



FINANCIAL ISSUES FACED BY THE INDUSTRIAL LABOURS DURING COVID-19 IN DISTRICT FAISALABAD

^aSaeed Ahmad Zaman, ^bZain Nawaz, ^aAsma Rasool, ^cSadia Aslam, ^dNoreen Fatima, ^aNaima Nawaz

^a Department of Rural Sociology, University of Agriculture Faisalabad, Pakistan

^b Department of Geography, Government College University Faisalabad, Pakistan

^c Institute of Agricultural Extension and Rural Development, University of Agriculture Faisalabad, Pakistan

^d College of ophthalmology and Allied vision sciences, Mayo hospital Lahore, Pakistan

Corresponding author. naimauf@hotmail.com

Abstract

COVID-19 was traced on 17th November 2019 in China the first case was reported on 31st December 2019 in the China city of Wuhan province of Hubei. The COVID-19 pandemic is a worldwide pandemic virus which is severely affected on acute respiratory system in human beings. The pandemic has raised several issues in Pakistan but the major issue faced the socio-economic issues. The outbreak disease of COVID-19 has severely affected Pakistan's economy. On a large scale Industries were closed and labour was unemployed. The major victim of the COVID-19 outbreak is micro small and medium size industries. Many employed of the industries administrator and labourers are unemployed. COVID-19 has created negative impacts on the livelihood of the Pakistani population. Many employed labourers lost their job. The purpose of the study finds the economic issues of industrial labour in the period of COVID-19 in the District of Faisalabad Punjab. The data was collected from different industrial labourers in District Faisalabad. 150 respondents were selected from the different industries of Faisalabad. The research planned to analyze the study of socio-economic impacts of covid-19 on industries' labour in District Faisalabad. Three industries were selected from these industries area Sheikupura Road and canal road Faisalabad. The areas of industries are Masood textile mills Chenab textile and Rafhan maize mill Faisalabad. Then 50 respondents were selected from each area through a purposive sampling technique. Data was gathered through interviewing schedule. Data were analyzed by using statistical techniques. The majority of my respondents were male and these are the head of the family that age is under 25-30 and 35-35. The data include 22.7% of respondents having 1-2 rooms 42.7% of respondents having 2-4 rooms 24% of respondents having 4 to 6 rooms and 10.7% of respondents having above six rooms. This indicates that 83.3% of respondents lost their jobs during COVID-19 and 16.7% of respondents did not lose their job and continued their work as before during COVID-19.

Keywords: COVID-19, socio-economic, pandemic, industries, unemployed

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INTRODUCTION

The COVID-19 illness has carried astounding astonishment to the work advertises everywhere in the world, and Japan is no irregularity. While Japan has not seen a sharp special case expansion in the joblessness rate, which remained at 2.9% in May 2020, the difference in different nations, for example, 14.9% in the United States in April 2020, the astonishment in the work market is development exceptionally inconsistent past labourers. In this paper, we first record broadened reactions in business and profit to the COVID-19 astonishment seen during the underlying months after the beginning of the disaster in Japan. We at that point feed these stuns in the work market into a day-to-day existence cycle model of enhanced agents to evaluate government assistance consequences of COVID-19 stuns (Kikuchi *et al.*, 2021).

Anxiety that the financial impact of the COVID-19 epidemic should not be seen as a series of shocks. The coronavirus COVID-19 has sparked widespread concern for several reasons. Hepatitis C is a novel virus, which means no one is immune. Due to its novelty, scientists are unsure of how it will behave, given they have very little historical information to rely on. If the revenue from labour declines, we hope that there will be more 2nd-request unfavourable effects on requests, and the potential for a self-building up declining wine tool in yield, business, pay, and requests. Possible side effects include sliding field on-remittance, which may lead to bank disappointments and basic financial risk. It is essential to understand these impacts to build a full-scale financial and monetary area model. In an associate report, we present outcomes from a particular financial model, yet we make our estimate of the 1st-request influence available independently here, for different scientists or Govt. to expand upon or use in their models (Baqaee and Farhi, 2020). The (Covid-19) pandemic emergency has brought about an unrivalled work market shock

