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A Study to Assess Quality of Life of Daily Laborers in Post Covid 19 Pandemic Period of Selected Urban Area of Kolkata, West Bengal

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Abstract

A descriptive study was conducted to assess quality of life of daily laborers in post COVID 19 pandemic period of selected urban area of Kolkata, WB. The purpose of the study was to assess the impact on quality of life in COVID -19 pandemic situation among daily laborers of selected urban area of Kolkata, WB. A simple random sampling technique was used to select 265 subjects. A semi structured interview schedule for socio demographic profile and WHOQOL-BREF structured interview schedule were used to collect data for assessing the quality of life of daily laborers. 29.39% of laborers rated their quality of life as very poor and 23.93% as poor. 25.28% of laborers were very dissatisfied with their health and 12.30% were dissatisfied. The study had important implications in the socio-economic field and paves the way for further research in the post pandemic world. Based on this study a similar study can be done on a large sample.

INTRODUCTION

Surveys are powerful research tools that provide important information about disease prevalence, risk factors, quality of life, treatment, conditions and costs of care. It is important to initiate research addressing the impact on workers' quality of life after the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Indian government confirmed India's first coronavirus case (2019) in Kerala on January 30, 2020, when a college student from Wuhan returned to the state.

Therefore, authors focused on this study to provide an assessment of health-related quality of life and public health during the COVID-19 pandemic. Test are usually done during isolation.

Background of the Study: The COVID-19 pandemic has caused mass deaths worldwide and caused unprecedented challenges to public health and world affairs. The economic and social impact of the pandemic has been devastating. Tens of millions of people are at risk of falling into extreme poverty, while the number of poor people, currently estimated at around 690 million, could rise to 132 million. Until 2020. End of the year.

Millions of businesses face emerging challenges and risk losing their livelihoods. Workers in the informal economy are particularly vulnerable as they often lack social protection, good healthcare, and access to resources. During the lockdown, many people lost their livelihood and income and were unable to support themselves and their families. For many, no income means no food or less food to eat.

The epidemic affected all foods and revealed their weakness. The pandemic has reduced job opportunities and put millions of people's lives at risk. As a result, unemployed workers have lower quality of life scores.

Millions of paid and self-employed agricultural workers feed the world, often facing poor working conditions, poor nutrition and poor health, lack of safety and job protection and other abuses. With low and unstable incomes and no social support, many of these people continue to work, often in poor conditions, thus increasing the risk of harming themselves and their families.

When faced with financial loss, they may resort to negative coping strategies such as stress, payday loans, and child labor. Migrant workers are particularly at risk because they face transportation, employment and livelihood risks and have limited access to government support.

After COVID-19, food, safety, public health and especially labor and employment problems have emerged for workers. Therefore, food safety, health

and safety must be met at all costs. Immediately, the overarching goal of saving lives and livelihoods must include continuing to protect global health and providing financial support to those affected. These include low-wage jobs, including day laborers, young workers, older workers and immigrants. Particular attention should be paid to the situation of women working in low-income jobs and care.

Now is the time for international solidarity and support for the most vulnerable people in our society, especially towards the new world and development. Only by working together can we overcome the health, social and economic effects of the epidemic and prevent it from turning into a crisis for human health.

Need of the Study: Since January 2020, Covid-19 has become a major epidemic affecting all activities of our country. The epidemic has caused great damage to the Indian economy and human health.

In this unfortunate situation, rank-and-file employees have become the most vulnerable group. If we want to understand the vulnerability of people's health during this pandemic, we also need to understand the vulnerability of domestic workers to their lives.

- Domestic workers are more likely to lose their quality of life during a pandemic. A good life includes the standard of health, comfort and happiness that one enjoys.
- Despite the normal situation, daily workers face many uncertainties in the workplace. And during this pandemic, they are laid off or have their salaries cut, which directly impacts their lives or health.
- An important section of 57 Suren Sarkar Road are daily wage workers. Masons, street vendors, migrant workers etc.
- Our employees are the backbone of our business. Therefore, it is important for them to pay attention to health standards to protect the economy.
- Therefore, the researchers were interested in assessing the quality of life of daily workers in a selected Urban area, Kolkata.

