

# CHAPTER ONE

## Introduction

### 1.1 Background

A Livelihood is the means of living that comprises the capabilities, assets including both material and social resources. Livelihood is a set of economic activities, involving self-employment and /or wage employment by using one's endowments (human and material) to generate adequate resources (cash and non cash) for meeting the requirement of self and the household, usually carried out repeatedly and such become a way of life. Ideally, a livelihood should keep a person meaningfully occupied, in a sustainable manner, with dignity. Livelihoods therefore go far beyond generating income. A livelihood is much more than employment (Hussein, 2002).

Livelihoods are a multidimensional whole embracing all forces and constraints, material and non materials in nature that determines a families existence. The determining factor of family existence is livelihood, which may be material or non material. A livelihood is sustainable when it can cope with and recover from stresses and shocks and maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets both now and in the future. The sustainable livelihood's approach, by contrast seeks to develop an understanding of the factors that lie behind people's choice of livelihood strategy and then to reinforce the positive aspects (factors which promote choice and flexibility) and mitigate the constraints or negative influences (DFID, 2002).

Recent studies have drawn attention to the enormous diversity of livelihood strategies at every level with in geographic areas, across sectors, within households and over time, people's access to different level and combination of their choice of livelihood strategies.

People have adjusted their ways of earning livelihood to the changing environment from historical times. Their livelihood strategies to adapt to the changing environment condition differ over space and by social groups; cultural values of people in the same space can create differences in the pattern of adaptation from one ethnic group to another. In the same way, adaptation pattern of the same ethnic group may differ from

one place to another due to change in the physical environment (Subedi and Pandey, 2002).

In the context of Nepal, poverty is critical issue. It is unevenly distributed among social ethnic group, gender and regions, urban and rural. A political instability, the repercussion of the global down together with poor accessibility, poor economic integration and high rate of inter and natural hazard are the core causes of the regional inequalities in Nepal (Dangal, 2005).

Urban area has been changing into mass of poverty. Within the urban areas there are several marginal and economically poor people surviving in the open space/public place in their own ways. Urban poverty, social and economic inequalities and so on are burning issues in Kathmandu valley. Kathmandu carries large number of organized firms and different institutions. The open space of Kathmandu is occupied by illiterate and unskilled people for their survival where they used to involve in informal business activities (Poudel, 2005).

Street vendors are those who lie on the both sides of the road and sell the goods and serve the people in different ways. They have low skills and have migrated to the larger cities from rural areas or small towns in search of employment. When they do not find other means of livelihood they choose street vending as it is the easiest form of earning their livelihood. Although the income in this profession is low, the investment tolls low and the people do not require special skills of training; so, they prefer it as a livelihood. They choose such place as work station, where the flow of people is high as interaction of people is important for their business. Urban people prefer to interact with these vendors as they provide a wide array of goods of reasonable prices and convenient locations (Dangal,2005).

Within Kathmandu Metropolis, excluding few modern commercial and residential areas, the footpaths are lined up with vendors ranging from cobblers, fruit vendors, vegetable vendors to cloth vendors, bag vendors, watch vendors, readymade clothes vendors, retail vendors, tea vendors, prepared food vendors, books/magazines vendors, belt vendors and others. Among them, this research has attempted to explore and analyze the livelihood strategies of static and mobile vendors especially the bag and watch seller.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

The study on street vendors and their livelihoods in relation to the occupational vulnerability and sustainability in the changing urban scenario is a burning issue of the modern urban morphology. Generally, street vendors are of two types: static and mobile. Static street vendors occupy certain place on footpath whereas mobile street vendors roam around the busy places where there is much interaction with the local people. There are few studies on the street vendor's livelihood. Therefore, effort has been made here to study the livelihood strategies of street vendors in the Metropolis. Particularly, this study is concerned with the comparative study of mobile and fixed location (static) street vendors.

The growth of population caused by migration either from rural area to Kathmandu Metropolis (KM) or Kathmandu valley to KM results the lack of employment opportunities. Due to this, the immigrant people choose the occupation of street vending to sustain their livelihoods. For this, they informally use urban open space/public place. However is a vulnerable act as there are no legal and other required provisions for their occupational sustainability. For this vendors are regularly subjected to mental and physical pressure by city official and often face loss of their property or money loss.

The growth of population in migration and people's attempt to earn livelihood while staying in Kathmandu raises several research questions related to street vendors who work either in morning or day or evening or the whole day. Some of the research questions include: Where are they from? What sort of socio-economic background they possess? What is their literacy situation? How long have they been occupying the open space of street? Is their livelihood sustainable? Do they intend to return to their home village/ town?

## **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

The main objective of this research is to analyze the livelihoods of mobile and static vendors in Kathmandu Metropolis. The specific objectives are:

- to analyze the socio-economic background of mobile and static street vendors;
- to examine the livelihood assets used by mobile and static street vendors;

- to analyze the vulnerability context of their street occupation; and
- to assess the sustainability of their livelihood.

#### **1.4 Significance of the Study**

This is fact that, very limited attention has been paid to the livelihood aspects of street vendors. This study will be helpful to planners and planning at micro level or to devise plans and programs to improve the economic and social conditions of these particular street vendors.

Similarly, this study will be helpful to new researchers to carry out in-depth studies on the livelihood status and the vulnerability context of urban street vendors in other cities. Beside this, an understanding of vending activities could be useful for government authorities to assess the employment situation and the occupational structure of the city as whole.

#### **1.5 Limitations of the Study**

The present study covers the street vending activities of few locations within Kathmandu Metropolis. Therefore, present study covers only Ratnapark-Asan-Indrachowk, Koteshwor, Kalanki and New Buspark(Balaju) areas as they are main centers of city. Similarly, the study has focused only on the livelihood strategies of the street vendors. At the same time, among the different types of street vendors the present study has tried to focus bag and watch street vendors.

## **CHAPTER TWO**

### **Review of Literature**

Literature review is a very important aspect of academic research and an essential element of research design (Subedi, 2004). It helps the researcher to have an idea on the research proposed and the methodology. Literature review also helps the researcher to determine theoretical base and related problem that other researchers have faced. This chapter includes review of literature that are related to the sustainable livelihood approaches, livelihood strategies, resources utilization and street vendors.

#### **2.1 Theoretical Literature**

Theory is a set of generalizations that are deductively interrelated. It occupies an important places in research and research method. It helps in providing solutions to research problems and research facilitates formulation of new theoretical constructs or reformulation of same new aspects of old theory, as well as its result can text theories clarity theoretical concepts (Saravanavel, 1999).

##### **2.1.1 Theoretical Base of Livelihood Approach**

The livelihood concept is introduced Robert Chamber in 1980's, who is also known as the father of sustainable rural livelihood approach. This approach is derived in order to increase the efficiency and effectiveness of international development and co-operation (wyss, 2004).

Robert Chamber's concept constitute the basis for the Sustainable Livelihood Approach, as it was developed by British Government, Department for International Development (DFID) in the year of 1997. It was responsible for promoting development and reduction of poverty, in co-operated the sustainable livelihood approach as a central elements on its policy and adopted it to suit its work. Around DFID a group developed, including NGOs and international organizations like European commission, The World Bank, Food & Agriculture Organization (FAO) of United Nations and International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) which exchanged experienced and are further developing the sustainable rural livelihood approach. Rather than introduction, totally new elements in development research, the

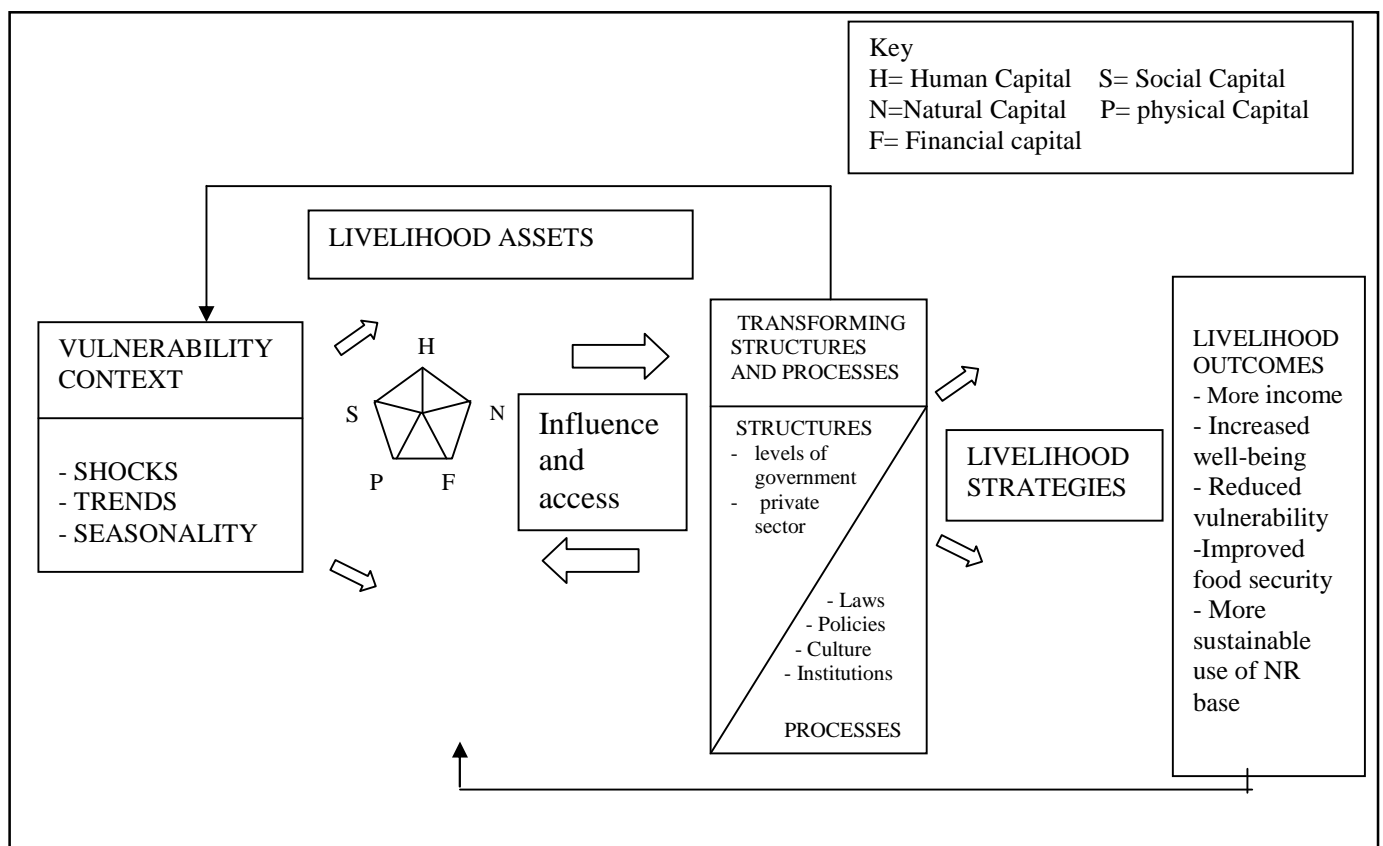
strength of sustainable livelihood approach lie in the created by the combination of individual key elements (wyss, 2004).

