

## URBAN STREET VENDORS IN KOZHICKODE CITY – A SOCIO-ECONOMIC STUDY

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### **ABSTRACT:**

*This paper examines the socio-economic features of the Street Vendors in Kozhikkode city based on primary data collected through a structured questionnaire administered by the researcher as well as secondary sources. Eventhough, there are some general studies on the life of Street Vendors in metro cities like Mumbai, Kolkata and New Delhi , no specific studies focussing on the socio-economic aspect of the Street vendors in Kozhikkode is available other than the usual administrative reports of Government. The status of the urban street vendors are explored including issues , challenges and the changes in life brought out after the enactment of the Street Vendors' ( Protection of Livelihood and Regulation of Street Vending) Act 2014, as a vibrant socio-economic phenomenon which sustained centuries in Kerala. The study shows that though street vending is recognised as a legitimate activity a targeted and dedicated effort in terms of the implementation of provisions of the Act is highly necessary to bring them to the forefront. Some suggestions as to what needs to be taken care, in future, in order to improve their status are also provided.*