Statement of the Problem: A Study to assess quality of life of daily laborers in post COVID 19 pandemic period of selected Urban area, Kolkata, West Bengal.

Purpose of the study: The purpose of the study is to assess the quality of life of daily laborers in the post Covid 19 pandemic period.

Objectives of the Study:

- To assess the physical health of daily laborers.
- To identify the psychological condition of daily laborers.

- To assess the social relationships of daily laborers.
- To find out the overall environmental condition of daily laborers.

Operational Definition:

- **Quality of life:** According to the definition of the World Health Organization: Quality of life refers to the person's perception of his job in life in the context of the culture and values in which he lives and in relation to his own life. Goals, expectations, standards and concerns.
- In this study, quality of life refers to the daily worker's physical, emotional, social and general environment according to the change score that can be modified from the WHOQOL-BREF tool.
- **Assess:** According to the Oxford dictionary, effect or feeling.
- This study refers to the collection of data to describe the quality of life of employees in terms of physical, mental, social and environmental aspects.
- **Pandemic:** According to the Oxford dictionary, a disease spreads across a country or the world.
- This study talks about epidemic diseases that are global or regional, cross international borders and often affect many people.
- **Daily laborers:** According to the Oxford Dictionary, a person who specializes in a field has a special job.
- In this study, it refers to people who work or do private business. It's a special job. For example. Painters, salesmen, shopkeepers, fishermen, carpenters, bus drivers.
- **Post Covid 19:** This refers to the phase after the third wave of the Covid-19 epidemic. According to the Oxford Dictionary, it is the disease caused by coronavirus, which first appeared in 2019 and became a pandemic.
- This study mentions the risk of serious respiratory disease caused by the new coronavirus or serious respiratory disease caused by 2nd wave of coronavirus.
- **Selected Urban Area:** 57, Suren Sarkar Road, Beliaghata, Kolkata.

Variables Under Study

Demographic Variables: In this study the selected variables were age, number of family members, earning members, education, occupation, monthly income, satisfaction of occupation, fear of unemployment and method of paying money.

Research Variables: In this study, the research variables were quality of life of daily laborers.

Assumptions: The study assumes that the daily laborers have some impact on their quality of life in the Post COVID 19 pandemic period.

Delimitations

The study is delimited to:

- Daily laborers facing the situational crisis in Post COVID 19 pandemic period in selected urban area of Kolkata, West Bengal.
- Daily laborers who were willing to participate.
- Participants who know Bengali.

Conceptual Framework: The conceptual framework adopted for this study is based on Transaction model of stress (Dr. Richard Lazarus, 1966 and Dr. Susan Folkman 1984).

Transaction Model: The adaptive model of stress and coping is a framework that emphasizes the assessment of harm, threat and challenge to develop coping strategies for stressful situations. The level of anxiety in the form of thoughts, feelings, emotions and behavior due to external stress depends on the assessment of the situation, including high judgment of whether internal or external needs exceed resources and the ability to resist when needs are met. is larger than the resources. (Lazarus and Folkman). They also have longer worked hours and free time. Other challenges facing nursing students include developing clinical skills and more commonly, a perceived lack of job skills.

Summary: The abstract deals with the background of the study, research need, problem statement, research purpose, job description, research distinction, theory, decision and strategy.

Overview of Literature

Review of Literature: Literature review is the search for information about the main subject and the development of information to create resources on the subject. Relevant literature is reviewed to expand understanding and understanding of the selected topics studied. A public medical search and an Internet search were conducted to locate the site. Relevant information is also available in different books. It helps researchers understand the problem more deeply and learn about previous studies. The literature review related to this study is presented in the following section:

- Quality of life.
- Daily laborers and their life situation in developing countries.

- Literature review related to covid-19 pandemic.
- Literature review related to lock down.
- Effect of COVID 19 crisis on dismissed employees.
- Effects of pandemic on quality of life of daily basis employee/laborers.

A good life is a concept aimed at the well-being of our population or people, including the positive and negative conditions that exist in it at a particular time. For example, most aspects of a good life include personal relationships, education, work environment, health and wealth, security, continuity of freedom, freedom to make decisions, social consideration and physical environment^[1].