According to Chambers and Conway (1992) "A livelihood comprises the Capabilities, assets (stores, resources, claims and access) and activities required for a means of living. A livelihood is sustainable which can cope with and recover from stresses and shocks, maintain or enhance its capabilities and assets, and provide sustainable livelihood opportunities for the next generation; and which contributes net benefits to other livelihoods at the local and global levels and in the short and long term."

### Sustainable Livelihoods Framework

The livelihoods framework is a tool to improve our understanding of livelihoods particularly the livelihoods of the poor. The Sustainable livelihoods framework presents the main factors that people's livelihoods and typical relationships between these. In particular the framework provides serves as a checklist of important issue for the analyzing of livelihoods and to provide an instrument of bringing order into the complexity of all these influences on livelihoods, which can only be understand by qualitative and participate analysis at the local level (Fig 1)

Figure 1 DFID's sustainable livelihood framework



Livelihoods frameworks should not be understood as a linear process. The starting point for many livelihood analyses are the assets that is the peoples strengths or resources. Simultaneously livelihood outcomes, that are their goals or objectives, as well as livelihood strategies, the strategies they adopt to achieve these objectives, are investigated. In the analysis how the vulnerability context and the policies institutions and process influence the assets and strategies. It is also possible to focus on the part of the framework while keeping the wider picture in mind (DFID, 2002).

**a. Vulnerability Context**

The vulnerability context frames the external environment in which people exist. Shocks seasonality as well as critical fends affect the wider availability of assets, over which they have limited or no control. Trends comprises of population trends, resource trends, national/ International economic trends, trends in governance and technological trends. Trends have important influence on rates of return to chosen livelihood strategical. Shock economics shock, conflict and crop/livestock health shocks. Shocks can destroy assets directly and can force people to abandon their have areas and dispose of assets. Season ality comprises of price as, production health and employment opportunities, Seasonality shifts in prices, employment, etc are one of the most enduing sources of hardship for poor people in developing countries under the vulnerability context, population trend, trends in governance, technology trends, human health shocks, natural shocks, economic shocks, conflict seasonality of prices and seasonality of production have been dealt.

**b. Livelihood Assets**

The asset pentagon is an important component in the sustainable livelihood framework. It is a visual representation of information about people's livelihood assets. It brings to life important inter-relationship between the various assets such as:

**- Human Capital**

It is an important category of livelihood asset which represents the skill, knowledge ability to labor, good health, amount the quality of Labor, household size, skill levels, leadership potential, health status, formal education that together enable people to peruse different livelihoods strategies and achieve their livelihoods outcomes.

### **- Social Capital**

It is too one of the important category of livelihood asset. It relates to the formal and informal social relation ship, interaction, membership of more formal group, relationship to trust network and converted ness, local organizations form which various opportunities and benefits can be drawn by people in their pursuit of livelihoods.

### **- Natural Capital**

It is also one of the important category of livelihoods assets. Which includes the natural resource stock like land, forest, mine wild resource, water, air quality, erosion protection, waste assimilation, storm protection, bio-diversity degree and rate of change etc upon which people rely.

### **- Physical Capital**

Like other, it is also important category of livelihood asset. It comprises the basic infrastructure and physical goods that support livelihoods. It includes/consists of affordable energy and access to informal communication.

### **- Financial Capital**

Within sustainable livelihoods framework, financial capital is a category, which is defined as the financial resources that people use to achieve their livelihood adjectives, as resources it includes available stocks, regular inflows of money (DIFD, 2002).

### **c. Structures and Processes**

**Structures:** Structures in the framework are taken as the hardware that set and implement policy and legislation, deliver service, purchase, trade and perform all manner of other function that affect livelihoods in both private and public sectors.

**Processes:** It can be taken as software. It determines the way in which structure and individuals operate and interact. Like software they are both crucial and complex. There are various types of processes operating at different level. They also overlap



and have conflict between themselves. Politics, legislation, instruction, culture and power relations come under policy (DIFD, 2002).

**d. Livelihood Strategies**

Livelihood strategies are considered as the range and combination of activities and choices that people make in order to achieve their livelihood goals. Livelihood strategies include, how people combine their income generating activities, the way in which they use their assets, which assets they choose to invest in and how they manage to preserve existing assets and income. Strategies change over time and there is an enormous diversity of livelihoods. The more choice and flexibility that people have in their livelihood strategies, the greater their ability to withstand adapt to the shocks and stresses of the vulnerability context (DFID, 2002).

**e. Livelihood outcomes**

Livelihood outcomes are not only of financial nature i.e. people are not solely maximizing income but various categories such as increased well-being reduced vulnerability, improved food security etc. may be relevant according to the given situation. Livelihood outcomes have direct return on livelihood assets and hence directly alter the choice of livelihood strategies when an individual (Wyss, 2004).

**2.2 Other Relevant Literature**

However, there are some researches, which are related to this study, but they are not exactly support to this research. Here are some reviews which are somehow related with this research work.

**2.2.1 Studies Related to Livelihood Strategies**

Bhattarai (2001) has studied about rickshaw pulling as a way of earning livelihood and analyzed the situation of urban poor in Birtamod, Jhapa. At Present, the condition is miserable to urban poor who expressed pessimistic rather than optimistic view in their earning livelihoods. He always the working condition, working hour, earning of rickshaw pullers their income levels, consumption pattern and relationship between income and expenditure. He derived the conclusion that there are no such better

strategies of life among the Rickshaw puller. They spend life on "Earn and Spend" system.

Subedi and Pandey (2002) studied the livelihood strategy of Rai community in two geographic location namely Sitalpati (low land) and Makalu (high land) over time. In both the locations, Rai have adopted various strategies to earn their livelihood. Earning livelihood strategies shows continuity as well as changes over space as they change over time. The context of such place, the livelihood strategies followed additional inputs in agricultural, adoption of multiple cropping and cropping diversification strategy on the other hand, strategies such as wage laboring, pottering, borrowing, crediting and livestock selling activities were the sequence of livelihood strategies adopted under pressure.

Timalsina (2003) has conducted the study entitled impact of Bhimdhunga- Lamidada Road on the livelihood strategies of rural people, A case study of Jivanpur VDC, Dhading District. This study focused on the changing way of rural people after the construction of Bhimdhunga - Lamidada road. It has concluded that livelihood is a process of adapting with environment in particular space and time. The construction of road has helped in the development of rural small market centers and expanding marketing function, agricultural based economy of rural. People transferred into market oriented production. Agricultural market and production had increased positive change in the socioeconomic life of the households, which helped to increase productivity as well as reduce poverty.

Rai (2004) conducted the study on livelihood strategies of occupational communities (Damai and Kami) in Panchakanya and Namsaling VDC, Ilam. In the study the author has given emphasis on impact of two communities on socio-cultural and economic changes. Changing their traditional way of livelihood any the local people have became more commercial in crop production as well as started raising livestock's. Ultimately the rate of literacy has been improved and the engagement in the traditional occupation is being decreased.

Subedi and Bhandari (2004) have conducted a study on international labor migration as livelihood strategy and its impact at Prithivinagar VDC of Jhapa, Eastern Nepal. This study focused on the issue of international labor migration as livelihood

strategies. It was based on the information collected through household survey as well as participatory group discussion. The result shows that 150 households out of the 2795 households. Opted the strategy of livelihood. It also concluded that at present only 18% households depend on income from agriculture. The share of remittance from foreign employment, while international labor migration has emerged as a preferred livelihood option for contemporary, the impact of remittance on improving the standards were obvious. The return migrants are encouraged to invest their home place and on improving the productivity of local resource where the livelihood assets of the households have improved.

Pathak (2004) aims to explore the livelihood sustainability of street cobblers on the food path of Kathmandu valley. It concludes that the ways of earning livelihood are not always constant. This study includes different finding such as globalization, modernization, industrialization, innovation of development which provides several ways of earning livelihood for different people.

However, the occupational caste especially cobbler was concerned with the traditional occupation of the lower caste people but due to the global change their traditional occupation leather work has been pushed back. So to adjust in present situation they have diverted themselves into the other occupations such as agrowage, non-agrowage labor, service in international labor migration. The lacking aspect of the study not to address the occupational flow of the group towards the modification of their living strategies to adjust them in the present situation.

### **2.2.2 Literature Related to Street Vendors**

Shakya and Shrestha (1982) studied on petty vending shops (Nanglo Pasal) in Kathmandu City. They were primarily concerned on socio-economic status of vendors, composition of vending goods, causes and development of vending activity and problem faced and emerged by time of survey, a total of 632 vending shops were identified and which were dealing with readymade cloths, fruits and vegetables, cigarette, shocks and confectioneries, cutlery, curio toys and others. The author explained to overcome these problems only the occasional threat by the local administration to take away the business would not bring about a permanent solution. Instead the concerned authorities should take the initiative to develop regulations. So

that both petty vendors and consumers could enjoy from business. The authors concluded their study of giving emphasis on socio-economic status of vendors, composition of vending activities and problems faced and created by street vendors in Kathmandu city.

Poudel (1986) carried a study on small petty vendors and their activities in Pokhara city. The study tried to analyze the spatial distribution pattern of foot - path shops, its seasonal variation and compositions of goods sold and the socio-economic condition of the vendors. The study was based on 132 samples collected from five different locations of Pokhara city. The vegetable selling occupied the larger number accounting for 19% of the total vending shops.

Ranjit (2000) has studied the spatial distribution of vegetable and fruit petty vendors within Kathmandu metropolis city. The study concluded that due to the growth of population and the expansion of the city, number of vendors and number of vending areas were increasing and vending businesses had facilitated the local people for providing perishable goods easily and at low price. On the other hands, the major problems of the vendors were the insecurity of their place absence of planned vending areas and the absence of financial support, other problems were related to the environment in during the lack of facilities and uncertain weather conditions and hot sun.

Poudel (2005) conducted a study on livelihood and occupational vulnerability of street vegetable vendors of Maitidevi, Asan, Chabahil of Kathmandu. He has highlighted on the problem of unemployment which compel to stand over street and as the vendors. The study found that most of people in this profession were from low economic condition disadvantage and poor groups. Due to varying daily income they were not able to fulfill their needs sustaining in urban area.

Dangal (2005) studied on the survivals of street vendors in greater Kathmandu. This study mainly focuses on the roles of different institutions for the sustainable livelihood of street vendors. The methods used in this study were standardized questionnaire, focus group discussion and in-depth interview. The main cause for increasing number were illiteracy, poverty, low level of literacy and in migration to Kathmandu. The present of street vendors has been seen vary pathetic because they

are not allowed to use their business in the open public place because they could be fined. During rainy days, they can not operate the business and remains jobless. So some vendors have changed the types of activity according to seasons. Mutual co-operation among vendors and some relief activities from Nepal Street Vendors Union (NSVU) help to reduce vulnerability. Despite the effects of the policy of family, organized institution, they are trying to gain full satisfaction and improve the well-being too.

This study is based on DFID's sustainable livelihood framework. As for the objective of the study, it is related to questionnaire setting, analysis part of process with the sustainable livelihood framework. There are other empirical studies and analysis parts of the study.