and joblessness calamity. A large number of occupations have been put in danger because of the phenomenal social removing measures authorized by past European Union (EU) nations, which have encountered the brunt of the loss of life, yet additionally around the world, during the principal long periods of 2020 Workers' decisions to take critical employment are examined as a result of COVID-19. Surveys of low-skilled domestic workers conducted before and during the COVID-19 epidemic are analyzed to determine respondents' opinions regarding food production and foreign workers, immigration policies, and the government's response to COVID-19 Overall, respondents changed their views on food security as a result of the outbreak and showed more empathy for H-2A workers as a result of the outbreak. Gender, present agricultural employees and information about COVID-19 and agricultural field workers all influenced respondents' decisions, according to regression analysis answers. In this paper, we compare surveys conducted before and after the COVID-19 pandemic to examine the effects of COVID-19 on labour in the food supply chain, as well as historical, present, and potential low-skilled food supply chain employees' perspectives toward food production, guest workers, and immigration policies. The following part focuses on the downstream (retail, distribution, and processing) and upstream (agricultural field occupations) components of the food supply chain to examine COVID-19-induced labour concerns (Pouliakas and Branka, 2020).

Punjab is the largest province in Pakistan in terms of population, and it produces roughly 57 percent of the value of the country's agricultural production, according to this short. In addition, the province produces more than 80 percent of the country's wheat and cotton, almost two-thirds of its sugarcane, approximately half of its maize, and 67 percent of the nation's horticulture output (Government of Punjab 2018) (Ghafooret *et al.*, 2016).

Current research attempts to determine the influence of the COVID-19 epidemic on the labour market to date. This pandemic's impact on the poor is growing by the day due to job losses and other shocks to income and livelihoods. Households with lower incomes and those who depend on informal work are the most susceptible. For example, in urban and rural contexts there are casual day workers, small-scale producers, and many others who have less access to social security because they have fewer savings or fewer alternative sources of income. A major source of income for rural impoverished people is at jeopardy since they cannot sell their agricultural goods or store their products or are experiencing problems in the process of developing new ones. Poor people in cities, on the other hand, are fully reliant on earnings from labour or self-employment. This pandemic's shocks and strains are causing severe socioeconomic upheavals throughout the world, putting lives at risk. Since the economic crisis began, thousands of individuals have lost their jobs and are at risk of sliding into poverty (Paul *et al.*, 2021).

LITERATURE REVIEW

Mongey *et al.* (2020) concluded that the breakdown that the attributes of labourers in US occupations are liable to be at first influenced by wide friendly separating and later by smaller arrangements custom fitted to occupations with okay of pandemic transmission. The creators use US Occupational Information Network to build a proportion of the probability that positions can be performed from home and a proportion of low actual contiguity to others at work. They affirm that less taught labourers, those with lower pay and ownership of fluid resources compared with pay and leaseholders face higher weakness. The investigation further affirms a negative relationship between telecommuting occupations and declining work, utilizing March 2020 authority workforce information. Abu-Ghaida and Klasen (2004) reported that they tackle the issue of which labourers can

conceivably telecommute. The previous scientist utilizes applicable pointers from the studies and applies a classification technique to decide the believability that some calls can be performed somewhat. They track down that about 33% of US occupations, representing 45% of generally speaking wages, can conceivably be performed at home, even though this is an upper bound inexact and the offer distinctive impressively past urban communities and businesses. They likewise create the impression that while the vast majority of the positions in account, corporate administrate, proficient and logical administrations could conceivably be performed at home, however, this isn't the situation in horticulture, lodgings and cafés or retail areas.

