

TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY
LIVELIHOOD STRATEGY AND OCCUPATIONAL VULNERABILITY
OF STREET ICE CREAM VENDORS IN KATHMANDU VALLEY

A DISSERTATION

**Submitted to Central Department of Geography, Faculty of Humanities
and Social Sciences in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements for
Masters' Degree in Geography**

BY

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TRIBHUVAN UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES
CENTRAL DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

**LIVELIHOOD STRATEGY AND OCCUPATIONAL VULNERABILITY
OF STREET ICE-CREAM VENDORS OF KATHMANDU VALLEY**

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Indra Prasad Paneru

Abstract: *Urban centers are dynamic in nature for different activities such as business and exchanges. Earning livelihood by street ice-cream vending in urban Kathmandu is also a business for a group of people. This study examines the livelihood strategy and assets, socio-economic background, migration status, working condition and occupational vulnerability of street ice-cream vendors (SICVs) in Kathmandu valley. The analysis is primarily based on survey of 42 such vendors in three different area of the valley namely Jawalakhel, Ratna park and Balaju. Finding suggest that this occupation is male dominant and they are quite young energetic and hard working. They are from variety of caste ethnic backgrounds, illiterate and have poor educational status. Overwhelming majority is migrant. They are from different part of the country. There is no single factor explanation from immigration of SICV to Kathmandu. Multitude of economic, social secure, landless as well as personal factors have collectively resulted into their move to Kathmandu. The enrollment of children in school and quite better livelihood then previous one is there overall satisfaction by this occupation. Less investment, easy access to money, easy to handle and feeling freedom are the major tenants to adopt this occupation. Despite all these they are facing personal as well as occupational risks. While personal and individual risk may have to be addressed at the personal level, the occupational risk and vulnerabilities such as seasonality on occupation, authorities behavior, space restriction and place specific characteristics and occupational un-sustainability are the vulnerable aspects. Likewise, they also feel this work as non-prestigious occupation (despite good income on a daily basis) and social behavior are more potential aspect of their occupation. This study also found that urbanization provides opportunity for various kinds of activities to earn livelihood who do not have his/her own space or structure to carryout economic activities.*

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ACRONYMS

CBS	:	Central Bureau of Statistics
CEDA	:	Centre for Economic Development and Administration
CNAS	:	Centre for Nepal and Asian Studies
DFID	:	Department of International Development
FAO	:	Food and Agricultural Organization
FGD	:	Focus Group Discussion
GIS	:	Geographic Information System
Go	:	Government Organization
HHs	:	Households
HLS	:	Household Livelihood Security
HMG	:	His Majesty Government/Nepal
INGO	:	International Non-Government Organization
KMC	:	Kathmandu Metropolitan City
NCCR	:	National Centre of Competence in Research
NGO	:	Non-Government Organization
NPC	:	National Planning Commission
NR-base	:	Natural Resource Base
Rs.	:	Rupees
SL	:	Sustainable Livelihood
SPSS	:	Statistical Programme for Social Science
UN	:	United Nation
UNDP	:	United Nation Development Programme
TU	:	Tribhuvan University
CDG	:	Central Department of Geography
MA	:	Master's of Arts
VDC	:	Village Development Committee
HDI	:	Human Development Index
B.A	:	Bachelor of Arts
A.M	:	Between Midnight and mid day (from Latin-ante Meridiem)
P.M	:	After Mid day (from Latin-post Meridiem)
SLA	:	Sustainable Livelihood Approach
SRL	:	Sustainable Rural Livelihood
TUCL	:	Tribhuvan University Centre Library
ICVs	:	Ice-cream Vendors
SICV	:	Street Ice-cream Vendors
IRDP	:	Integrated Rural Development Programme