The rapid growth of population especially in cities is a burning issue of developing country like Nepal and other industrialized countries and urbanized world. Keeping this view, the subject of this study has chosen for urban poor people who are struggling for survival occupying the open public spaces and streets. The objectives of previous studies are similar to each other but there differences in analyses process. There are main differences on two way analyses of comparative studies between bag seller and watch sellers. They have both mobile and static sellers with in themselves.

## CHAPTER THREE

### Research Methodology

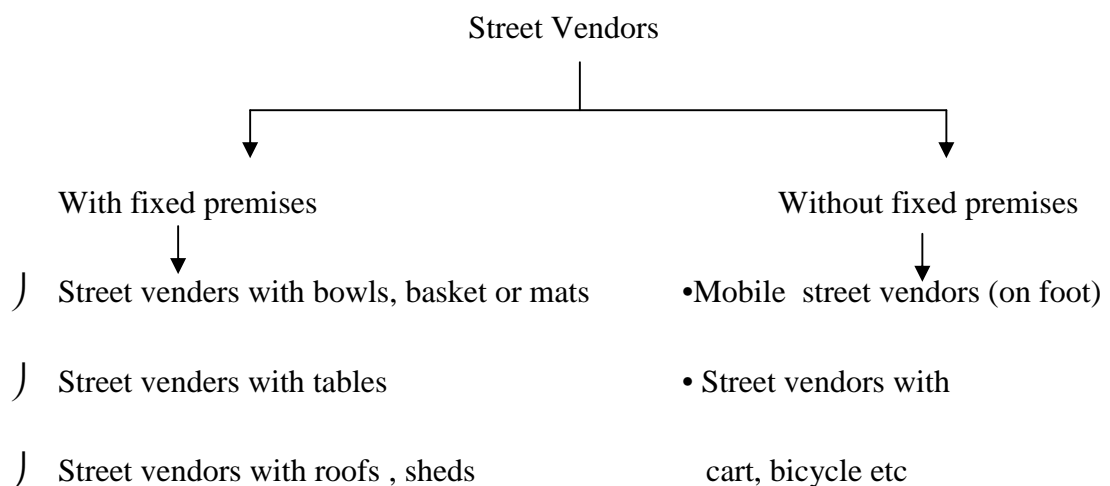
Research methodology is one of the most important elements in all types of research work. The researcher uses various tools and techniques during field work for collecting primary data in addition securing available secondary data whenever needed. A method influences the nature of data, mode of data collection, way of data processing and presentation of result. The following is a general outline of the methods that the researcher has used in this process.

#### 3.1 Selection of the Study Area

Kathmandu is the largest city of Nepal. The Kathmandu Metropolis has several regulations in order to regulate their space related activities. This present study has selected major locations such as Ratan Park- Asan- Indrachock, Koteshowar, Kalanki and New Buspark (Balaju) of the KM for the purpose of survey. The selected areas are the main business place in Kathmandu Metropolis.

#### 3.2 Identification of Street Vendors

The street vendors can be identified on the basis of the location of work or types of work places (Charmes, 1998), they are:



In this research, the people who serve the people in various ways and as a result get some benefit by the usage of open public space well considered as street vendors. The people who have been using a particular space as work station and who do not move for business infixed time of day were taken as static street vendors whereas those people who roam from one place to another for business were taken as mobile street vendors who served people by selling watches and bags were taken as watch sellers and bag sellers respectively.

### **3.3 Research Design**

This study is descriptive as well as analytical in nature. The main focus of the study is to fine out analyze the livelihood strategy among watch seller, a comparative study between mobile and static street vendors. It tries to evaluate on different sectors such as demographic, economic, social resources (assets) and utilization, vulnerability context and sustainability conditions.

### **3.4 Method of Data Collection**

#### **3.4.1 Source of Data**

This study is based on both primary and secondary data sources which are supported by each other as far as possible.

#### **Primary Data Source**

Primary source of data is the main base of this research work. The source of primary data is based on a structured and semi structured questionnaire, field observation, resource persons, informal interview, field notes, both quantitative and qualitative data.

#### **Secondary Data Source**

Secondary data source that were used in this study can categorized as reference books, different journals, newspaper, many attribute data and map data from GIS lab, central department of geography and Nepal street vendors union etc.

### 3.4.2 Data Collection Techniques and Tools

#### a. Quantitative

##### Questionnaire Survey

A standardized questionnaire was applied for the survey the questionnaire consists demographic and socio-economic characteristics, job experience, present activities, educational status.

##### Sampling and Sample Size

In this study, sampling has been used for the data collection that has described here. Distribution of street vendor's population in the study area is given in table 3.1.

**Table 3.1 Total Population of Street Vendors (Bag seller & Watch seller)**

S.N	Location	Bag Seller			Watch Seller			Grand Total
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total	
1	Ratnapark-Asan – Indrachowk	17	31	48	30	34	64	112
2	Balaju Bus Park	4	2	6	48	28	76	82
3	Kalanki	5	2	7	16	43	59	66
4	Koteshwor	6	3	9	13	16	29	38
	<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>298</b>

Source: Field Survey,2007

On the basis of the table 3.1 we can viewed that there are 112 vendors in Ratnapark-Asan-Indrachowk, 82 are in Balaju Buspark, 66 in Kalanki and 38 are in Koteswor. Among them the purposive sampling method has been used here to fulfill the aim of the study.



**Table 3.2 Sample Pop<sup>n</sup> of Street Vendors in Study Area**

S.N	Location	Bag Seller			Watch Seller			Grand
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total	Total
1	Ratnapark-Asan – Indrachowk	5	5	10	6	6	12	22
2	Balaju Bus Park	1	1	2	7	7	14	16
3	Kalanki	1	1	2	7	7	14	16
4	Koteshwor	1	1	2	4	4	8	10
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

After careful observation of these two tables (table 3.1, 3.2) mentioned above there has come data based on static and mobile watch seller and bag seller which depicts total population, adopting the process of questionnaire in different sample sizes. Out of 70 bag sellers, only 16 street vendors are chosen to fulfill the questionnaire. In the same way out of 228 watch sellers, only 48 vendors form have been filled up properly. The chapter mentioned below will describe about the outcome acquired from the earlier data.

### **b. Qualitative**

The following qualitative data collection technique are adopted for the present study.

#### **Observation**

Observation is to collect "real" information by creating environment where people (the informants) forget researcher's presence and continue their life style as usual. As far as researchers remain in the field as stranger, the people do not feel uncomfortable to share their real life experiences with the researcher (Subedi, 2006).

In this study, street vendor's working space and living place were observed so that authentic information about their business, daily life style, family information, habits and housing conditions could be collected.

### **Key Informants Interview**

Key informant interview is one of the major methods of data collection for any qualitative analysis. In this study 9 key informants were represented, 3 from street bag seller, 4 from watch seller and 2 are from representatives of vendors union. These bag seller and watch seller were selected for key informant interview based on their years of involvement in vending occupation. From 7 street vendors, this study determines their past and present livelihoods and their occupational vulnerability as well as sustainability. From 2 representatives of vendors union, this study determines the perception towards vendors and providing facilities from vendors union. This information was used for qualitative analysis in the study.

### **Focus Group Discussion**

The main purpose of the focus group discussion was to obtain the more detailed information about the vulnerability context of street vendors, specially related to the use of place, seasonality and institutional law. Field work was done in the working place of the respondents. So, it becomes too difficult to conduct focus group discussion than the other tools and technique of the data collection. During fieldwork, four focus group discussions were conducted in different places.

### **Field Notes**

It was the most important unsystematic way of recording the information. The notes proved out to be one of the most resourceful instruments. A field diary was kept to record necessary information observed during the field work. The supporting information complementing structured questionnaires were noted. The information of important incidents, events and discussion were noted in the diary.

### **3.4.3 Processing, Analysis and Interpretation of Data**

#### **a. Data Processing**

One the collection of data is over; the next step is to arrange processing and analysis of the data. Such as careful and systematic processing, the data collected will line itself for statistical treatment and meaningful interpretation or a finding. Thus the data processing comprised to editing, coding categorization and tabulation is an intermediary state between the collection of data and their analysis and interpretation.

**Editing**

Editing is the first step in is the process of examining the data collected in questionnaires / schedules to detect errors and omissions and to see that they are correct and the schedules prepared for tabulation.

**Coding**

Coding is the process/operating by which data are organized into classes/categories and humeral or other symbols are given to each item according to the class in which it falls.

**Classification**

Classification or category grouping the statistical data under various understandable homogenous groups for the purpose of convenient interpretation.

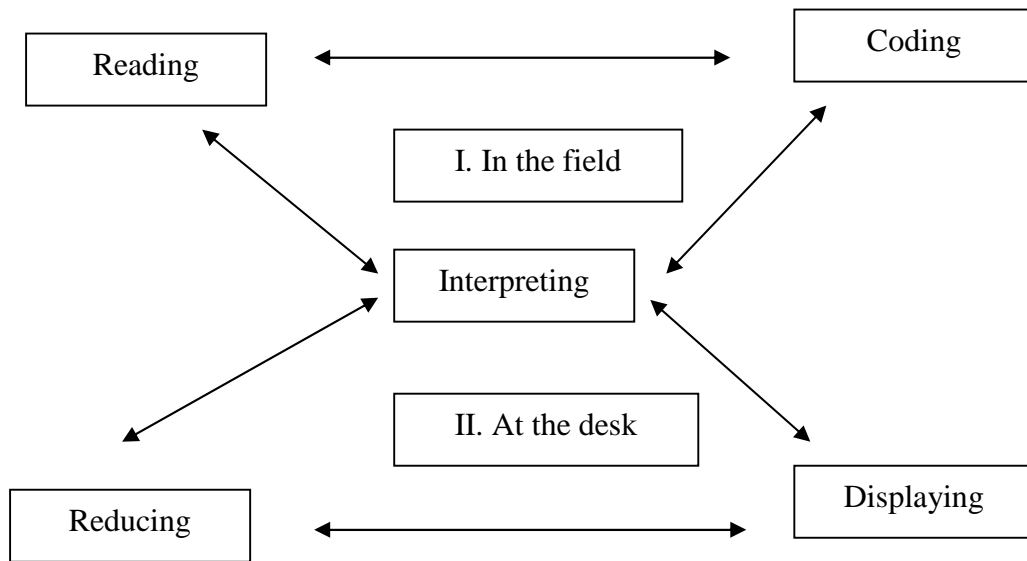
**Tabulation**

Tabulation is the process of summarizing data and displaying it in compact form for further analysis. Analysis of data is made possible through table. Therefore preparing tables is a very important step.

**b. Qualitative Data Analysis**

Qualitative data analysis pays attention in the context and meanings. The following figure provides sequence of interrelated steps in qualitative data analysis (Subedi 2006).

Figure 2, Qualitative data analysis process.



Source: Subedi 2006, Qualitative Method in Geography.

The analysis process following reading coding, displaying, reducing and interpreting. The process begins with reading and rereading texts and field notes. With reading and rereading, emerging themes are identified and thus researcher begins to attach code or label to them. In each step the core meanings of thought, behaviors and feelings described in the notes are searched. This means the data is interpreted (Subedi, 2006).