The World Health Organization defines quality of life as the evaluation of a person's objective reality through the lens of culture and benefits. Toron University Quality of Life Survey defines quality of life as the extent to which a person can enjoy the positive aspects of his or her life. It is important to distinguish between quality of life and other similar terms that are easily confused in the literature., for example: standard of living and living health. The difference between QOL and the past is that quality of life depends mostly on work and income^[2].

Measuring quality of life can be useful in clinical practice, but the lack of resources to analyze results and provide the necessary support is a significant problem. Although assessing children's quality of life remains difficult, its benefits are increasingly recognized by researchers and practitioners^[3].

QOL is an important topic in medical and health research and QOL research involves many different patient groups and studies. Based on the current analysis of methods and apparent quality of life research, we conclude that concepts and methods compete in much of the research in health and medicine^[4].

In their research, researchers should understand the concept and function of quality of life as clearly and precisely as possible. Readers should not use the term "good life" lightly. However, the research topic needs to be analyzed as a real measure^[5].

COVID-19 has created an unprecedented crisis for many businesses around the world. Job insecurity is a significant source of stress for employees and negatively affects their work habits and mental health conditions. Job insecurity can reduce employee engagement by draining employees' physical and mental energy, negatively affecting their health and well-being^[6].

Organizations face increasing uncertainty when dealing with today's issues, which are often not limited

to current national issues but span a wide range of complex issues such as climate change and political corruption. Some serious problems in our social world can pose a threat to the effectiveness and survival of an organization^[7].

The COVID-19 virus is associated with several stressors that can psychologically affect employees during and after the pandemic. Mental illnesses and depression are caused by uncontrollable stress or anxiety, resulting mainly from people's difficulties in coping with stressful life problems.

In a slow economy, some jobs in the economy will be affected. Without government intervention, the decline will gradually spread to other sectors of the economy^[8].

MATERIALS AND METHODS

This section explains the details of the research method. Research methodology describes a general pattern of methods for collecting valid and reliable data for research. It includes research methods, research design, differentiation, sampling, sample design, sample selection, research, development and definition of data collection tools, usability of tools, reliability of tools, research, data collection, data collection questions and problems encountered. During the preparation of data analysis.

Research Approach: This study aims to determine the quality of life of daily workers in the context of the COVID 19 epidemic. In this study, it is a "Non-experimental" study because it is fit for purpose.

Research Design: Research design is a set of preliminary decisions that create an overall plan and specify methods and procedures for collecting and analyzing the necessary data. Research design is important in connecting the researcher's framework to appropriate data. A descriptive research study design was chosen for this study. The research design was presented symbolically in (fig. 2).

Variables Under Study

Demographic Variables: Variables selected in this study., age, family members, beneficiaries, education level, occupation, monthly income, interest in work, fear of unemployment and wage.

Research Variables: The research variable in this study is the quality of life of daily workers.

Setting of the Study: 57 Suren Sarkar Road, Kolkata, West Bengal.

Reason for Selecting the Setting is:

- Availability of the subject.
- Familiarity with the setting.
- Feasibility of conducting the study.
- Cooperation from the concerned authority.

Population: In this study, the 'Population' was comprised of all daily laborers.

Sample: 265 Daily laborers living at 57, SurenSarkar Road, Kolkata, West Bengal.

Inclusion Criteria:

- The daily laborers who were present at the time of data collection.
- Those who are willing to participate in the study.

Exclusion Criteria:

- Those who are working in the govt sectors.
- Big businessman.

Sampling Technique: Simple Random Sampling.

Data Collection Tools and Techniques

Reliability of the Tool: Reliability was computed by test-retest, where $r = 0.97$. As WHOQOL-BREF is a standard tool its reliability was already established and the test-retest reliabilities for domains were 0.67 for physical health, 0.72 for psychological, 0.76 for social relationships and 0.87 for environment. Therefore, the tool had a highly acceptable level of reliability.

Development of Final Tool: After seeking expert advice and changing the language, the final tool was prepared.

Area of Ethical Consideration:

- Institutional ethical committee, ID and BG Hospital.
- Principal, Govt. College of nursing, ID and BG Hospital.
- Counsellor of (57 Suren Sarkar Road) 33no ward.
- Written consent from participants.

