID19 PANDEMIC ON THE FINANCIAL STATE OF WOMEN WORKERS IN ERNAKULAM DISTRICT, KERALA

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Abstract: *Women perform the part of women, mate, organizer, director, re-creator, economist, schoolteacher, mother, artist etc. and queen in the family at the same time. A part from this woman plays an important role in the profitable development of the country. The profitable downturn caused by the current COVID-19 outbreak has substantial counter accusations for gender equivalency, both during the downturn and the posterior recovery. Compared to “regular” recessions, which affect men’s employment more oppressively than women’s employment, the employment drop related to social distancing measures has a large impact on sectors with high womanish employment shares. In addition, closures of schools and day-care centres have largely increased child care requirements, which has a particularly large impact on working mothers. This paper aims to find out the impact of covid19 pandemic on the financial state of women workers in Ernakulam District, Kerala.*

Keywords: Covid19, Women Workers, Financial State, Pandemic, Lockdown

1. INTRODUCTION

This paper setup that due to the lockdown most working women are facing multitudinous challenge which includes financial crisis, increased workload, domestic violence, internal stress, loss of jobs, particularly those of domestic workers, migratory women, casual workers in public and private sectors and health workers. Some women working with health soldiers and going door to door to promote healthcare service to the people were suspected of constricting covid19 and thus, people weren't collaborative with similar women and abuse them. The Covid19 extremity employment losses have larger for women which compared to men.

Indeed, in the 21st century in women's lives, the biggest and most important responsibility is still considered to be the high caretaker of the home and children. Before the lockdown, when life was sailing on the normal boat, the schedule for everything was fixed and women were at least getting eventually for themselves when their children use to be busy in academy and other out-of-door conditioning. With the check of seminaries and sodalities, the online literacy format engaged all the scholars and indeed the matters of youngish children. In utmost cases, mothers and in few, fathers accompany and have to sit with their children especially with the younger ones for the online classes and train them in this recently

surfaced model of training. This has been seen as a redundant element in the formerly overflowing handbasket of women's domestic liabilities. Working women who were having children progressed 0–6 years have to struggle a lot to have a balance between work and home during COVID-19.

2.WOMEN WORKER AND COVID19

The disasters that surfaced before the COVID epidemic affected women in a veritably different way as compared to this time. Before women used to reduce their working hours or for the time being, and they stepped down from their job (Andrew et al.,2020)¹, but this epidemic brought the coercion of complete lockdown where especially working women with their multiple places similar as wife, mother and daughter-in-law needed to perform all the household activities along with their paid job (Andrew et al., 2020), (Carlson et al., 2020)² (Collins et al., 2021)³, (Craig and Churchill, 2021)⁴,(Hennekam and Shymko, 2020)⁵, (Manzo and Minello, 2020)⁶ (Qian and Fuller, 2020)⁷. This global health extremity impelled all the businesses, diligence and institutions to shut down their services physically and forced their workers (where possible) to work from home so that the world can check the spread of this contagious contagion.

This script has posed newer challenges, and overnight regular workers have to be tuned with new language; that is 'work from home (WFH) workers' which was depended on the choice of the workers, now converted to 'obligatory work from home (MWFH)' (Kniffin et al., 2021)⁸. To operationalize work from home, one needs to have proper structure, installation and space, piecemeal from other adaptations and challenges of remote working (International Labour Organisation, 2020)⁹, but people who are lacking in needed musts for WFH have to navigate or sculpt out similar space amid limitations and new overgrown liabilities. It wasn't plain sailing as the lockdown caught everyone fully unrehearsed and gave no time for planning. Further, more problems and challenges have been registered among women who are working and with children. Although a positive shift has also been seen in the equal distribution of household and child care between men and women, still the redundant work falls on the women (Queisser et al., 2020)¹⁰, (Farré and González, 2020)¹¹ (Sevilla & Smith, 2020)¹²

2.1 WOMEN WORKER, FINANCIAL STATE AND COVID 19

The spread of the virus has interrupted international supply chains, and is forcing workers to remain at home because they are quarantined, sick or subject to lockdowns. Companies from a variety of industries are finding themselves forced to interrupt and scale down operations. Substantial job losses will likely follow (ILO, 2020)¹³.

Evidence from past economic and health crises suggests that shocks on the scale of the COVID-19 pandemic often impact men and women differently (Rubery and Rafferty, 2013)¹⁴. The 2008 financial crisis, for instance, was characterised by greater job losses in male-dominated sectors (notably construction and manufacturing) and an increase in hours

worked by women, especially in the early years (Sahin, Song and Hobijn, 2012)¹⁵. During the recovery phase, men's employment improved more quickly than women's employment (Périvier, 2014)¹⁶

2.2 WOMEN'S FINANCIAL STATE AND INCREASED POVERTY RATE

Anyhow of the unsexed impact of job and business loss, women are likely to be more vulnerable than men to any extremity-driven loss of income. Across countries, women's inflows are, on average, lower than men's and their poverty rates are higher. Women also frequently hold less wealth than men, for a variety of reasons (Sierminska, Frick and Grabka, 2010)¹⁷, Schneebaum et al., 2018)¹⁸. And because of their lesser caring liabilities, it's frequently more delicate for women to find indispensable employment and income aqueducts (similar as incremental work) following lay-off.

Single parents, numerous of whom are women, are likely to be in a particularly vulnerable position. Reliance on a single income means that jobs loss can be critical for single parent families, especially where public income support is weak or slow to reply. Substantiation from the 2008 fiscal extremity suggests that, in numerous countries, children in single-parent families were hit much harder by the recession than children in two parent families, not only in terms of income and poverty, but also in terms of access to essential material goods and condition similar as acceptable nutrition and an adequately warm home (Chzhen, 2014)¹⁹.

2.4 EMERGENCY MEASURES FOR HELPING WORKING PARENTS

In cases of closure of schools or childcare centres. In several countries where childcare installations and schools have been closed and some installation remain open to look after children of essential service workers, especially in health and social care and tutoring. In numerous countries list of essential occupations also includes public transport, food product, transport and distribution, transportation of energies, waste operation, the media, police and the fortified forces and essential public authorities. But in Kerala no such emergency measures should be taken by government for helping working mothers.

3. CONCLUSION

This paper setup that due to lockdown majority of women faced a lot of problems regarding financial crisis, job loss, internal stress, domestic violence, child care, health issues etc. COVID-19 epidemic contagions are spreading across all the countries day by day. Also, a clear dimension of its impact cannot be linked, because the situation is getting worse every day and people losing their job and others are signed for job especially in every sector. The Covid-19 extremity has increased the workload of women in both their home and work disciplines. Compared to her husband, she compromises further time for integrating multiple places. The enterprise should track the stress position of the staff for their effective work-life integration. In order to content with the insecurity in the period of contingencies and the consequent income gap, along with income supportive measures, government should focus on special measures to improve resilience and also to facilitate economic recovery.

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