The study of this qualitative data analysis has used description method. Where the key informant interview, focus group discussions, field notes, observations are given in a box and described its.

### c. Quantitative data Analysis

The systematic analysis was done using qualitative as well as quantitative, tool and techniques. After completing the field survey, data collected during the field work period were edited and tabulated as per need of the study. After setting tables, different comparative analyses were made on the basis of findings of street vendors activities i.e. demographic table.



## CHAPTER FOUR

### Characteristics of Study Area and Street Vendors

The main focus of this study is to examine the livelihood condition of street vendors especially bag seller and watch seller, who have occupied the internal open space of KMC. In this chapter I am trying to find out the cause of interring in this occupation by different people.

#### 4.1 General Characteristics of the Study Area

It is necessary to know the geographical setting and its potentiality in livelihood about the place before study/ research takes place, which helps to this study/research. Kathmandu Metropolis is the study area of this research; therefore an attempt has been made to describe the general characteristics in this section.

**Location:** Kathmandu Metropolis is only the metropolis of Nepal, which is located between 27<sup>0</sup>40' to 27<sup>0</sup>45' N latitude and 85<sup>0</sup>16' east to 85<sup>0</sup>22' East longitude. It is situated at the elevation of 1281 m. to 1906 m. the above mean sea level. Out of the 701.81 sq. km. of the Kathmandu valley, KMC occupy 68.88sq. km. (Koirala,1998).

**Relief:** The physical structure of Kathmandu valley is formed from the lacustrine sediments deposited in Mid-Miocene period, which lied in the lesser Himalaya Range (Malla, 1970). According to the topographical perspective, the characteristics of the surface seem mountainous, rims, tars (plain), dolls with surrounding of the high hill of Mahabharat rage mainly Chandragiri, Shivapuri, Phulchowki, Nagarjun range with maximum height up to 2800 m.(Ranjitkar, 1983).

**Climate:** As Kathmandu valley is situated in the sub-tropical climate zone, it has mainly three types of climatic seasons. Cold and dry season falls on December to February, warm and rainy season falls on June to August and in the rest of the six months, there is neither cold nor hot. The average temperature of warm and cold season is 25<sup>0</sup>C and 11<sup>0</sup>C respectively and the annual temperature is 19<sup>0</sup>C. The average annual rainfall is 1400 mm and there is maximum rainfall in July up to 125 mm (Koirala, 1998). So the climate of here is very suitable for human settlement.

## 4.2 Socio-Economic Setting

### 4.2.1 Population of Kathmandu Metropolis

In KM the population is increasing every day. This is the main attraction of every people of the country, as it is a capital city and its physical and socioeconomic facilities. Table 4.1 shows the growth of population in KM for last five decades.

**Table 4.1 Population of Kathmandu Metropolis**

Census Year	Total Population	Annual Growth Rate (in %)	Pop <sup>n</sup> Density
1952/54	106579	-	2155.3
1961	121019	1.3	2447.3
1971	150402	2.2	3041.5
1981	235160	4.6	4755.5
1991	421258	6.0	8518.9
2001	671846	4.8	13586.4

Source: CBS 2003, Pop<sup>n</sup> Monograph of Nepal.

The table 4.1 shows that the population of KM has increased by six times during the period of five decades. The major cause of this growth is immigration in KM from the different parts of the country as it is the central point of attraction. Besides this, many youth are interring here to search job and opportunities for their bright future.

Among the two major components; migration and natural growth; of population growth, migration has highly influenced to the population growth of KM. The importance of migration in the growth of population has been more evident in the last few years than ever before in the history of Kathmandu valley. In fact, the affect of migration in the size and density of population in a region is more visible than the natural population increase and KM is no exception.

The main causes of population of migration factors are rural push and urban pull. In this case, poverty, rapid population growth, absence of off-farm employment collectively function as rural push whereas job opportunities, bright-lights of the cities, social, cultural and health facilities available in the cities have acted as urban pull factors for increased flow of population in KM (Subedi,1996).

Because of the overpopulation in KM, the unemployment problem has increased. So many people are compel to adapt own individual's employment for their livelihood. These people compel to use their limited resources as maximum use.

#### **4.2.2 Occupational Composition**

The occupational composition of KM economically active population has been changing over the year. In which primary activities (i.e., farm/fish) change in the secondary activities (i.e., production/labor). The percentage of population involved in secondary activities has increased day by day. The most notable change has taken place in the service function and individual sales workers. An increase in the percentage of individuals involved in functions such as professional/technical, administration, and clerical work has been noticed. However, these changes are not as prominent as those in the service and sales sectors (Subedi, 1996).

However, overpopulation has increased great unemployment problem in KM, only few populations adapt the street occupations as their livelihood.

### **4.3 Characteristics of Street Vendors in Kathmandu Metropolis**

#### **4.3.1 Vending Activities**

In KM there are different types of occupation adopted by street vendors. Most of them are found in open space of city areas and pavement of the metropolis. These street vendors are categorized in two major parts i.e. static and mobile as their selling behavior. It depends on their interest. The categories based on their selling commodities are given below.



- Bag seller (Static and Mobile)
- Watch seller (Static and Mobile)
- Vegetable seller (Static and Mobile)
- Fruit seller (Static and Mobile)
- Garment seller (Static and Mobile)
- Old books seller (Static and Mobile)
- News paper seller (Static and Mobile)
- Ice cream seller (Mobile)
- Peanut seller (Mobile)
- Chana Chatpate (Mobile)
- Stationery (Static)
- Panipuri (Mobile)
- Shoe Maker (Static)
- Cosmetics good seller (Static and Mobile)
- Fresh oven baked seller (Static)
- Barber (Static)
- Astrologer (Static)
- Fast food seller (Static and Mobile)
- Weighting machine (Static)
- Fresh Coconut seller (Static and Mobile)
- Electronics good seller (Static and Mobile)
- Second hand shoe seller (Mobile)
- Tea stall (Mobile)
- Wallet, belt seller (Static and Mobile)
- Herbal goods seller (Static and Mobile)
- Money Exchanger (Mobile)
- Kitchen utensils seller (Static)
- Popcorn and beans seller (Static and Mobile)

The above-mentioned street vendors' survival depends on the number of people visit in their selling location. So mostly they run to sell their goods to the crowded areas like, Asan Chowk, Kalanki, Ratnapark etc. where there is high mobility of people.

#### **4.3.2 Statistical Data of Selected Street Vendors**

It has been already mentioned that, KM is the central attraction of every people of the country as it is being a capital city. So, most of the people from different parts of the country come to here to look for job and other opportunities. When they do not get proper chances as their expectation, they are compelled to adopt other occupations. As a result some of them become street vendors.

The ultimate purpose of this research is to study the way of survival of the street vendors. Because of multiple streets, pavements, corners of KM, there are golden opportunities for the street vendors to run their business. In order to study of them we need a great effort to explore the actual condition of those people. So that Ratnapark-Asan-Indrachowk (core area) seems to be appropriate places for research. Not only Ratnapark but also Balaju Bus Park, Kalanki chowk, Koteshwor Chowk, which are the main point to link Kathmandu valley with other parts of the country, have been chosen as the center for the research study.

Among those places, there are number of traders but according to the demand of this research only bag seller and watch seller have been chosen as the subject of study. And the statistical data of these street vendors are as follows.

**Table 4.2 Total Population of Street Vendors (Bag seller & Watch seller)**

S.N	Location	Bag Seller			Watch Seller			Grand Total
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total	
1	Ratnapark-Asan –Indrachowk	17	31	48	30	34	64	112
2	Balaju Bus Park	4	2	6	48	28	76	82
3	Kalanki	5	2	7	16	43	59	66
4	Koteshwor	6	3	9	13	16	29	38
	<b>Total</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>38</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>127</b>	<b>228</b>	<b>298</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Table 4.2 shows that, the mobile street vendors are more in number than that of the static in both sectors i.e. bag seller and watch seller. At the same time the highest number of them is in Ratnapark- Asan- Indrachowk location where there is high flow of people everyday.

#### **4.3.3 Place of Origin of Watch Seller and Bag Seller**

People are migrating form different parts of the country to the central city Kathmandu in search of better opportunities. The table 4.3 shows the origin of street vendors especially of bag seller and watch seller of KM.

**Table 4.3 Origin of the Street Vendors by District**

S.N	District	Bag Seller			Watch Seller			Grand Total
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total	
1	Bara	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
2	Bhojpur	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
3	Chitwan	-	1	1	-	-	-	1
4	Dhading	1	1	2	1	-	1	3
5	Dolakha	-	2	2	7	15	22	24
6	Jhapa	-	-	-	2	-	2	2
7	Kathmandu	1	-	1	1	-	1	2
8	Kanchanpur	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
9	KavrePalanchowk	1	1	2	1	2	3	5
10	Makawanpur	1	-	1	1	1	2	3
11	Mahottari	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
12	Morang	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
13	Nuwakot	-	1	1	3	2	5	6
14	Okhaldhunga	-	-	-	2	-	2	2
15	Ramechhap	1	-	1	2	1	3	4
16	Sarlahi	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
17	Sindhuli	2	1	3	1	-	1	4
18	Udayapur	1	1	2	-	-	-	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>

Sources: Field Survey, 2007.

The table 4.3 shows that the majority of street vendors are originate from Dolkha district. According to Yam Bahadur (a key informant), it is because of social relation among them. Out of 64 street vendors only two persons from Kathmandu district especially form Jyapu community who were the permanent settlers of Koteswor. One of the street vendors from Kabhrepalanchowk named Kedar Chaulagain said that, there were about 20 bag sellers from his district. At the same time Badri Kafle from

Udaypur district and Bed Raj Giri from Sindhuli said that 15 bag seller from Udaypur and 20 bag sellers from Sindhuli were selling bag in Asan and Ratnapark.

According to the watch seller of Dolakha, named Yam Bahadur there were 20, 25, 22 watch sellers and more in Old Bus Park, Kalanki and Koteshor respectively where there are 8-10 watch sellers in Balaju. According to Yam Bahadur were more than 150 watch seller from Dolakha district in the streets of KMC. Among them, more than 40 persons have adopted such occupation in the various place of KMC from his own VDC, Lapilang. Similarly, Nuwakot is another district from where the flow of street vendors is high and they mostly locating in Kalanki and Balaju. Some street vendors are originated form Terai district like, Jhapa, Morang, Chitwan, Kanchanpur etc.

#### **4.3.4 Causes of Adopting Street Occupation**

The street vendors are struggling for their survival and they are obliged to be bag seller, watch seller because of their poor economic condition. Even the students have adopted this occupation to make less their economic crisis. Among 64 street vendors, 19 of them are making these occupations as subsidiary. Especially the youth who have to continue their study have adopting as side job for earning to their study. Marriage at low age, to be failed in SLC or in school level also forces people to adopt this occupation. Further more lack of other job opportunities forced to adopt this job for the people. Box 4.1 shows the same case.