Final Data Collection

- **Venue:** 58, Suren Sarkar Road, Beliaghata, Kolkata.
- **Procedure:** Simple random sampling technique.
- **Duration:** September 2022-November 2022.
- All data was collected by the research ers themselves.
- The researcher introduced him and explained the purpose of the study.

- Specify your topic.
- Select subjects and explain to them the purpose of the study.
- Privacy Policy resolved.
- Participation is optional. Informed consent was obtained from the participants.
- Numbers are used as names of respondents in the survey to ensure confidentiality and anonymity.
- During data collection, staff regularly received semi-structured surveys and WHOQL-BREF standard tools from the public and informants.
- Total time per sample is approximately 30 minutes.
- The meeting ended with thanking the participants.

Problems Encountered During Data Collection: No such problems were encountered during data collection.

Data Analysis Plan: Describe the data through descriptive statistics and inferential statistics.

Procedure: Standardized tool WHO QOL BREF to assess Quality of life of daily laborers through descriptive Survey.

Problem Faced During Period of Data Collection: No such problem was faced during the period of data collection.

Plan for Analysis of Data: The data were analyzed by descriptive and inferential statistics.

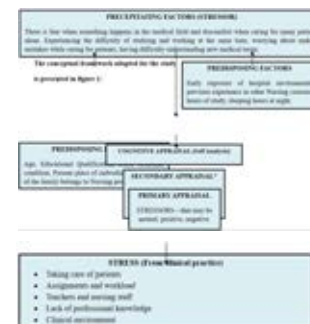


Fig. 1: Conceptual framework on Transaction model of stress by Lazarus and Folkman (1984)
Secondary Appraisal not included under study.

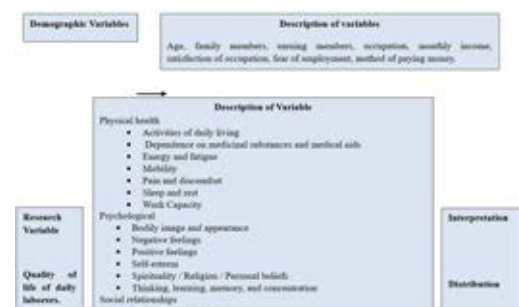


Fig 2: Research design

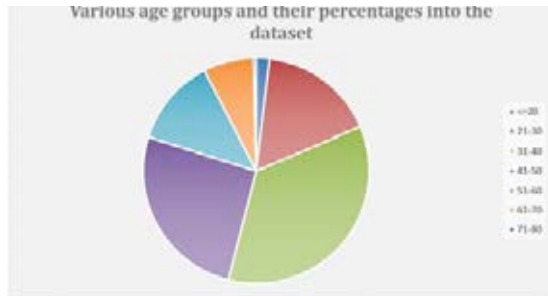


Fig 3: Pie diagram showing various age groups and their percentages into the Dataset.

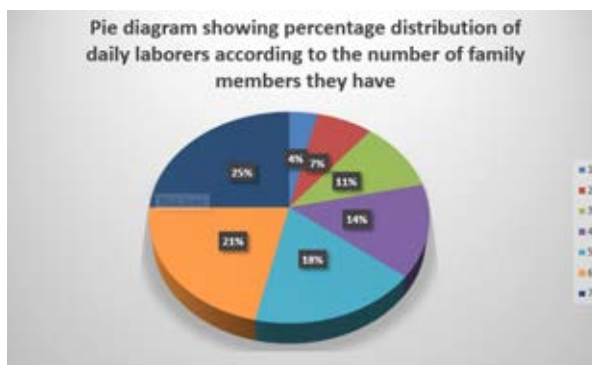


Fig 4: Pie diagram showing percentages of number of family members of the laborers



Fig 5: Pie diagram showing percentages of number of family members of the laborers

