



## Impact of covid-19 on Auto Rickshaw Drivers (With special reference to Chitradurga district)

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### ABSTRACT:

India is one of the largest growing economies in the world. Many stratum of the society contribute to the overall economic development of the nation. Among them transport is one of the prominent fields which contribute to the expansion of Indian economy. There are several sectors of transport in India which can be divided as Government and private. Among private transport sector Auto rickshaw is the major private transport division which is recognized as the service sector also. Occupation of Many people of the nation as drivers for their livelihood on this transport sector. Before covid-19 everything was well enough in India. The hit of Covid 19, - a treacherous Pandemic of the world - badly influenced on Auto rickshaw drivers. Amid lockdown, fall of economic activities created worse or vivid situation in India. Hence, The present research paper tries to explain the impact of Covid-19 on this background. Many Auto rickshaw drivers suffering to full fill their daily needs. Thus, the present study intends to find out the problem and challenges of Auto rickshaw drivers in Chitradurga District.

**KEY WORDS:** Auto Rickshaw, Drivers, Lockdown, Covid-19

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### I. INTRODUCTION

“An **auto rickshaw** is a motorized version of the pulled rickshaw or cycle rickshaw. Most have three wheels and do not tilt” (wikipedia)Auto Rikshaw is a usual form of urban transport, used for both as a vehicle for hire for private use, in various nations around the Globe. The present research paper made an attempt to understand the impact of Covid 19 pandemicdisease on auto rickshaw drivers in Chitradurga district. The common phenomena is related to these drivers is they work more earn less. Before Pandemic the life of Auto Rickshaw drivers was more or less well enough. Their earning was enough to feed their families. Their economic condition was also gratifying. The past few months or year the economic condition of the Auto Rickshaw drivers is not satisfying. This pandemic creates vulnerable situation in the life of these people. Duo lockdown in the nation and in the state badly influenced on the several sector of the society. Especially economic zone worse than ever. Keeping all in mind the present research is an attempt to hash out the problems faced by the auto rickshaw drivers in Chitradurga district in the pandemic situation.

### Importance of the study.

The whole world in the treacherous pandemic situation suffering by various ways. Every person of the society facing the similar situation..In this condition there is no difference between the rich, the poor, the middle class people of the globe. Everyone is same before the pandemic. Especially the country like India with having second largest population of the world facing miserable condition. The poor individuals like Laborers, daily wage workers, migrant workers, small business people are the greatest victim of the present situation. Among these victims there is also one of the major division of the society with similar problem are the Auto Rickshaw drivers. The special transport segment of the nation and called as service sector have lost the whole credibility and enthusiasm in this pandemic. Their economic status, joy have been destroyed. Duo lockdown, Regulations regarding Covid by the both governments including state and central leads economic disaster to the Auto rickshaw drivers. Perpetuate in mind the present study significantly look forward to bring out the main impact of Covid 19 on Auto Rickshaw drivers in Chitradurga district.

### Objectives of the study.

Further understanding the impact of Covid -19 on Auto Rickshaw drivers the Study keeps the Following objectives.

- To understand the socio- economic condition of Auto Rickshaw drivers in Chitradurga district.
- Analyze the problems and challenges of Auto Rickshaw drivers in the study area.
- To recognize the Government facilities to the Auto Rickshaw driver's.

### Study universe and sample

The study universe of the present study is AutoRickshaw Drivers of Chitradurga district. The Chitradurga is one of the most backward district which is located central part of Indian state of Karnataka. The district includes 6 Taluks such asChallakere, Hiriuru, Milakalmuru, Hosadurga, Holalkere, and Chitradurga. Among 6 Taluks Chitradurga have been selected for the study Purpose. For the primary Data collection 20 respondents have chosen by using stratified random sampling method.

### Data analysis

#### Social background of the respondents

The social background is very important to understand the overall condition of an individual. Hence the present study intends to trace out the caste of the respondents. In Indian society caste plays predominant role which creates hierarchy among the people, also often said that caste is the reality of Indian society. In this country individual social background dependon their caste. Consequently the present research is an attempt to understand the social background of Auto Rickshaw drivers in the district.

**Table1**  
**Social Background**

Social category	Frequency	Average
SC	05	25%
ST	04	20%
OBC	08	40
Others	03	15%
Total	20	100

The above table clearly indicates that the majority of Auto Rickshaw drivers are SC, ST, OBC, they consist 85% of the present study. In which 25% respondents are SC, 20% respondents belongs to ST, and 40% of the respondents comes under OBC and only 15% of the respondents belongs others. The collected data have shown that large division of Indian caste based society depends on their livelihood on Auto rickshaw. Especially SC, ST, and OBC group feed their families working as drivers.

#### Income of the respondents

The present research itself define the economic importance in vivid condition of covid -19. As stated earlier the pandemic created worse economic situation in India. All segment of the society facing the similar problems. The transport sector have lot of challenges. Hence, the study carefully look in to the economic background of the respondents to further understanding of the concept.

**Table 2**  
**Income of the respondents**

Income group	Frequency	Average
10000-25000	5	25
26000-50000	13	65%
51000-100000	02	10%
Above 100000	00	00%
Total	20	100%

The above table shows that the income level of the respondents. Among the respondents 25% of them Comes between 10000-25000 income group. 65% of the respondents belongs 26000-50000 income group, only 10% of the respondents comes under 51000-10000 income group. None of the respondents comes above 100000 group. The given income is before the covid 19. Thereafter their income subsequently decreased duo to lack of passengers available or unavailability of the passenger's duo to lockdown and the regulations of the Government. This is the economic disaster to these people.

### Various impact of Covid 19

The below shows the various impact of Covid 19 on Auto rickshaw drivers in chitradurga district. The important aspect of the research paper is also the same to bring out the major impact of covid.

**Table. 3**  
**Impact of covid**

Impact elements	Frequency	Average
Income	12	60%
Children education	04	20%
Life style	01	05%
Social condition	02	10%
Others	01	05%
Total	20	100%

The above table clearly indicates that the various impact of covid 19 on Auto Rickshaw Drivers at the time of Pandemic. In which 60% of the respondents opined that the impact of covid 19 on their income. As stated earlier lockdown, time regulations of the Government to come outside to buy things or roaming are the main reasons to decrease their income level.. 20% of the respondents stated that children education become worse due to covid.. 5% of them opined that life would have been changed , 10% of the respondents opined that impact of covid 19 on their social life. Rest of the 5% opined others.

#### Summary and findings

- Based on the primary data 85% of the Auto Rickshaw drivers belongs SC, ST, and OBC category. Only 15 of the respondents belongs others. Which means mostly the deprived community of the society working as Auto rickshaw drivers.
- 90% of the respondents income between 10000to 50000. Which is before the Covid 19. Yet their income is uncertain. The reasons of this uncertainty may be vary, but the worse impact of covid 19 is on income of the Auto Rickshaw drivers.

Fetching the various impact of Covid 19 the study finds that 60% of the respondents opined on their income, 20% of them stated on their children education, 5% of the respondents stated that their life style has been changed, 10% respondents opined that their social life or condition is worse, and 5% of the respondents given other opinion.

Literally the whole nation has been suffering by the bad impact of covid 19. In which working sector and service sector of the society facing vivid situation. Very importantly the transport sector facings the miserable condition. Auto Rickshaw drivers considered low level income group of the society. Their earning might have meet their daily needs. Before covid 19 everything was well enough. Thereafter the lifestyle, the economic conditions of the Auto drivers become worse than ever. The aim of the present research is to find out the impact of covid 19 keeping the various objectives. The study finally finds that the impact sector such as Income, children education, life style, social life.

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