#### **Box 4.1 Causes of Being Street Vendors**

*Rajan Dhami* one of the street vendors from Dolakha says that, the economic condition in there village is very poor and most of the street vendors are depressed by their family economy. Further more; the students who passed SLC, they want to continue their higher study but they can not do so due to poverty. The people who are deprived from the society are migrating towards valley to adopt such occupations. But from latter few years; students have also become street vendors in order to continue their studies. The ultimate objective of the street vendors is to fulfill their basic needs of food, clothes, lodging.

Some feeders have left their jobs and embrace the occupation of street vendors to escape form the problems like lesser salary, excessive spend of time, threaten from officers soon.

### 4.3.5 Of Being Static and Mobile

Street vendors have to sell their commodities either sitting in one fixed place or by roaming around. Whenever, bag seller cannot find any place, they have to wander around and they often move around the most crowded area with the purpose of selling their goods. As a result, there is high probability of earning more money. As far as watch seller are concerned then most of them roam in Old Bus Park, especially, in the morning time making their target of selling their goods to most of the travelers inside the buses. They mostly found in front of the windows of almost all buses. There is a tough competition between street vendors to attract there customers. It is their obligation as well as opportunity. Most of static street vendors do their business by moving to and from but as soon as they find vacant space they sit down and do their job.

### 4.3.6 Age Structure

It is seemed that involvement of young people in this occupation is high. The data based on the age structure of bag seller and watch seller as follows.

**Table 4.4 Age Structure of Bag Seller and Watch Seller**

S.N	Age Group	Bag Seller			Watch Seller			Grand Total
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total	
1	15-19	1	2	3	4	10	14	17
2	20-24	2	2	4	5	8	13	17
3	25-29	2	2	4	6	4	10	14
4	30-34	2	2	4	8	1	9	13
5	35-39	1	-	1	-	1	1	2
6	40-44	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Table 4.4 shows that about 75 percent of the street vendors are from the below the age of 30 and more than 95 percent of the vendors are below the age of 35. It shows that the majority of the street vendors are from the young people. More than 53 percent of

the street vendors are from the age of less than 25, which reflects that the student age group is mostly involved in this occupation. Students who are jobless and having poor economic background are compelled to adopt this occupation as part time job to generate the economy for their study.

#### 4.3.7 Land Ownership

Most of the street vendors have their land property in their origin. Only about 3 percent of them have no land property in their origin.

**Table 4.5 Land Ownership of Street Vendors in their Origin**

S N	Land Owned (in ropani)	Bag seller			Watch seller			Grand total	Percent
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total		
1	No land	-	-	-	2	-	2	2	3.2
2	Below 5	2	2	4	5	5	10	14	21.9
3	5-10	2	2	4	1	2	3	7	10.9
4	10-15	-	-	-	5	4	9	9	14.0
5	15-20	1	2	3	4	2	6	9	14.0
6	20-25	1	1	2	3	5	8	10	15.6
7	25-30	1	1	2	2	3	5	7	10.9
8	above 30	1	-	1	2	3	5	6	9.5
<b>Total</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Table 4.5 Shows the land ownership of street vendors in their origin. However the land ownership is high in their origin, the productivity of land is very low because of the sloppy and unfertile land, like kharbari and pakhabari especially in hilly district. Though they have enough land in area, none of the vendors can survive with their production throughout the year.

Majority of the vendors have more than 10 ropani of land in their birthplace (origin) but lack of proper technologies and different problems prevailing in agriculture in our country like irrigation, fertilizer, investment etc. forced them to adopt this occupation. Such street vendors have different access in assets of livelihood.

## CHAPTER-FIVE

### Livelihood Assets and Access

This chapter is based on the analytical studies of the access of assets to street vendors for their livelihood. Human capital, social capital, financial capital, natural capital & physical capital have been interpreted as livelihood assets in 'sustainable livelihood framework. These five assets are playing vital role for the sustainability of the human beings. (DFID, 2002).

#### 5.1 Human Capital

The basic human assets are skill, knowledge, ability to work and good health. These qualities of human assets differ from one person to another. In this chapter "Literacy and Educational qualification", and "Skill and ability to work" have been studied as human assets.

##### 5.1.1. Literacy and Educational Attainment

Education is one of the dominant factors that affect the occupation and other living strategies of the people. But there are other obstacles of the adopting own willing jobs and people are compelled to adopt other jobs though they do not have their interest in such jobs. The academic qualification of bag seller and watch sellers is given in the table 5.1

**Table 5.1 Educational Attainment of Bag Seller and Watch Seller**

S.N	Level of Education	Bag Seller			Watch Seller			Grand Total	%
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total		
1	Literate	2	-	2	5	2	7	9	14.1
2	Primary (1-5 class)	1	1	2	4	3	7	9	14.1
3	Lower secondary and Secondary (6-10 class)	2	4	6	7	7	14	20	31.2
4	S.L.C.	2	-	2	4	1	5	7	10.9
5	Above S.L.C.	1	3	4	4	11	15	19	29.7
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2007

Table 5.1 shows that, all of the street vendors are literate. More than 40 percent of street vendors have been finished the school level education and 31.2 percent vendors have secondary education. Among the 26 street vendors who have passed SLC exam, 19 vendors are continuing their further education where as rest of the street vendors stopped their studies due to various reasons like poor economy, early marriage, etc. Why educated people adopt this occupation? Rabin Gautam, a student of TU says:

### **Box 5.1**

*I used to work as a teacher in a private boarding school of Kathmandu. There was high exploitation to the skilled workers. Overload of work, low salary and compulsion to pay more time were some of the basic problems faced by me. Actually, I had to continue my study along with income generating source. So that I choose this occupation, where I use to pay few times and my income is also sufficient to my study.*

This statement shows the reality of the unemployment situation of Nepal even to the educated work force that makes people to adopt any kind of occupation for their survival.

### **5.1.2 Skill and Ability to Work**

However, the major occupation of street vendors is to sell goods to the people but they have some extra skill like computer training, dancing, singing, cooking etc. The collected data shows that among are 48 watch sellers, 15 of them who were educated had taken computer training and watch repairing training.

The mobile watch sellers have extra goods like wallets, spectacles, belts, purses, handkerchiefs, medicines, lamps, as their secondary goods. This things help to boost up their income the other static watch sellers do not have the extra goods with them. However, they have the watch repairing skill. The study of bag sellers shows that they are fully depending only on the sales of bags.

From the observation, it is found that all of the vendors have good understanding of advertisement and have good sense of recognizing customers too. Besides these, they were found to be very often humorous and friendly to the customers. Moreover, they



were found to be liar and very canning because they did not even hesitate to sweat about the things that were not true in order to sell their goods.

Among these traders a very common term "*Bohani*" was found to be used widely. This term was really found to work positively to persuade their customers to buy goods. The internal potentials and skills along with trainings and educations played an extra role in their business. Overall study showed that the mobile watch sellers outstood the other watch sellers and bag sellers in the context of training, education, internal skills and the better understandings of business policy.

## 5.2 Social Capital

Social assets are those social resources upon which human beings draw in pursuit of their livelihood objectives. In this topic I would like to try to describe about the social assets to street vendors.

### 5.2.1 Linkage of Entering in Vending Activities

All of the street vendors, who are from out of valley, are living here with their relatives or family or friends. When they migrated in Kathmandu valley for the first time, they had to face various problems, like lodging, fooding etc. Table 5.2 shows their first living after interring the valley.

**Table 5.2 First setting of Street Vendors in Kathmandu**

S.N	First Settlement	Bag Seller			Watch Seller			Grand Total	%
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total		
1	Alone	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	00
2	With Family	2	2	4	9	3	12	16	25
3	With Relatives	1	5	6	10	10	20	26	41
4	With Friends	5	1	6	5	11	16	22	34
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey 2007.

Table 5.2, proved that none of the street vendors stayed alone during their initial days in Kathmandu. They took shelter either with their relatives or with friends. Out of total vendors, 41 percent were living with their relatives in the initial period and 34 percent were living with their friends. 25 percent of vendors were living with their relatives in the initial period. But the condition of living has changed after adopting the occupation.

After full involvement in the business, the sitting of street vendors has changed. This change can be viewed with the comparison of in the table 5.3 and 5.2

**Table 5.3 Current Settlement of Street Vendors in Kathmandu**

SN	Current Settlement	Bag Seller			Watch Seller			Grand Total	%
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total		
1	Alone	-	1	1	3	1	4	5	8
2	With Family	6	6	10	14	10	20	34	53
3	With Relatives	-	-	-	1	1	2	2	3
4	With Friends	2	3	5	6	12	18	23	36
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>100</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

A great change can see in the comparison of table 5.2 and 5.3. During the initial period they used to stay with their relatives and friends, but when the used to start their occupation they have changed their sitting.

Before adopting the occupation, none of the vendors was staying alone, but after adopting the occupation 8 percent of them started to live alone. Before the adopting the occupation, only 25 percent used to live with their family but after starting occupation 53 percent are living with their family because after adopting the occupation they used to get marry. Most of the vendors used to leave separately from

their relatives after adopting this occupation. A few increments in percent of vendors living with friends can be viewed in the table.

To do any task, everybody needs proper suggestions, help and proper guidance. Otherwise, he/ she should face different types of problems. Inspiration in any discipline is essential to everybody. Such types of inspiration can also found in street vendors. Table 5.4 shows the source of inspiration of adopting this occupation by different vendors.

**Table 5.4 Inspiration for Involvement in this Occupation**

S.N	Sources of Inspiration	Bag Seller			Watch Seller			Grand Total
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total	
1	Self Decision	-	1	1	5	2	7	8
2	Family	2	1	4	6	3	9	13
3	Relatives	-	1	1	6	4	10	11
4	Friends	6	4	10	7	15	22	32
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Out of 64 vendors only 8 of them are involved in this occupation with self decision. Almost 50 percent of the vendors involved with the help of their friends and rest about 37 percent are involved with the inspiration of their relatives and families. Whatever the sources of inspirations are there, they do not like to discard their friend cooperation for their social interaction.

Along with the inspiration, suggestion and guidance, the street vendors need some money to start their business. The sources of cooperation are mentioned in the following table.

**Table 5.5 The Sources of Cooperation to Start Business**

S.N	Sources of Cooperation	Bag Seller			Watch Seller			Grand Total
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total	
1	Self Investment	2	1	3	10	6	16	19
2	From Family	2	2	4	6	11	17	22
3	From Relatives	-	1	1	3	2	5	6
4	From Friends	2	2	4	2	3	5	9
5	Goods in Credit	2	2	4	1	2	3	7
6	Finance Loan	-	-	-	2	-	2	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Majority of street vendors have either self-investment or helped by their own family. Out of 64 vendors, 19 persons have invested in their occupation by themselves and 22 persons have supported by their family. 6 vendors are helped by their relatives and 9 vendors are helped by their friends.

The whole seller supports some vendors to run their business. Some of the whole seller believe to the vendors and provide some package goods. In this condition there is no need of economic investment in business by individual vendors. The vendors who are supported by their families are students who used to collect money for their study. Out of total street vendors, 2 persons have taken the loan form finance to run their business.

This shows that most of the vendors are supported by their family or individual themselves that reflects the unemployment problem of KM.

