

Street Food with its inherent employment potential plays an important socio-economic role by serving food at affordable prices to the lower and middle-income groups and has been rapidly growing worldwide. The rising popularity of street food vending, besides its social support system for the under-privileged urban population, is its easily accessibility, variety in taste, low cost, fresh and often nutritious attributes.

Street Food not only is palatable, inexpensive and convenient but also is a large source of employment generation; major beneficiaries being women and the urban poor. Further, Street food is a treasure house of local culinary traditions and is increasingly playing an important role as an enhancer and force multiplier of tourism sector all over the world. It may sound strange, but a relation of trust is formed between the consumer and the street vendor.

In Hyderabad Street food's existence is a typical statement of multi-cultural, metropolitan habitations which are facing a major transition. It needs to be empowered to develop its own voice that can be heard to those institutions of local, state, national and civil society organizations towards an established, organized small scale industrial mode or at least to an extent towards developing a proper policy for the street food vendors in particular and street vendors in general.

Sannihita centre for Women and Girl children Society, Hyderabad has been a partner of the Institute of Cultural Geography, University of Goettingen, Germany, in the Indo-German research-project "Sustainable Hyderabad - Megacities of Tomorrow". In this context, Sannihita team conducted an intensive research on food, nutrition and nutrition-related health issues, with a special focus on street food. These inferences pressed the need for participation and support from government and civil organisations for their sustenance in the society radically getting influenced by the globalisation.

RECOMMENDATIONS

[To the State & other stake holders]

- ☞ Street food should be affordable, tasty, hygienic, nutritious, and healthy, which is accessible, available, and affordable and should be a livelihood option for poor marginalized communities.
- ☞ The state should assure street food vendors with assured income generation by giving them a space in the urbanization development plans, and roads.
- ☞ State should allot reserve places for street vendors to display, train, do business and earn knowledge with updated information about their lives and livelihoods.
- ☞ It should come in the RTI act and any policy, program or scheme should be widely advertised and Municipality should take up this issue.
- ☞ The state should design and implement a law/scheme to make the street food as a mainstreamed identified livelihood.
- ☞ encourage women who are vulnerable, destitute, and marginalized livelihood should be able to choose the street food vending as an option
- ☞ Promote, and help women to establish street food stalls
- ☞ Training women on new food items like organic, nutritional values and health and hygiene
- ☞ Conduct studies and release a document about the status of women in urban places, marginalized, homeless, deserted, laborers.
- ☞ Identify Potential individuals through whom the street food can be sustainable

JEEVANPATH

JEEVANPATH deals the issues of Livelihood Security, Food safety and Legal certainty of women street vendors. The overall objective is to promote street food vending as a decentralized, low emission and efficient food provision at an affordable prices. It promotes the food safety standards as the primary

factor through which sustainability of street food should be addressed.

The years of qualitative and quantitative researches by Sannihita about the street food vendors resulted in conceiving a focussed approach towards providing dignified and sustainable livelihood for women from poor and marginalized families through street food vending. This JEEVANPATH constitute set of ideologies and activities to bring the change in the society over a period of time.

JEEVANPATH ACTIVITIES

Provide capacity building to Street food vendors

- ✓ Improvise methods towards adopting hygiene in street food vending
- ✓ Form groups of women vendors (association) to facilitate mutual support between them and motivate them to participate in the BPA activities to gain livelihood security.
- ✓ Facilitating knowledge sharing from senior street vendors towards livelihood gaining and sustain.
- ✓ Encourage towards participation in the various events

Advocacy on the issue

- ✓ Improve coordination aspects between the various stakeholders towards policy advocacy
- ✓ Capacity building on issues street food, legal certainty.

Updating the status of street food vendors

- ✓ To promote data base promotional activities
- ✓ Conduct workshops, Trainings
- ✓ Promote, and help women to establish street food stalls
- ✓ Training women on new food items like organic, nutritional values and health and hygiene
- ✓ Study and document their status
- ✓ Identify Potential individuals through whom the street food can be sustainable