Hilson *et al.* (2021) the point of this examination was to dissect and check the mental, financially and business effects of COVID-19 on Bangladeshi lower pay gathering individuals. By "lower-pay bunch individuals of Bangladesh" we mean those individuals who rely upon everyday compensation income for their living and make do with the everyday schedule acquiring. These individuals are for the most part every day wage workers, jobless, little sellers, or having casual positions, and day-by-day pay is regularly not more than the public destitution line (US\$2 each day). These individuals include around 31.0% of the absolute populace in Bangladesh. We suppose that the discoveries of this creator would assist significant specialists with undertaking measures for the prosperity of the lower-pay gathering of individuals in this episode. The coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) will have a major impact on the livelihoods of nearly half of the world's workers, both in rural & urban areas.

Feyisa (2020) studied that economic activity has slowed dramatically as a result of COVID-19's rapid spread. According to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the world economy would contract by 3% in 2020. Compared to the 2008-2009 Global Financial Crisis, this recession is projected to be far larger. As a result of the

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epidemic and the government's response, some socio-demographic groups may suffer from increased mental health suffering, economic disparity, and other adverse impacts. The economic consequences will be broad and ambiguous, with diverse effects on labour markets, manufacturing supply chains, financial markets, and the global economy as a whole. When it comes to negative economic consequences, the severity of social distancing measures (such as lockdowns), as well as their duration and degree of compliance, may be important. As a result of the epidemic and the government's response, some socio-demographic groups may suffer from increased mental health suffering, economic disparity, and other adverse impacts.

Adams-Prasslet *al.* (2020) In the United States and the United Kingdom, an analysis of employment and income losses based on work type and individual characteristics was conducted. According to the authors, workers who are unable to perform any of their obligations from home are more likely to lose their jobs. Younger people, as well as those without a college diploma, were found to be more vulnerable to income losses. Younger people and immigrants are more likely to work from home in jobs that require less education. Pandemic shock in Norway, like in other parts of the world, has a significant socioeconomic gradient.

Bigio *et al.* (2020) there is a correlation between the ideal combination of these two variables, and the amount of financial development of the economy. Simulative credit policies should be used in economies with a well-developed financial sector, say these academics." Developmental nations should invest more in transfer programmers. In a multi-sector economy with imperfect markets, they investigate whether a supply shock like COVID-19 causes surplus demand to shrink. They discovered that where there is a limited degree of substitutability across items, incomplete markets, and consumer liquidity constraints, a

negative supply shock might generate an overreaction in terms of lowering demand. They believe that the optimal policy response is a combination of a looser monetary policy and more social insurance spending. On the other hand, helicopter drops of liquid assets and equity injections can keep the economy in a state of full employment and high productivity.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To investigate the effect of COVID-19 on labourers working in the industrial sector.
2. To investigate the financial problems of the labour working industry.

METHODOLOGY

SAMPLE

The research planned to analyze the study of socio-economic impacts of covid-19 on industries' labour in District Faisalabad. This study was conducted in District Faisalabad in Pakistan. Faisalabad is an industrial District which is called Manchester in Pakistan. Millions of people around the country visit this District for Business purposes. It is a hub of Industries.

INSTRUMENT

To obtain the data, a systematic interview schedule was developed. Close-ended questions dominated the interview agenda. Data was gathered through interviewing schedule. The data was collected from different industrial labourers in District Faisalabad. 150 respondents were selected from the different industries of Faisalabad. Three industries were selected from these industrial areas i.e. Sheikupura road and Canal road Faisalabad. The areas of industries were Masood textile mills Chenab textile and Rafhan maize mill in Faisalabad. Then 50 respondents were selected from each area through the purposive sampling technique. From these industries, respondents were selected and 50 respondents were selected randomly from each industry. Data was collected, analyzed, and summarized using the SPSS computer software. Data frequency distribution was analyzed using the percentage and chi-square test.

Table 1. Sample respondents: Distribution.