### 5.2.2 Extra Social Relationship

Human beings are social animals, so they cannot live without interacting with each other that means they need a society to live where social relationships originate. Street vendors also establish a mutual relationship among other traders around them. As a result, they emerge a faithful environment of social relationships that helps in solving common problems of their lives. For example, living together, exchanging of goods helps in selling goods etc. Moreover, watch sellers of Dolakha, Mahottari have been living together for three years. This event shows the real feelings of socialization and unification among the vendors for their business. One of the traders named 'Rishi' is also of the same perspectives.

Social linkage is found as a dominant cause of involvement in such occupation particularly for Dolakha district (Table 4.3). According to a watch seller from Dolakha, Mr. Yam Bahadur, there are more than 150 watch sellers in valley from his district. Among them more than 40 are from his own VDC i.e. Lapilang. According to him it is very interesting and income generating job. He became able to buy a piece of land in his village and managed some economy to their youngster's marriage. He had also involved in this job with his friends' inspiration.

This shows that they want to make organization for their business and are oriented to earn more money to conduct their family. The flow of any traders increases through linkage. Most of the bag sellers of Ratnapark, Asan, Indrachowk are from Sindhuli district which is also mentioned by one of the bag seller Kumar Chaulagain. In this way, social linkage seems a prominent factor for all street vendors. For example, at Asan Chowk the number of sellers from Kavrepalanchowk, Udayapur, Sindhuli is greater than other localities. Half part of Kalanki is covered by Dolakhali traders, half part of Blaju Naya Bus Park is covered by Nuwakote traders and most of the traders of Dolakha are seen in Old Bus Park and Koteshwor. Actually, social relationships attract largely in determining their place of occupation.

According to Santosh Basnet (a watch seller from Dolakha) all the vendors are connected with different unions which are especially fighting to get their rights.

### 5.3 Financial Capital

The objectives and destination of all street vendors is to increase financial capital, which is one of the most significant assets for the prosperity of themselves. Financial capital includes the income, expenditure, investment and saving of bag seller and watch seller which is analyzed earlier.

#### 5.3.1 Investment in Trade

Every business needs investment to run properly. Some of the business can run with little investment like street vending. Here is a short description of investment of street vendors of study area in their occupation.

**Table 5.6 Investment in Trade**

S.N	Investment  (In Rs.)	Bag Seller			Watch Seller			Grand
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total	Total
1	Goods in Credit	2	2	4	1	2	3	7
2	3000-6000	2	5	7	11	18	29	36
3	6000-9000	-	1	1	4	3	7	8
4	9000-12000	2	-	2	3	-	3	5
5	12000-15000	-	-	-	3	1	4	4
6	Above 15000	2	-	2	2	-	2	4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2007.

Out of 64 vendors, 36 have invested Rs.3000 to Rs. 6000 amount, where average investment has been Rs.5000. In comparison to static vendors, mobile street vendors have less invested to run their business/ trade. Especially for the mobile vendors, they have to carry goods from one place to another by own self. So they did not like to invest more economy in their business. Very few persons have invested more than 10

thousand rupees in their business and only one mobile trader has invested more than 10 thousands rupees in his business. In the case of bag seller, they can borrow bags in credit form high-class traders then later they use to their principle amount without interest.

### 5.3.2 Monthly Income and Saving

As someone involves in any business he has to get some economic profit. All the businesses are income generating so the street vendors are also profit oriented. Almost all of the street vendors get profit from their business however some of them have more profit and some of them have less profit which depends upon their own business strategy and individual capacity. The following table shows the average monthly income of such street vendors.

**Table 5.7 Monthly Income**

S.N	Income (In Rs.)	Bag Seller			Watch Seller			Grand Total
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total	
1	5000-6000	-	-	-	1	1	2	2
2	6000-7000	-	-	-	3	7	10	10
3	7000-8000	-	4	4	9	2	11	15
4	8000-9000	-	-	-	3	4	7	7
5	9000-10000	3	1	4	3	4	7	11
6	10000-11000	1	2	3	2	4	6	9
8	11000-12000	2	-	2	1	1	2	4
9	12000-13000	1	1	2	1	-	1	3
10	Above 13000	1	-	1	1	1	2	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2007

From the above table, bag sellers have more income than that of watch seller. IT is because there high competition in watch selling then that of the bag selling and the price of bag is higher than the watch in such street. The monthly income of bag seller is Rs. 7000 to Rs. 17000 and watch seller have minimum Rs. 5000 to maximum Rs.

17000. Among the bag seller, static seller has more income than that of the mobile seller but the situation of watch seller is vice versa.

The person who invested Rs.5000 at first earned up to Rs. 7000- Rs.8000 per month. As they did not get enough profit at first, they earn enough by laboring and experiencing for the later months. For more income one has to move/wander in morning, evening, day instead of brighten sun, rainfall, fighting with the environment as watch goes round. It is not the simple matter to earn Rs. 17000 per month by rounding and staying at the edge of the street. Most of the vendors can earn up to 10 thousands rupees per month.

Every person wants to save more after joining job or according to profession. But desires seem to be fulfilled of very less people. In the context of Street Vendors, they have less investment and in comparison of investment, they have good income as well. The following table shows the mostly income of the street vendors extracting all their income.

**Table 5.8 Monthly Cash Saving of Street Vendors**

S.N	Saving (In Rs.)	Bag Seller			Watch Seller			Grand Total
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total	
1	No Saving	-	-	-	2	1	3	3
2	500-1000	2	1	3	9	8	17	20
3	1000-1500	-	1	1	6	4	10	11
4	1500-2000	2	1	3	3	2	5	8
5	2000-2500	3	1	4	2	2	4	8
6	2500-3000	-	4	4	1	3	4	8
7	3000-3500	1	-	1	-	2	2	3
8	Above 3500	-	-	-	1	2	3	3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2007



While observing the table 5.10, only 3 persons are not saving their income. These three persons are female who are living with their family in Kathmandu so that it is hard to save the money for their future. Out of 64 street vendors, 61 are saving their income more or less as their profit. Most of the vendors save around 1500-2000 rupees per month however, some of the vendors save more than 3000 rupees per months. This saving also depends up on the individual behaviour.

### 5.3.3 Monthly Expenses

Actually most of the street vendors have the sense of earn and spend. They used to spend their income for their livelihood. Table 5.8 shows the monthly expenses of them.

**Table 5.9 Monthly Expenses**

S.N	Expenses (In Rs.)	Bag Seller			Watch Seller			Grand Total
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total	
1	2000-4000	-	-	-	1	2	3	3
2	4000-6000	-	2	2	5	6	11	13
3	6000-8000	2	5	7	11	10	21	28
4	8000-10000	3	-	3	4	6	10	13
5	10000-12000	2	1	3	1	-	1	4
6	12000-14000	1	-	1	-	-	-	1
7	Above 14000	-	-	-	2	-	2	2
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2007

Bag seller and watch seller spend as their income. Most of the street vendors spend their earning in basic needs like lodging, fooding and clothing. Along with such basic needs, they use to spend on communication in special occasion, medicine and entertainment as well. Among, bag seller static have more expense than that of mobile because most of the static vendors with their family in Kathmandu, but in case of

watch seller there is equal expenses in static and mobile. In fact, the study shows that they have saved some amount helping home.

As the low income if the family become the factor to adopt such occupation, most of the street vendors have not forgotten their families. The following table shows the amount sent for their families and saved by subtracting all the expenses.

**Table 5.10 Economic Support for Family per Month**

S.N	Family support (In Rs.)	Bag Seller			Watch Seller			Grand Total
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total	
1	No support	3	3	6	12	8	20	26
2	1000-2000	1	-	1	4	3	7	8
3	2000-3000	1	3	4	6	9	15	19
4	3000-40000	2	1	3	1	3	4	7
5	Above 4000	1	1	2	1	1	2	4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2007

From the table 5.9, we can observe that 26 street vendors cannot support economically to their family, out of total 64 vendors. Out of these 26 vendors, 9 are students who have to manage money for their study. The average economic support for their families is Rs. 2500 per month, in which there is minimum Rs. 1000 to maximum Rs. 4400. This situation shows that most of the vendors are doing the business for their individual living.

#### **5.4 Natural Capital**

Natural capitals are the resources getting free of cost from the nature, and every person has use this directly or indirectly. Access of natural capital is high in rural areas where as urban areas have no enough access due to the pressure of population

on them. However, street vendors have used such natural capitals directly or indirectly. The use of such capital has affected both negatively and positively on occupation.

In the context of using Natural capital, location or land comes as the major sources to resume their occupation and using the open space, they are able to do their business/occupation. The other major factor affecting to the street vendors are air quality, rainfall and extreme weather. Because of the polluted air of the Kathmandu, mostly street vendors are affected by common cold and throat problem. Rainfall is also a great obstacle to run the business to the street vendors who are under the open sky.

## **5.5 Physical Capital**

Physical capital is the source for supporting the person or institution, using which, it is very to perform task and becomes easier. Street vendors were found to have used such capital. Here, public physical capital and personal physical capitals are described.

### **5.5.1 Public Physical Capital**

Road network, transportation, access to information (Communication, newspaper, F.M. radio, TV), water supply and sanitation, health service, school facilities etc. fall under the public physical capital. Street has excessively used such types of capital. Among them, road is the major one as it appears as the working place. They have used the phone to be touch with their network and family as well. Every street vendor is in touch with radio to have pass time and to get entertainment. Similarly, water sanitation, school, health service, electricity are the supporting facilities to the street vendors.

### **5.5.2 Personal Physical Capital**

Tools and equipment and land ownership are the personal physical capital. In comparison of bag seller, watch have more tools and equipments. Bag seller only use mat and his own body for the business but watch seller often use wooden box, bag or briefcase to carry watch and small glass showcase along with them. Likewise I and ownership in their original location is also the physical capital, which define the

family status. And low economic condition of the family can be the cause to adopt the occupation.

In this chapter, we found that social assets are the major dominant asset which is used by vendors primarily. This asset became the entry point of each vendor in this occupation. At the same time financial capital was also focused by them because it is a business sector and access to other capitals had depended on their availability. This study shows that the access of different assets has highly fluctuates the vendors' occupation.

## **CHAPTER SIX**

### **Vulnerability Context of Street Occupation**

Vulnerability context is also a major element among the various aspects of sustainable livelihood framework, which directly affects human assets.

According to the sustainable livelihood framework, different situations under the vulnerability context like trends, shocks and seasonality have been special affect on productive areas and business as well. These three aspects trends, shocks and seasonality are also related to each other.

#### **6.1 Trends**

Trends can be negative and positive according to its situation as shown below:

##### **6.1.1 Impact of Population growth on Street vending**

The population trend of Nepal is urban centered especially in Kathmandu. In the case of street vendors, the increasing population has both positive and negative effect. Positive in the sense that if the people appear as customers which leads them to the benefit. But, if the same people come as seller of watch and bag, they must compete, each other because of which they should sell the goods in low margin which leads them to the low benefit. According to Shambhu Shrestha , an old street vendors, the competition in selling has increased there days.

##### **6.1.2 Government Policy**

The changing policies and programmes of government have also affected the street vendors directly or indirectly. In the context of bag and watch sellers, it cannot be an exception. For example, Kathmandu Metropolis used to behave them as dust in their eyes before Jana Andolan-2. But after the Jana Andolan same Metropolis has changed its policy to behave them. All most all street vendors have one voice that after the Jana Andolan-2 they are free to do their business with no troubles from any side.