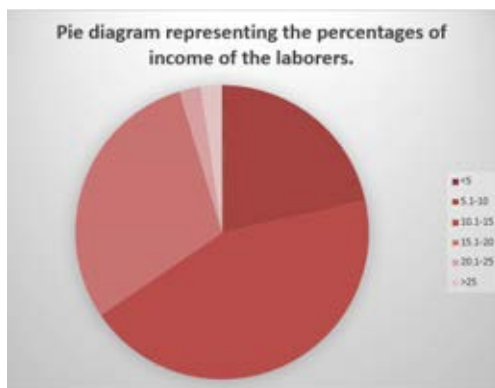


Fig 6: Pie diagram showing the percentages of the earning members

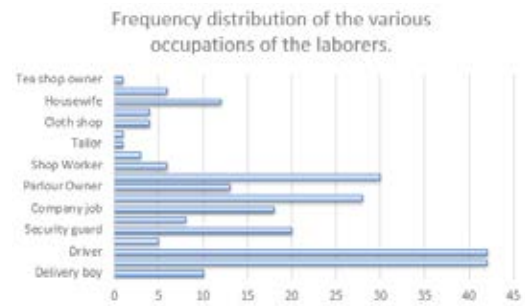


Fig 7: Horizontal bar diagram representing the frequency distribution of the various occupations of the laborers.

PIE DIAGRAM SHOWING PERCENTAGE DISTRIBUTION OF DAILY LABORERS ACCORDING TO THEIR OCCUPATION



Fig 8: Pie diagram describing the percentages of the occupations the laborers are into.

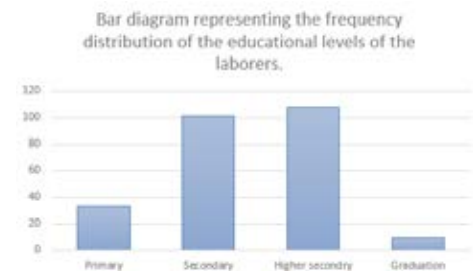


Fig 9: Bar diagram representing the frequency distribution of the educational levels of the laborers

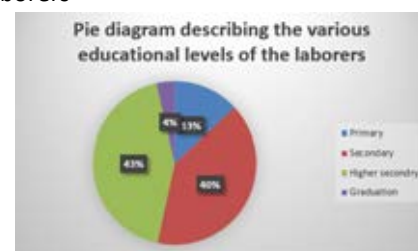


Fig 10: Pie diagram describing the various educational levels of the laborers

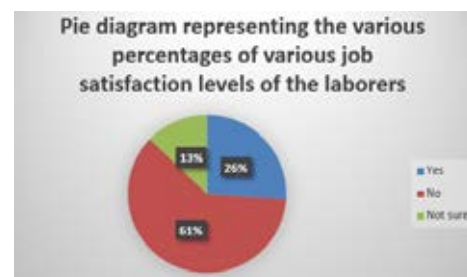


Fig 11: Pie diagram representing the various percentages of various job satisfaction levels of the laborers

Table 1: Showing frequency distribution of laborers in various age groups.

Age (Years)	Frequency	Percentage
≤20	5	1.901140684
21-30	44	16.73003802
31-40	93	35.36121673
41-50	68	25.85551331
51-60	33	12.54752852
61-70	19	7.224334601
71-80	1	0.380228137
Total	263	100

Table 2: Frequency distribution of monthly income (in thousands) of the laborers.

Monthly income in thousands	Frequency	Percentage
<5	1	0.392156863
5.1-10	54	21.17647059
10.1-15	112	43.92156863
15.1-20	76	29.80392157
20.1-25	6	2.352941176
>25	6	2.352941176
Sum	255	100

Table 3: Frequency distribution of monthly income (in thousands) of the laborers.

Monthly income in thousands	Frequency	Percentage
<5	1	0.392156863
5.1-10	54	21.17647059
10.1-15	112	43.92156863
15.1-20	76	29.80392157
20.1-25	6	2.352941176
>25	6	2.352941176
Sum:	255	100

Table 4: Frequency distribution of the various occupations of the laborers.

Occupation (abbreviation)	Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
DB	Delivery boy	10	3.937007874
DL	Daily Labourers	42	16.53543307
D	Driver	42	16.53543307
VS	Vegetable	5	1.968503937
SG	Security guard	20	7.874015748
FS	Fish seller	8	3.149606299
CJ	Company job	18	7.086614173
SW	Shopkeeper	28	11.02362205
Parlour	Parlour Owner	13	5.118110236
HM	Housemaid	30	11.81102362
WS	Shop Worker	6	2.362204724
BM	Businessman	3	1.181102362
Tailor	Tailor	1	0.393700787
Carp	Carpenter	1	0.393700787
Clsh	Cloth shop	4	1.57480315
Student	Student	4	1.57480315
Housewife	Housewife	12	4.724409449
Teacher	Teacher	6	2.362204724
Tea	Tea shop owner	1	0.393700787
sum:		254	100

Table 5: Frequency distribution of the various occupations of the laborers.