Area	Masood Mill	Chenab Mill	Rafhan Maize	Total Respondents
Respondents (N=150)	50	50	50	150

Table 1 shows that a total of 150 respondents have been selected for this study as respondents from three factories in Faisalabad. It also shows that 50 respondents were selected from each of the three factories.

Table 2. Socioeconomics Characteristics of Respondents (n=150)

Variables	Description	Frequency	Percentage
Age (in years)	20-25	20	13.3
	26-30	52	34.7
	31-35	52	34.7
	36-above	26	17.3
Gender	Male	99	66
	Female	51	34
Qualification	Illiterate	47	31.3
	Primary	37	24.7
	Middle	46	30.7
	Matric	20	13.3
Marital Status	Single	37	24.7
	Married	113	75.3
No. of Family Person	4-Mar	53	35.3
	6-May	67	44.7
	8-Jul	30	20
Monthly Income	Less-10000	18	12
	11000-20000	58	38.7
	21000-30000	53	35.3
	31000-above	21	14
House of the Respondents	Own	78	52
	Rent	72	48
No. of Rooms	2-Jan	34	22.7
	4-Mar	64	42.7
	6-May	36	24
	Above-7	16	10.7

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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The result of this study revealed that 34.7% of respondents equally were in the age categories 26-30 and 31-35. The majority 66.0% of the respondents were males, while the significant majority 30.7% had a middle education level. The majority 75.3% of the respondents were

married and 44.7% of respondents had 5-6 total persons in the family. The significant majority 38.7% had only 11000-20000 income levels only. 52% of respondents had their own houses and the majority 42% had 2-4 total rooms in their houses (See Table.2).

Table. 3 Impact of COVID-19 on Industrial Labors in District Faisalabad



Questions	Response Categories	Response Categories2	Mean (S.D.)
	Yes	No	
Did you lose your job during Covid-19?	125(83.3)	25(16.7)	1.17(0.374)
Industries had closed during covid-19?	118(78.7)	32(21.3)	1.21(0.411)
Did you go to go work as before?	61(40.7)	89(59.3)	1.59(0.493)
Did you start any part-time work?	57(38.0)	93(62.0)	1.62(0.487)
Did you live all the time at home?	52(34.7)	98(65.3)	1.65(0.478)
The government helped the laborers through any aid package.	130(86.7)	20(13.3)	1.13(0.341)
During the Covid-19 period,were you satisfied with your work-life balance?	12(8.0)	138(92.0)	1.92(0.272)
Did you satisfy your financial situation during Coronavirus?	13(8.7)	137(91.3)	1.91(0.282)
Did you receive money from any aid package?	67(44.7)	83(55.3)	1.55(0.499)

Table 3 shows the responses of the respondents about the various statements on the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in the study area. Respondents were asked to rate their opinion on a scale of 1 (for No) and 2 (for Yes) and the Responses are reported in terms of frequency and percentages (in the parenthesis). Results of the study show that 125 (83.3% and mean value

of 1.17) respondents have reported that they have lost their jobs due to the pandemic whereas, 78.7% (mean value of 1.1) respondents reported that their industries were closed due to the pandemic outbreak. Likewise, responses to the other statements (shown in table 3) are shown in the same table.

Table 4 Impact of COVID-19 on Industrial Labors in District Faisalabad

Questions	Response Categories	Column1	Column2	Column3	Column4	Mean (S.D.)
	S. Disagree	Disagree	Neutral	Agree	S. Agree	
Covid-19 could create a big crisis for the labour class.	0	6(4.0)	25(16.7)	77(51.3)	43(28.7)	4.15(0.841)
It had a very badly affected on labour-class economics.	2(1.3)	8(5.3)	20(13.3)	77(51.3)	43(28.7)	4.01(0.871)
Personal income has been affected?	36(24.0)	88(58.7)	21(14.0)	1(0.7)	4(2.7)	1.99(0.807)
Someone in your house had lost or might lose their job?	0	91(60.7)	12(8.0)	22(14.7)	25(16.7)	2.87(1.189)
Facing anxiety stress or any related feeling?	0	70(46.7)	70(46.7)	6(4.0)	4(2.7)	2.63(0.691)
When you lost your job you spent all the time at home?	36(24.0)	42(28.0)	6(4.0)	60(40.0)	6(4.0)	2.72(1.316)
When you lost your job did you have any	31(20.7)	56(37.3)	54(36.0)	7(4.7)	2(1.3)	2.29(0.892)

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alternate sources of income?