### **6.1.3 Technological Development**

The rapid growth and development of technology has direct effect on business sectors and this effect is mostly positive. For example, before 25-30 years, people from rural areas could not afford the cost of watch and radio. But due to the technological development most of the people can afford such materials as their daily needs.

In the market, perhaps there are not any goods to compete with the price of Chinese goods. It was very hard to afford a single watch in 4 -5 thousand previously but at present a watch can be bought with less than 50 rupees. Its positive aspect is that even in low investment people can do their business. But according to old street vendors, it results low income, because of cheap goods which is the negative effect.

## **6.2 Shocks**

### **6.2.1 Human Health Shocks**

There is no possibility of human body not to be affected by the troubles and diseases. The voice of the street vendors related to this study has same that is because of air pollution, they are regularly affected by the common cold, cough etc. But they have no experience of long term diseases. Specially, mobile street vendors have problem with legs tiredness etc. But for static vendors, they are suffered by overcrowd. Especially the new comers are suffered from such problems than the old one. However, they are suffered from such diseases; there were no vendors who were suffering from such disease in the data collection time.

### **6.2.2 Natural Shocks**

Nature is the great aspect which has not been won by the development of the science and technology in the world. Natural calamities destroy the gigantic physical structures made by human in a single moment. The street vendors doing their business from the edge of the road under the open sky also cannot be escape from such calamities. Natural shocks affecting to the street vendors in the business is rainfall, hot sun and cold. In the data collecting period some of the street vendors were standing on the shed of temple of Ason which shows their compulsion to adopt themselves to such socks.

### **6.2.3 Economic Shocks**

Economic fluctuation in international market effects on the price of every goods and its effects also can be visualized in Nepal. Because of the poor economy and lack of proper technology along with resources, there is no other exception than to be dependent on foreign countries for machinery goods. The price of goods in international market has direct effect in Nepalese market as well and it specially effects on the business with low investment and changeability of goods' price can be the economic shocks. For example, the development decreased quality and price of the goods and it has caused low income of the street vendors. Such immediate change in economy has the bad impact on small businessperson and they cannot bear easily.

### **6.2.4 Conflict**

Since 10-12 years, Nepal has been faced great home war especially in rural areas. Because of which massive population shifted to the cities areas like; Butwal, Biratnagar, Nepalgang, Pokhara, Kathmandu etc. Such displacement of people emerged more employment crisis in the cities areas especially in Kathmandu. While they couldn't get proper job opportunities, they involved in the street vending with the help of experienced vendors. All of the street vendors accepted that their income is decreasing due to the increase in number of vendors.

### **6.3 Seasonality**

The production and distribution of everything is often seasonal. It can be applied in some machinery products as well. Thus, there is impact in the natural and artificial production. In the context of Nepal, festivals, social rituals, tradition, etc directly effect on industry, business and agriculture as well.

Street vendors accept that seasonality has direct effect on their business too which is proved as following.

Among seasonality, cultural aspect is the major aspect to affect street vendors. For example the fair and festivals occur in time and again has become the source of income for street vendors. As Nepal is an agricultural country, the most of the people

are engaged in agriculture especially in Ashadh, Shravan, and Mangsir. Therefore, in this time the business of the street vendors decreases.

As watch sellers get more profit at the time of fair and festivals, bag sellers get profit when the new education session starts. Normally, their business increases at the end of the month rather than the middle and beginning because all job holders get their salary at the end of the month. Even there is difference in selling according to the time and place. For such business Old Bus-park and Koteshwor are more suitable in morning time, there is more selling in morning and evening in Kalanki Chowk and Balaju especially for mobile watch sellers. For the bag vendors of Asan-Indra Chowk-Ratnapark area in evening time is more suitable. According to street vendors the income of a particular festival time and normal time of whole year is about equal.

#### 6.4 Changing Occupational Pattern

In this chapter, an effort has been made to describe their changing pattern of occupation.

##### 6.4.1 Former Occupation of Vendors

Street vendors are entering in this occupation from different sectors. Some of the vendors started their occupational carrier from this occupation and some of them entered from other occupations. Table 6.1 shows their occupational condition before adopting this occupation.

**Table 6.1 Former Occupation of Vendors**

SN	Occupation	Bag seller			Watch seller			Grand total
		Static	mobile	Total	Static	mobile	Total	
1	Jobless	3	4	7	8	10	18	25
2	Private jobs	3	2	5	9	12	21	26
3	Change in sells items	2	2	4	7	2	9	13
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2007



Table 6.1 shows that, out of 64 vendors, 25 persons was directly entered in this occupation. Other 39 persons entered with changing their former occupation. Among the 39 vendors, 26 people left their jobs which were from private level. Low salary and high pressure in work were the major causes of it. Other 13 salespersons have changed in their goods items. Before this, they used to sell other goods than the watch and bags.

#### 6.4.2 Situation after Joining this Occupation

According to Shambhu Shrestha (old street vendor), very few people continue their occupation in this sector. Most of the students leave this business after the completion of their education and youth vendors leave this business while they got better chances to other places like foreign employment, extension of business in permanent place etc. Table 6.2 shows the continuity of vendors in this occupation.

**Table 6.2 Involved years of vendors**

S .N	Involved year	Bag seller			Watch seller			Grand total
		Static	Mobile	Total	Static	Mobile	Total	
1	Below 2	1	3	4	6	8	14	<b>18</b>
2	2-4	2	3	5	10	12	22	<b>27</b>
3	4-6	1	-	1	3	3	6	<b>7</b>
4	6-8	-	2	2	1	1	2	<b>4</b>
5	8-10	2	-	2	2	-	2	<b>4</b>
6	above 10	2	-	2	2	-	2	<b>4</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>		<b>8</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>64</b>

Source: Field Survey, 2007

It can be viewed that most of the vendors have been involving in this occupation below 4 years. Out of total 64 vendors, 45 persons are continuing this occupation since last 4 years and only 4 persons are doing this since more than 10 years. This shows that majority of them adopt it to solve the immediate economic problems.

### **6.4.3 Occupation as "Stone Stepping"**

This occupation has been used as stone stepping. Actually, almost all of the vendors are using this occupation as a bridge to enter in other occupations. It is a platform of the vendors from where they can sketch their own future by solving the immediate personal economic crisis.

### **6.5 Problems**

According to the street vendors their major problems are air pollution, sound pollution, dust and garbage, heavy rainfall, cold, heat of sun etc. The other problems they faced are suffers given by Kathmandu Metropolis officials like seizing the goods, throwing the goods in street, mental torturing (fear and threaten) etc.

At present, there are also other some problems like: being ill (especially by polluted environment), getting pain & being suppressed by old street vendors. Along with it, they have to face some social insecurity, in which some drunkard and person use to scold them and street vendors are looted by some groups. They also have to face some mental problems as well: some customer bargain at goods' price, they are worried about whether their good will be sold or not and they have to be neglected by their friends. They hesitate them-selves being street vendors, their friend stop talking with them as they start street business, especially, girl friend of the street vendors, who are studying in college, tease them. Bed Raj Giri (A student of campus and vendor) has also faced such problems as well as his other friends i.e. street vendors.

Thus, street vendors have great mental tension. As street vendors sell very cheap goods, problems may come with there goods and most of customer come to complain the street vendors having problem with their goods.

Positive and negative both impacts are seemed in the occupation of the street vendors. Increase number in costumers, changed government policy (after Janaandolan-2), low price of goods etc are positive components and increase number of vendors, torture of Metropolis officials, physical agony, pollution, extreme weather etc are some negative components for their business. Such positive and negative impacts forced them to adopt this occupation as a bridge to inter in other occupation. Most of the vendors accept this truth.

## CHAPTER SEVEN

### **Livelihood Sustainability of Street Vendors**

Being human, nobody is satisfied with his or her business and duty or task, which is also applicable to street vendors too. They are also not fully satisfied with their business although, they are capable of living themselves and supporting their families.

When people enroll in business, they have to face external shocks and stresses. They get external help and use natural resources. In such condition they increased their production, got more income, hence they are able to live the standard life. And such kind of business can be regarded as sustainable. Specially, in this chapter the environmental sustainability, economic sustainability, social sustainability and institutional sustainability have been described and analyzed.

Sustainability is very important element in the concept of livelihood. According to it, not only reducing poverty but also there must be sustainability on it, which has been mentioned in the sustainable livelihood framework of DFID. In this base, the sustainable livelihood of street vendors (bag and watch sellers) has been studied in this chapter.

#### **7.1 Environmental Sustainability**

When a person stairs down the street to do the business for his livelihood, then he has to face directly lots of environmental effects. In the environmental effects, natural resources has positive impact in livelihood by increasing production, otherwise, it deduct the production. In the context of Bag and watch seller, there is clear truth, for their livelihood they have used the open public space of KM instead of natural shocks like brighten sun, rainfall, cool/winter and so on. Instead of the pollution, crowd and lack of the proper place, using the open public space of KM they are able to get the income to live themselves and families can be regarded as the environmental sustainability.

## **7.2 Economic Sustainability**

In this time of connecting everything to the economic aspect, the final output of the street vendors is the income from the business. The output of all the street vendors is only that how much they could earn from the business. It means, the major output of the street vendors is the economic sustainability. To define the economic sustainability of them, all most all are satisfied with their income from their business.

Comparing the government officials and street vendors, in the context of Nepal, Rs. 5500 to Rs. 17000 is not less income. There is more trouble to the street vendors in comparison of government officials. Their business is vulnerable although there is no less income. It lacks only the institutional sustainability in business.

## **7.3 Social Sustainability**

When equality is found among the street vendors from social aspect, there is social sustainability. In the context of street vendors (Bag & watch seller) there is more social cooperation and equality, which is proved in the social capital of chapter Five. Here, it was found that every street vendor have mutual cooperation. Their only one problem, at the starting phase, is to be suppressed by old street vendors and is a bit difficult to adjust in the business environment although they can get the place equally. There is competition in selling goods although they behave as brother to each other. They exchange their goods each other, care goods of another in his absence and solve problems being united.

## **7.4 Institutional Sustainability**

Today's world is the worlds of union, institution or society, because of which every person is obliged to take the help of such union or institution to get his rights. In this context, street vendors have also some active unions. Specially, after 'Jana Andolan-2', they became more aware of their right and they attempted that how they could make their business Sustainable. For example, by making the union in Purano Buspark they left to pay levy to the government which was forced to pay previously. Government had banned to make business place in Kalanki and Balaju Chowk, but they started their business in those places by making unions. Along with it, they manage time for business in Ratnapark by themselves uniting different unions. In fact,

all street vendors are not satisfied with the government policies and programs because instead of getting help they have been chased away from the business.

To sum up, the street vendors who have started their business individually have united by forming various unions and institutions. And they are strong enough to struggle against the government to take their rights. It is the beginning of the institutional sustainability.