Occupation(abbreviation)	Occupation	Frequency	Percentage
DB	Delivery boy	10	3.937007874
DL	Daily labourer	42	16.53543307
D	Driver	42	16.53543307
VS	Vegetable	5	1.968503937
SG	Security guard	20	7.874015748
FS	Fish seller	8	3.149606299
CJ	Company job	18	7.086614173
SW	Shopkeeper	28	11.02362205
Parlour	Parlour Owner	13	5.118110236
HM	Housemaid	30	11.81102362
WS	Shop Worker	6	2.362204724
BM	Businessman	3	1.181102362
Tailor	Tailor	1	0.393700787
Carp	Carpenter	1	0.393700787
CLSH	Cloth shop	4	1.57480315
Student	Student	4	1.57480315
Housewife	Housewife	12	4.724409449
Teacher	Teacher	6	2.362204724
TEA	Tea shop owner	1	0.393700787
sum:		254	100

Table 6: Frequency distribution of the various educational levels of the laborers

Education (abbreviation)	Education	Frequency	Percentage
P	Primary	33	13.14741036
S	Secondary	101	40.23904382
HS	Higher secondary	108	43.02788845
G	Graduation	9	3.585657371
SUM:		251	100

Table 7: Frequency distribution of the various job satisfaction levels of the laborers.

Satisfaction(abbreviation)	Satisfaction	Frequency	Percentage
Y	Yes	67	26.07003891
N	No	157	61.08949416
NS	Not sure	33	12.84046693
SUM:		257	100

Table 8: Data collection tools and technique

Variable	Tool	Technique
Demographic Variable	Tool I Semi Structured Schedule Interview Schedule	Interviewing
Quality of life of daily labors	Tool II Standardized Tool WHOQOL Bref	Interviewing

Section II: This section deals with the findings about overall perception of quality of life.

Question	Very poor (%)	Poor (%)	Neither poor nor good (%)	Good (%)	Very good (%)
How would you rate your quality of life?	0.392156863	21.17647059	43.92156863+29.80392157 =73.7254902	2.352941173	2.352941176

The above table describes 2.35% laborers mark their lives as good based on the monthly income and the same percentage of laborers mark their lifestyle as very good.

Table 3.1: Occupation v/s satisfaction level.

Occupation\Satisfaction	Yes	No	Not Sure
Delivery boy	4	5	1
Daily labourer	0	33	8
Driver	12	19	11
Vegetable	0	2	3
Security guard	5	12	3
Fish seller	0	7	1
Company job	6	8	2
Shopkeeper	5	21	2
Parlour Owner	5	6	2
Housemaid	7	23	0
Shop Worker	3	3	0
Businessman	1	2	0
Tailor	1	0	0
Carpenter	0	1	0
Cloth shop	4	0	0
Student	1	0	0
Housewife	9	3	0
Teacher	1	5	0
Tea shop owner	0	1	0

CONCLUSIONS

This chapter discusses the main findings of this study, other findings, conclusions and implications of this study for leadership, nursing education, nursing and nursing research. The chapter concludes with suggestions and recommendations for future research in the research area.

Major Findings of the Study:

- Maximum (35.3612%) laborers in this study belong to the age group between 30-40 years.

Findings Related to Overall Perception of Daily Labourers Regarding Quality of Life:

- The above table describes 2.35% labourers mark their lives as good based on the monthly income

and the same percentage of labourers mark their lifestyle as very good.

Satisfaction v/s Occupation:

- Among all the daily laborers 66.88% are not satisfied with their job and among them 21.85% falls under the category of daily laborers.

Summary: This chapter includes the main findings discussed in the study, discussion of other studies, conclusions, inferences, limitations and suggestions for further research. Its effects and limitations are explained. This chapter ends with the researcher's suggestions from various aspects and suggestions for future researchers.

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