There are special safety measures in place when you return to work.	24(16.0)	42 (28.0)	6(4.0)	72(48.0)	6(4.0)	2.96(1.253)
Social Distance was maintained in the workplace?	48(32.0)	30(20.0)	0	60(40.0)	12(8.0)	2.72(1.461)
Are all the labourers or working vaccinated?	6(4.0)	60(40.0)	24(16.0)	42(28.0)	18(12.0)	3.04(1.152)
All laborers are wearing a face mask.	6(4.0)	6(4.0)	30(20.0)	66(44.0)	42(28.0)	3.88(0.996)
After every twenty minutes, the hands are sanitized.	90(60.0)	24(16.0)	24(16.0)	12(8.0)	0	1.72(1.004)
There are additional corona allowances are given to laborers?	30(20.0)	48(32.0)	48(32.0)	6(4.0)	18(12.0)	2.56(1.207)
When the first wave of COVID-19 ended all the workers got jobs easily.	12(8.0)	42(28.0)	66(44.0)	18(12.0)	12(8.0)	2.84(1.011)

Respondents were also asked to rate their opinion on a scale of 1 (strongly disagreeing) to 5 (strongly agreeing) on various statements related to the impact of the covid-19 pandemic on the labour market and their responses are shown in table 4. It is shown that the majority of the respondents (mean value 4.15) reported that Covid-19 created a big crisis in the labour

class in terms of lay-off employees and a decrease and demand for jobs etc. A good number of the respondent (mean value 1.99) also reported that their incomes have been affected due to the pandemic and some respondents (mean value 2.63) also reported COVID-19 pandemic has created a sort of anxiety and stress among the labour class.

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CONCLUSION

The Covid-19 problem has highlighted the flaws in Pakistan's current social protection system. Due to several institutional and systemic impediments and shortfalls, the country's social safety mechanisms have been mostly unable to perform such functions. Due to the epidemic, issues such as a lack of trustworthy data, the lack of a national register database for vulnerable employees, and poor institutional procedures have all been brought to light. Most of the labourers lost their jobs and never do other work. Despite these obstacles, the federal and provincial governments have made admirable attempts to reach out to vulnerable populations with little capacity and resources.

Going forward, it is critical to take quick steps to protect vulnerable elements of the workforce, such as daily wages, employees in the official and informal sectors, and those who have lost their jobs as a result of the pandemic. Working with major social protection organizations to develop effective, ready-to-use policies and practices are essential to ensuring that speedy relief measures are accessible in future crises and in the case of a prolonged second wave. Failure to do so might permanently impoverish a huge number of these workers and stymie broader economic recovery. The lack of trustworthy data on disadvantaged employees and other groups has emerged as a significant barrier. Lack of education and economic



hardship also contribute to gender-based violence. Women without enough money are unable to flee violent spouses and are more exposed to sexual exploitation and trafficking. As a result of the pandemic's effects, women are expected to experience long-term setbacks in workforce participation and income.

SUGGESTIONS

- Government should not shut down the industries during the COVID-19 period.
- Government should provide aid to those laborers that lost their jobs during the first wave of covid-19 through any aid package.

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- If the coronavirus spread again the government should maintain the labor and the work-life balance.
- The government helps the people with social protection and provide all the basic service such as food and other basic sources to the vulnerable workers through economic programs.
- The government protects jobs and supports the small and medium industries and all other economic institutes

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