### **7.5 Satisfaction and Dissatisfaction of Street Vendors**

Among 16 bag sellers, 10 are satisfied, 3 are confused and 3 are dissatisfied. The major cause for satisfaction is that in the crowd unemployed, they are able to get their own business, though small, the enough income to live and support their family, to save and to bear expenses of studies. In this business shutter rent, electricity expenses need not be paid. Hence, there is pure profit. Some bag sellers are mentally and physically dissatisfied, they have comment that they have to stay in road, such occupation will not work ahead and main thing is that they have to live away from their families.

Among 48 watch sellers 45 are satisfied with their occupation and rest of the three are not. Their satisfaction is on the basis of freedom and income which can bear all the expenses or not. They have the experience that they can like every thing with the business and they don't have to pay much fine on it.

### **7.6 Changes of Bag and Watch Seller after Adopting this Business**

#### **Change in life style**

There has been found great difference in life style of both street vendors in past and present life. The main difference between past and present situation is based on how they became able to solve their hand to mouth problem. They are independent in their personal expenses; they got the business knowledge and even can solve some amount by adjusting in the environment of Kathmandu. The dependent persons have become independent on their own income. But there is difference on their own income, there is different attitude towards the occupation. Most of the students have taken it as only a medium of completing their study. People having families regard it as the means of

living the life and to provide education, health to their children. In some other street vendors' thinking, it is the way of collecting some amount of money to start new business hiring a shutter. Most of the street vendors have not feel of changing the business, until the government suffers.

To sum up, every person who inters in this occupation is their compulsion. Viewing all these ideas, it can be said that they may not have everlasting thinking to follow the same business because all most all street vendors are form out of the Kathmandu valley and they just want for return their place and settle new life. In this way, this business work as only the medium of fulfilling the current desires or they have no thinking about future. The business place of street is not permanent or it is vulnerable so they are mentally suffered or worried, of which they cannot think this as the long-term business, hence it is only used to fulfill their current basic needs.

## CHAPTER EIGHT

### Summary and Conclusion

#### 8.1 Summary and Conclusion

This study has been made among the street vendors of KM who are using the street public space and pavement of KM for their survival. Within the KM, Ratnapark-Asan-Indrachowk (core of city), Koteswor, Kalanki and Balaju Buspark (main entry points of KM) are selected as study areas. Among the street vendors, this study has focused on watch and bag seller. Among the watch seller and bag sellers 64 were selected as sampling and some questions were asked to them. Other vendors were observed on the field study. In this study questionnaire, field observation, focus group discussion, in-depth interview etc were the major methods of primary data collection.

This study shows that about 97 percent of the vendors are from outside of KM. Before adopting this occupation, they were hopeful to get better jobs. But when they did not get such jobs and other opportunities they compelled to adopt such occupation. Social linkage was the prime factors, which influenced them to enter in this occupation.

Most of the vendors are educated. Among the 64 vendors, 26 persons passed SLC and some of them are continuing their higher education with the help of this occupation.

This occupation has used as stone stepping for the vendors. Especially, new comers used to invest very few money in this occupation like students. When they complete their study, they used to change their jobs. At the same time, the youth vendors used to give up this occupation while they collect some money, which is enough to adopt other business or foreign employments.

This business needs not more investment to start. About 5000 is enough for the initial stage, which can be managed easily. At the same time, it gives profit immediately, which can also add to the investment, and it gives more profit, which is their main target. Most of the vendors are supporting their family along with saving for their future.

However, they have better earning for their livelihood, they are facing different problems like pollution, physical agony, extreme weather, torture of KM official etc, furthermore, there is high competition among themselves and the fluctuation of day to day price of goods also became their challenge. Gathering of public especially in festivals gives more profit to them. Actually, in such festivals watch seller can sell more watch where as new school is profitable to bag seller.

Finally, there is not debate on that to come on street is just because of compulsion. Viewing all these ideas, we can say that they may not have everlasting thinking to follow the same business because all most all street vendors are form out of the Kathmandu valley and they just want for return their place and settle new life. In this way, this business work as only the medium of fulfilling the current desires or they have no thinking about future. The business place of street is not permanent or it is vulnerable so they are mentally suffered or worried, of which they cannot think this as the long-term business, hence it is only used to fulfill their current basic needs because this is temporary occupation by which vendors are not satisfied for their future. However they can get better earning in their working period, they cannot make secure future for the secure future most of them use to change their occupation.



## References

- Bhattarai, Krishna Prasad (2001), "*Rickshaw Pulling as a way of learning Livelihood, Birtamod Jhapa: A Case Study of Urban Poor.*" Unpublished Master's Thesis, Central Department of Geography, T.U, Kathmandu.
- Charmes, Jacques (March 1998), Paper prepared for the United Nation Statistic Division, the Gender in Development Programme of the United Nation Development Programme (UNDP) and the project "*Women in Informal Employment: Globalizing and Organizing*" (WIEGO).
- Dangal, Hemanta Prasad (2005), "*Survival on the Street: Livelihood Strategies of Street Vendors in Greater Kathmandu*", Unpublished Master's Thesis, Central Department of Geography, T.U, Kathmandu.
- DFID (2001), "*Sustainable Livelihood Guidance Sheets*", Department for International Development, London, UK.
- Hussein K, (2002) "*Livelihood Approaches Compared; A Multi-Agency Review of Current Practice*". <http://www.Livelihood.org/into/into-Linksevents.htm/>
- Koirala, Hridaya Lal (1998), "*Issue of Urban Environment in Kathmandu Valley: A Case Study of Kathmandu Municipality*", Centre for Space Science and Technology Education in Asia and the Pacific, India Institute of Remote Sensing, Dehradun 248001, India.
- Pathak, Mahesh (2004), "*Livelihood Strategy of Street Cobbler: A Case Study of Kathmandu Valley*". Unpublished Master's Thesis, Central Department of Geography, T.U, Kathmandu.
- Poudel, Dilli Prasad (2005), "*Livelihood and Occupational Vulnerability of Street Vegetable Vendors of Kathmandu Metropolis City: A Case Study of Maitidevi, Chabahil and Asanchowk*". Unpublished Master's Thesis, Central Department of Geography, T.U, Kathmandu.

- Poudel, Padma Chandra (1986), A Study of Foot-path Shop of Pokhara Town, Unpublished A Project report, Humanities and Social Sciences, Geography P.N. Campus, Pokhara.
- Rai, Ramesh Kumar (2004), "*Livelihood Strategies of Occupational Communities (Damai and Kami) in Panchakanya and Namsaling VDC, Ilam*". Unpublished Master's Thesis, Central Department of Geography, T.U, Kathmandu.
- Ranjit, Sunita (2000), "*Spatial Distribution of Vegetable and Fruit Petty Vendors: A Case Study of Kathmandu Metropolis City*". Unpublished Master's Thesis, Central Department of Geography, T.U, Kathmandu.
- Ranjitkar, Nanda Gopal (1983), "*Changes in Agriculture Land use and Land value in Urban Fringes of Kathmandu City*", Unpublished Doctoral Dissertation, Tribhuvan University Kathmandu.
- Saravanavel, P. (1999), "*Research Methodology*", Kitab Mahal, 22-4 Sarojini Marg, Allahabad.
- Shakya, Ananda Man and Shrestha, Jamal Devi (1982), "*A Study of Petty Vending Shops (Nagle Pasal) in Kathmandu*". A Mini Research Project Report, Institute of Humanities and Social Science T.U. Kirtipur.
- Subedi, Bhim Prasad (2004), "*Writing Literature Review: Some Practical Considerations*". Geography plus, year 3, Issue 1, Nepal Geography Student Society, T.U. Kirtipur.
- (1996), "*Regulating Growth: Kathmandu Valley*", National Planning Commission, HMG Nepal in collaboration with IUCN, The World Conservation Union.
- (2006), "*Qualitative Method in Geography: An Introduction*", Unpublished Hands out, NCCR, Workshop, Central Department of Geography, T.U. Kirtipur.

- Subedi, Bhim Prasad and Bhandari, Ritu Raj (2004), "*International Labor Migration as Livelihood Strategy and Its impact: An example from Prithivinagar VDC of Jhapa*", Eastern Nepal, Geography plus year 3 issue-1 Nepal Geography Society T.U, Kirtipur.
- Subedi, Bhim Prasad and Pandey, Rishikesh (2002), "*Livelihood Strategies of Rai communities in Arun Valley: Continuity and Change*". Vegetation and Society: Their interaction in Himalyas, T.U. Nepal and University of Bergen, Norway.
- Timalsina, Krishna Prasad (2003), "*Impact of Bhimdhunga – Lamidada Road on the Livelihood Strategies of Rural People: A Case Study of Jivanpur VDC, Dhading*". Unpublished Master's Thesis, Central Department of Geography, T.U, Kathmandu.
- Valentine, Gill (2001), "*Qualitative Methodologies for Geographers; at the Drawing Board Developing a Research Design*". New York; A member of the holder Headline group London.
- Wyss, Simon (2004), "*Organization and Finance of International Labor Migration in Nepal*", Nepal Institute of Development Studies, Maharajgunj, Kathmandu, Nepal.



12. Which is your starting place for this occupation?
13. What was the main cause to adopt this occupation?
14. If there is any link or not to do this business in this place?
15. How much money invested you for this occupation at starting point and who did help you?
16. How much time you involved in this business?
17. If there is your any other family members involved in this occupation? If yes, what types of help that you get from them?

**Income and Expenditure:**

18. How much goods do you sell in a day? (In number)
19. How much profit that you get from the sold goods? (Per day / per month)
20. How much money spends for the following: (in Rs.)
 

A. Rent for housing.....	B. Study.....
C. Food.....	D. Clothing.....
E. Treatment.....	F. Festivals.....
21. If there are other secrets of expenditure? If yes, give me some information about Secrets and quantity of expenditure?  
 A..... B..... C..... D.....
22. Do you provide economic help to your family? If yes, how much?  
 A. Money (Rs.....)      B. Goods (Rs.....)
23. What are your others source of income expect this occupation?
24. Do you have any loan at present? If yes, how much?
25. Do you save your income? If yes, where and how much?  
 (Bank / Co operate / Persons)

**Problems:**

26. What are the problems that you are faced in this occupation?
27. Who used to raise the problem?
28. If there is any discrimination as you are street vendor?
29. If Yes, by whom are the sectors?
30. If there is any organization to solves your problem?
31. If Yes, what are the sectors?

32. What is your role in that organization?  
A. Committee member      B. Member      C. No
33. What types of help that you get from government level?
34. Why didn't you sell the goods sitting on a fixed place? (only for mobile vendors)
35. Why didn't you sell goods with wandering? (only for static vendor)
36. What are any conflicts between mobile & static vendors for the same goods?
37. Do you pay any tax for the place? If Yes, to whom & how much?
38. Who used to conduct this occupation if you are ill?
39. How did you manage your family expenditure while your occupation is closed?
40. Are you satisfied with this occupation?
41. If Yes why?
42. If No why?
43. What did you get / loss after involvement in this job?
44. What do you found in your livelihood strategy after involve in this occupation?
45. Will you back to your origin place in your future? What is your plan?
46. What is your attitude in this occupation?

**Suggestions:**

47. Do you have any suggestion about you?

**“Thanks for Your Kind Help”**